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No. 98

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROSE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 11, 2024.

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

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED MANOCHERIAN

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Fred Manocherian, an entrepreneur, innovator, and a role model without peers.

More than 60 years ago, he founded the National Road Safety Foundation, an organization that holds the mission of educating individuals of all ages about the risks of dangerous driving

behaviors. The information, resources, and efforts spurred by Fred's work have saved lives and have helped educate countless Americans while creating safer communities in the process.

Fred Manocherian deserves to be commended for his efforts and for his longstanding commitment to helping create a safer society for Americans of all ages. He and his wife, Jennifer, have inspired their children to broaden their philanthropic efforts into other areas, such as healthcare, and they have made a tremendous impact in doing so.

All Americans should be immensely grateful for Fred Manocherian, his family, their examples, and all they have done for others.

HISTORIC PERIOD OF WORKFORCE GROWTH

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, a couple of weeks ago, on May 29, Grasso Tech, a career and technical secondary school located in Groton, Connecticut, was the site of an extraordinary event, the Electric Boat High School Signing Day.

Mr. Speaker, Electric Boat is a shipbuilding company over 100 years old, headquartered in Groton. It has a proud history of building submarines during World War I, World War II, and the Cold War, with a workforce of highly skilled men and women who have always answered our Nation's call to deliver perhaps the most complex platform in our Nation's arsenal. These technological wonders operate in an environment that does not support human life, with stealth and power unmatched by any other peer nation.

Today, in 2024, the shipyard is experiencing another historic period of workforce growth. EB is the general contractor for both of the Navy submarine

programs, the Virginia-class attack submarines and the Columbia ballistic submarine program. Both programs represent an effort authorized and funded by Congress to recapitalize our Nation's aging submarine fleet, which is in high demand driven by a high tempo of operations all across the globe.

In 2023, EB hired a staggering 5,300 new workers in the metal trades and engineering and plans to double that number in 2024. In order to meet that demand, trade schools, regular comprehensive high schools, community colleges, job training programs, including pre-apprenticeship and full apprenticeship classes, have been ramping up since 2016.

On May 29, Grasso Tech hosted over 200 graduating 17- and 18-year-olds from across Connecticut and neighboring States, who walked across the stage, received their hardhats, a certificate, and a handshake from representatives of the yard, welcoming them to a rewarding and exciting career with great starting wages and benefits.

Many are graduates from Grasso Tech, whose principal, Patricia Feeney, and her amazing staff imparted training as welders, electricians, designers, and other skills that positioned them to take on this work.

In addition to Grasso, other tech schools, such as Norwich Tech, Ellis Tech, Windham Tech, and Vinal Tech, are part of this concerted effort to connect students to this opportunity.

Not just tech schools were part of this ceremony. Regular comprehensive high schools are getting into the act with Career Pathway programs, accessing Federal Perkins grant funding to set up machine booths, welding booths, machine tools, and other equipment to train up high schoolers in collaboration with EB. Westbrook High School, Tourtellotte High School in Thompson, Norwich Free Academy, Daniel Hand

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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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High School in Madison, and Waterford High School, just to name a few, are actively creating these pathways for nontrade high school secondary students.

As I said, the plan this year is to hire an additional 5,000 workers. One of the other key engines to achieve that goal is the Eastern Connecticut Manufacturing Pipeline, which provides accelerating job training for adults looking to work in the yard.

MPI will train a job-ready welder in 10 weeks, and electricians and outside machinists in 8 weeks, free of charge. It started in 2016 with funding from the U.S. Department of Labor and, as the chart shows, has grown exponentially, with 945 graduates in 2023, a pace that is continuing as I speak here today in 2024.

Mr. Speaker, what is so special about MPI is that its classes operate in the late afternoons and evenings at Grasso Tech. After the tech school programs end at 2 p.m. and the students go home on their buses or with their parents, the MPI students arrive to use the school's welding booth machine tools that otherwise would lie fallow. It is a brilliant, efficient way to use the facilities to keep the training and hiring process moving forward.

What is the outcome of all this? Mr. Speaker, our submarine industrial base is picking up the pace of production. A month ago, USS *New Jersey* was delivered to the Navy. USS *Massachusetts* and *Iowa* are on track for delivery by the end of 2024. That is the 24th, 25th, and 26th Virginia sub, and the 27th and the 28th are slated for delivery in 2025, the USS *Idaho* and the USS *Arkansas*. There were 5,300 hires last year with 86 percent retention; 5,200 hires on track for this year with 90 percent retention, and five attack submarines to be delivered in over a 2½ year period.

It is a great testament to the American worker who, as in times past, has overcome the skeptics and stepped up to keep freedom's forge moving forward.

I congratulate all the 200-plus students, who now have the clearance badge to show up for work in Groton, on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

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

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, without the uniformed volunteers of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, our Nation's borders and waters would be less safe than they are today.

As the grandson of a coastguardsman and the stepson of a Coast Guard auxiliariarist, I rise today to recognize the Coast Guard's selfless service to our Nation's waters by the Coast Guard Auxiliary and to celebrate the 85th anniversary of their valiant service.

In 1939, as our Nation approached the Second World War, Congress estab-

lished a U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, composed of unpaid, volunteer U.S. citizens who owned motorboats and yachts. In 1941, 2 years later, Congress created a military reserve and renamed the original volunteer reserve to the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Since that historic era, the Coast Guard Auxiliary has played an ever-increasing role in supporting the growing and evolving missions of the Coast Guard, missions that protect the Nation, our waterways, and all who operate on them. For 85 years, Coast Guard auxiliariarists have notably offered their time, efforts, and personal resources to support Coast Guard missions, whenever and wherever needed.

Coast Guard auxiliariarists have earned our Nation's profound gratitude and admiration by demonstrating extraordinary dedication to advancing the National Recreational Boating Safety Program, the welfare of the entire Coast Guard family, and in securing the public trust.

The Auxiliary has also demonstrated unparalleled resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic, emerging stronger, ready to accomplish new tasks, and determined to achieve new heights.

In recent years, they have expanded their support activities, delivering critical medical and cyber support to Coast Guard operations alongside their standard of work of promoting recreational boating safety, increasing public education in safe and responsible boating practices, and helping to reduce overall boating accidents and fatality rates.

Our Nation has witnessed the Auxiliary's extraordinary dedication when its uniformed volunteers provided disaster response and recovery support following Hurricanes Ian and Nicole in 2022, along with their unprecedented contributions to humanitarian missions at our Nation's southwest border in Operation Vigilant Sentry.

I am proud to represent a district full of Coast Guard installations, including Eatons Neck, Shinnecock, and Montauk. The dedication of the sailors at these stations is crucial for maintaining the safety and security of our waters, for which our community is profoundly grateful.

I am proud to represent our Coasties and their families in Congress and serve on the Homeland Security Committee, where I can best serve their interests and promote their well-being.

Mr. Speaker, we can never thank these brave men and women enough for all they do to help keep our communities safe. Please join me in paying tribute and honoring the Coast Guard Auxiliary, whose 85th anniversary is on June 23.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN GODDARD

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, this year, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first National EMS week and honor the first responders delivering urgent lifesaving care to people across our country.

I rise to recognize a constituent who embodies the courageous and dedicated spirit of our emergency medical services professionals. Last month, Delco's own John Goddard, an EMS professional with Riddle Emergency Services at Main Line Health, was awarded the Pennsylvania Paramedic of the Year Award.

John has served our community for nearly three decades, including as a flight paramedic and as a trainer and mentor for the next generation of EMS professionals. Since starting as a volunteer in 1996, John has shown up for our community day in and day out, delivering compassionate critical care to alleviate suffering and make our communities safer.

It was heartwarming to attend the ceremony at which John received his award and to see the love and respect in which his colleagues and his family hold him.

I thank John Goddard for his devotion to serving our community and inspiring the next generation of EMS professionals. We are lucky to have him.

IN RECOGNITION OF TYSHAWN SOREY

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent who just earned the prestigious 2024 Pulitzer Prize for music.

Composer and multi-instrumentalist Tyshawn Sorey was awarded the 2024 prize for his composition, "Adagio (for Wadada Leo Smith)," which premiered in March 2023 at Atlanta Symphony Hall.

Sorey is known for his extraordinary ability to blend composition and improvisation in his work and for his effortless mastery of highly complex scores. The Pulitzer board describes Sorey's work as "an introspective saxophone concerto with a wide range of textures presented in a slow tempo, a beautiful homage that's quietly intense, treasuring intimacy rather than spectacle."

This Pulitzer is just the latest addition to Sorey's list of accomplishments. It comes 1 year after he was named a Pulitzer finalist for his acclaimed composition, "Monochromatic Light (Afterlife)."

He was a 2017 MacArthur Fellow, and, after the 2018 Opera Philadelphia premiere of his "Cycles of My Being," a set of songs exploring the African-American male experience, he was named the opera company's composer in residence from 2019 through 2023.

He currently serves as the Presidential assistant professor in the departments of music and Africana studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where he maintains a vigorous touring schedule in addition to his academic duties.

In the future, Sorey plans to continue pushing boundaries, extending

cultural norms, and reformulating public perceptions of modern Black creative practice through the breadth and depth of his works.

I congratulate Mr. Sorey on this prestigious and well-deserved recognition.

□ 1215

CELEBRATING LEN NOVARA

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable career of Len Novara, who retired on May 21 after 35 years in education, including serving as athletic director at Murphysboro High School since 2001.

Born and raised in Murphysboro, Len was a three-sport athlete in Murphysboro High, earning eight varsity letters and the record for yards passed in southern Illinois.

He graduated in 1984 and continued his athletic career at Millikin University in Decatur, playing football and baseball. After earning his bachelor's degree in 1988, Len returned to his hometown and pursued a master's degree at Southern Illinois University, which is where he developed his love for coaching.

Len's dedication to coaching and education took him to several schools, including Unity Point and Edwards County High School.

Over two decades ago, he returned to Murphysboro High School as athletic director, a role he excelled in. Under Len's leadership, Murphysboro's Red Devils amassed 77 Southern Illinois River to River Conference Championships, 39 regional championships, and several State final appearances, but Len's commitment went beyond titles and trophies. He was a fixture at community events, supporting local athletes and ensuring every game was a memorable experience.

His planning and passion for sports created an electric atmosphere, making every event special for players and fans alike.

Beyond his professional life, Len is a devoted family man. He and his wife, Cindy, his high school sweetheart, raised two children, Drew and Emily. Len's pride in watching them compete as Red Devils is a testament to his love for both family and community.

Len left an undeniable mark on Murphysboro High and our community. I am proud to call him my friend. Though Len is retiring, his legacy will live on.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Len Novara on his retirement and a job well done. As Len always said: "Once a Red Devil, always a Red Devil."

TIME TO ENHANCE SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise this early afternoon to talk about the Nation's number one antipoverty program for the elderly, the number one antipoverty program for children, and the program that provides more disability benefits to our veterans than the VA. I am talking about Social Security, Mr. Speaker.

This might be news to some of the viewers in our audience and at home, but Congress has not acted to enhance Social Security in more than 53 years. Richard Nixon was the President of the United States the last time Congress acted on this much-needed benefit, the number one antipoverty program for the elderly and the number one antipoverty program for children.

Instead, what we find is our colleagues on the other side, the Republican Study Committee, have said that what we need to do is cut Social Security by \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years. In the process, Mr. Speaker, what they have done also is said that, yes, initially what we need to do is to raise the age of people.

What they don't tell the recipients is for every year you raise the age, that is a 7 percent cut in benefits. What they have proposed is a 21 percent across-the-board cut for Social Security. My good friend JODEY ARRINGTON is the chairman of the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee meets this week, and I hope they get to explore the myths regarding Social Security.

It has nothing to do with the debt or the deficit of this country. The chief actuary will lay that out.

Mr. Speaker, you might be surprised to know that in your district, there are over 179,000 recipients. In your district, that brings in \$306 million monthly. Where do they spend that money, Mr. Speaker? Right back in your district. They go to the pharmacy. They go to the grocery store. They put gas in their tank. They pay their rent. They pay their mortgage. They haven't had an increase since 1971.

It is long overdue for Congress to act. The President has put forward a proposal. Democrats have a proposal. All we need to do is vote.

If you have a better idea, by all means, put it out there. If you don't, at least allow a vote to take place so you can minimally help out the people in your district. On average, every Member of Congress gets more than \$200 million monthly that comes into their district. There is no better economic development plan for people in your district because of where they are going to spend that money.

Nobody gets wealthy on Social Security. The average for a male is \$18,000, and for a female, it is \$14,000. For more than 5 million of our fellow Americans, they get below-poverty-level checks from the wealthiest Nation in the world. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle are out proposing cuts for the very wealthy, the top 1 percent,

and won't even take care of the 5 million people who have paid into a system and get below-poverty-level checks.

While we are speaking of tax cuts, as I noted to Mr. ARRINGTON, how about the 23 million Americans who will receive a tax cut under the Democratic plan? How about we look at working Americans and give them a tax cut in their retirement instead of double taxing them on Social Security?

Twenty-three million Americans will benefit directly from this program that we have put forward. President Biden has said that we will pay for this as well by lifting the cap on people making over \$400,000.

Now, to understand this, as LINDA SANCHEZ said in the committee the other day, look at those expensive professional football or baseball players. For a baseball player, he is done paying Social Security after his first at-bat while the rest of America continues to pay into the system.

There are several millionaires and billionaires who circumvent the law completely and pay nothing into Social Security. Meanwhile, those men and women who defend this Nation—the firefighters, the police officers, and schoolteachers—many were double-victimized by WEP and GPO. We repealed WEP and GPO.

How about a vote, Mr. Speaker?

SECURING THE BORDER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for the past 18 months, House Republicans have worked to create a border that is secure and a Nation that is safe.

Throughout that time, President Biden has ended the remain in Mexico policy. He has thrown open our borders to a record number of illegal immigrants. He has allowed billions of dollars in cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl to enter through our porous borders.

Now, amid his falling poll numbers, President Biden is issuing an executive order on the border crisis in a very lame attempt to save his struggling campaign. These halfhearted policies are too little, too late, and do nothing to stop the surge in illegal immigration and drug smuggling that have put each and every American at risk. Since President Biden took office, there have been 1.8 million known got-aways, which is higher than the combined total of known got-aways in the previous 10 years.

Instead of offering up political stunts, it is time for the President to support H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, which would build the wall, end catch and release, and give our Border Patrol agents the tools that they need to keep America safe.

HONORING SAM WORLEY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 80th anniversary of the D-day landings, we are reminded of the incredible sacrifices that were made by the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fought for the freedoms that occurred because of that success of World War II. One of those men was Sam Worley.

As a part of an intelligence unit, Sam Worley worked to decode classified messages and organize the bomber squadrons and their fighter escorts that helped pave the way for the Normandy landings.

This week, Sam will celebrate his 103rd birthday. Since returning home to Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Sam Worley has become an important member of the Franklin County community.

In addition to his 34 years at the Valley Bank and Trust Co., Sam Worley served 8 years as chairman of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. He served more than 20 years as a representative on the Chambersburg Borough Council, culminating in his service as the Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, mayor.

Sam Worley remains to this day heavily involved with a variety of local groups and organizations, including the YMCA, Kiwanis, The American Legion, and Masonic Lodge. He also attends and speaks at many veterans' events and public gatherings.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Sam Worley a happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, as a Pacific Islander, I wish to recognize the significance of June 12 as Philippines Independence Day and the relationship that the U.S. and the Philippines share.

As a founding member of the United Nations and a member of many international global security organizations, the Philippines has long been a bastion of freedom in the Pacific as a close friend of the United States.

It is well known that the horrors of World War II affected the entire world. In the Pacific, many island nations and territories were conquered by the Imperial Japanese forces and many suffered under their occupation.

In the face of such harsh conditions, Pacific nations like the Philippines and territories like Guam preserved an unbreakable spirit that could not be rivaled.

In 1945, Filipino guerrilla fighters, with the help of Allied forces, broke free of their shackles and forced their occupying forces away, despite 4 years of atrocities. Ever since then, the Philippines has been a bastion of freedom and an integral part of keeping the world safe.

June 12, the day Emilio Aguinaldo declared independence from Spain in 1898, represents more than just a free Philippines. It demonstrates to the world that an independent nation can withstand whatever challenges come its way.

Yet, because of their unwavering commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy, the Philippine Government and people face daily harassment from the People's Republic of China.

As the PRC continues to expand its military presence within the region, Pacific regions like the Philippines need our support. As gray zone attacks, like breaches of exclusive economic zones, cyber warfare, and maritime militias in the South China Sea, continue to increase, U.S. support for our friends in the Philippines is paramount to securing the Indo-Pacific.

With the Philippines Independence Day this Wednesday, recognizing the Philippines' ongoing fight for freedom is the first step for securing the region and deterring aggression within the region.

In light of such an important event and day, I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Philippines who just crossed into the 12th of June, as well as an early happy Independence Day to those who celebrate in the United States.

As co-chair of the U.S.-Philippines Friendship Caucus, I thank my colleagues whose continued support makes our alliance with the Philippines strong. Your support for H. Res. 837, Reaffirming the ties between the United States and the Philippines, as well as a resolution I will be introducing today to commemorate Philippines Independence Day, is vital for maintaining a free Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to cosponsor these two resolutions, and I wish a happy Independence Day to our friends in the Pacific.

□ 1230

PAYING A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO KYLE ROBERTSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALFORD). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a debt of gratitude to a terrific public servant, a trusted adviser to me and to many others in public service, and someone that has become a very close friend to the Pence family.

Kyle Robertson, my chief of staff, is departing our team after decades together in politics and here in Washington, D.C.

Here on Capitol Hill, Kyle's wise counsel has guided me from day one, and under Kyle's exemplary leadership, I am proud that our office has built a reputation throughout Indiana's Sixth Congressional District for putting constituent services first.

His leadership will be missed by every member of our staff and so many other people here in the House Republican Conference and up on the Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to miss Kyle every day that I am here and he is not, but our loss is Indiana's gain.

Kyle and his family have made the decision to move home to Indiana, and I am pleased the Robertsons will be close by, reachable, and I can bother him there.

I am confident that his leadership will continue to be in demand throughout the Hoosier State and beyond in the next endeavor he is going to embark on.

Mr. Speaker, to Kyle I would say, well done, good and faithful servant. I thank him for everything he has done for me and my family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GORDONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TIGERETTES FOR WINNING TSSAA 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes for winning the TSSAA, Division 1, Class 1A State championship in softball for the second year in a row.

Gordonsville, Tennessee, is known as a Title Town for having won 10 State championships in their history. This year, Title Town has another jewel in its crown thanks to the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes.

This is the second consecutive State championship win for this team, which beat Eagleville by a score of 5-2 last year and Jo Byrns High School by a dominating 11-1 score this year.

The Tigerettes came to the field in the championship game with a can-do spirit and the goal of getting started early, and they sure did.

This is the fourth time the Tigerettes have made it to the State championship game in recent years with the first trip resulting in an agonizing 2-run loss. Afterward, Coach Jonathan Bush made it his mission to raise the expectations for the program and challenge the girls to reach new heights. The results speak for themselves: three State titles.

I am proud to represent Gordonsville, Tennessee, and take much pride in the success of the community, the families that live there, and its home team champion.

Mr. Speaker, again, I congratulate the Gordonsville Tigerettes, the 2024 TSSAA 1A State softball champions.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON THE BORDER CRISIS IS WEAK

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, last week, President Biden signed an executive order to limit the number of asylum seekers that are allowed to enter the United States in one day. The number is 2,500.

I have many concerns about the timing of this action and about the open-

border policies that created this mess, but I will first address that number. If that so-called limit was enforced each day for a full year, 912,500 immigrants would still likely be admitted into the United States, and that is before all of the loopholes and exceptions in his executive order are even considered, which will drive the number even higher.

The Biden administration would have you believe that this new policy will really crack down on the flow of illegal immigration into our country, but its effect will be marginal.

At best, the policy will slightly downgrade the unmitigated catastrophe at our southern border back to a mere full-blown crisis. The move confirms what House Republicans have been saying for 3 years. President Biden created this border catastrophe by using his executive powers to reverse the Trump border policies that were actually working, like construction of a border wall and the remain in Mexico policy. The President could use these same executive powers to reimplement those Trump border policies to again make the border much more secure, but unfortunately, this weak effort doesn't even come close.

President Biden's gross mismanagement of the border has sent a message to the entire world to just come on in. The result is more illegal immigrant encounters every month under this administration than the worst month under the previous administration.

Under President Biden, there have been more than 9.5 million illegal immigrant encounters at our borders. More than 7.8 million of them were reported at the southern border alone. We know at least 1.8 million people have managed to evade U.S. Border Patrol, and over 350 people who have tried to enter the country also were on the terrorist watch list.

The administration isn't done setting records. So far this fiscal year, there have been a record-breaking 27,583 Communist Chinese nationals encountered at the southern border. That is an increase of about 8,000 percent from just 3 years ago.

From the deadly fentanyl that is flowing across the border to the cartels making record profits from human trafficking, this has had a devastating impact on countless men, women, and children. There are many human costs resulting from the open border. There is also an actual monetary cost of more than \$150 billion each year, costing each U.S. taxpayer an average of \$1,156 each year.

The American people see this announcement for what it is: an election year public relations gimmick and a belated admission that there is, indeed, an unmitigated crisis at our southern border.

Fortunately, the American people will have their own chance to secure the border this November.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
SPEECHES IN MISSOURI'S
FOURTH DISTRICT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROSE). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Art Competition began back in 1982, and since then more than 650,000 students have entered.

As we speak, the winning art from 435 districts is being displayed in the tunnel here that connects our office buildings. Our office wanted to do something different, Mr. Speaker, something that would instill patriotism back in America, especially for our young people, so our Fourth Congressional District of Missouri is starting the congressional speech competition. I hope it catches on with other Members here.

These are students from all over our district that have entered this contest. We had a big turnout for this. The assignment was: "What America Means to Me."

This week, I will be reading the top 10 speeches from these individuals.

SPEECH BY MADDIE ARNETT

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, this is from Maddie Arnett, 10th grade, Climax Springs High School in Camden County.

"'America the Beautiful' is a Nation that deeply values the principles of freedom and equality. These values were earned through tireless efforts of its people, making it a place where individuals can pursue their dreams and aspirations, working towards building a better life for themselves and their families. The iconic 'Star-Spangled Banner' asks, 'O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?'"

"The question is a powerful reminder of the country's ongoing commitment to these values.

"While the interpretations of what America means vary, one thing is certain: It continues to inspire hope and optimism for a bright future."

SPEECH BY BROOKLYN GARRISON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, next up in our speech contest is Brooklyn Garrison, 10th grade, Concordia High School in Lafayette County.

"America, to me, embodies the promise of opportunity and the pursuit of dreams. It's a land where diversity thrives, where people from all walks of life come together to build a better future.

"It's a beacon of freedom, where individuals have the right to speak their minds, worship as they please, and chase their ambitions without fear of persecution. America symbolizes resilience, overcoming challenges, and striving for progress.

"It's a place where innovation flourishes, where the impossible becomes possible, and where the spirit of entrepreneurship thrives.

"America is not just a country; it's an idea, a belief in liberty, equality,

and the endless possibilities of tomorrow."

SPEECH BY JAXSON DECKARD

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our next winner in our speech contest is Jaxson Deckard, 11th grade, Warsaw High School in Benton County.

"Early on, I had an interest in serving my country to preserve our freedoms. I was raised in a patriotic, God-loving home, with family members serving before me.

"To me, America is a land of freedom. Citizens have the freedom to make their own decisions and opinions. This gives citizens pride and patriotism unlike any other country, pride and patriotism that gives citizens the drive to follow their dreams.

"My dream is to attend a military service academy to become a fighter pilot for our great Nation.

"Whatever your dreams are, I encourage you to chase them. In America, there are no limits to how far you can go."

SPEECH BY JACK SCHROEDER

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, our last finalist winner for today is Jack Schroeder, 12th grade, Smithton High School in Pettis County.

"To me, the United States of America is a beacon, a beacon that shines its light across the world, showing the world what life can be like: a life where everyone can have the same opportunities.

"Parts of the world have been blocked off from the light, whether from their actions or ours, but regardless of what blocks the light, we simply shine brighter.

"We've shown our capabilities of bringing our message and ideals to some of the darkest corners of the world, whether they be domestic or abroad.

"Regardless of what we must sacrifice, we've always held our ideals close to our hearts and fought for the repressed and oppressed people to have the same rights and liberties that we do.

"To me, America is a beacon of liberation."

Mr. Speaker, it is great to be able to get up here and speak the words of our young people.

Patriotism is still alive in America.

Later this week, Mr. Speaker, we will have the six remaining finalists for our speech contest. It is something I hope the rest of Congress picks up and runs with.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF
BLAINE MOELLER

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Blaine Moeller, who passed away at 60 years young and dedicated his career to protecting our community.

He grew up in Orange, attended Peralta Middle School, and graduated

from Villa Park High School. He attended the police academy at Golden West College and served in the Santa Ana Police Department for 31 years.

A lover of motorcycles, Blaine then became a California Highway Patrol motorcycle rider instructor and opened a motorcycle school in Anaheim. An avid sports fan, he could be found cheering on his favorites: the Green Bay Packers, Florida State, and the Lakers.

He was a devoted father, son, brother, and uncle. Blaine leaves behind two children, Taylor and Courtney; his mother, Marsha; and siblings, Lorie, Darin, and Todd.

Mr. Speaker, I join his family in mourning his passing and honoring his legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OTTO WARMBIER

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Otto Frederick Warmbier as we approach the seventh anniversary of his tragic death at the hands of the North Korean regime on June 19, 2017.

Otto was a dedicated young man, graduating as salutatorian of his high school in Ohio before attending the University of Virginia.

While on a school tour in North Korea in 2015, Otto was imprisoned and tortured by the North Korean regime. He died a few days after his release at just 22 years old.

Mr. Speaker, Otto experienced what no human being should ever have to go through. While he is no longer with us, his family carries on his legacy with their advocacy and strength.

"We remember and honor Otto always." "Uri-neun Otto-leul youngwonhi giukhal geos-ibnida."

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Holy Lord, in this moment in time, in all times, may we bless You. May our praise for You be continually in our mouths and may all that our souls boast for boast in You, O Lord. May our words magnify You, that all would know of our love for You and would then desire to exalt Your name with us.

We need only remember that when we seek You, You answer us. By Your

grace, You deliver us from all our fears. We need only to look to You, and our faces will be radiant with Your light. In light of Your mercy, the darkness of our shame disappears.

Attend to us this day. Encamp Your angels around us. Deliver those who fear You from the snares of those who would do us harm. Save us from every trouble we will face.

Then may we taste and see that You, O Lord, are good. Happy are we when we take refuge in You.

With Your name on our lips, we offer to You our prayers for this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EDWARDS 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.

UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING CAUSED BY BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S DEFICIT SPENDING

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, affordable housing continues to be a problem for Tennesseans. Unfortunately, it is getting worse. The cost of owning a home continues to climb, putting the American Dream out of reach for millions of Americans.

The cost of a new home in February 2020 averaged \$332,000. Now, 4 short years later, that average is \$434,000. This is a direct result of the Biden administration's out-of-control deficit spending.

Inflation was at 1.9 percent prior to this administration. It has risen 20 per-

cent since. In Tennessee, families are now paying \$22,277 more a year, on average, for the very same goods they were buying in January 2021. This makes buying a home just that much more difficult.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for this administration to put the credit card down and enact policies aimed at restoring the American Dream.

CONGRATULATING

LAHAINALUNA'S CLASS OF 2024

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I joined the graduation ceremony for the proud class of 2024 at Lahainaluna High School.

For the 225 seniors and hundreds of family members, students, faculty, and alumni, this evening honored the resiliency of this community. From the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic in freshman year to the tragic fires that struck the day before the start of senior year, this graduating class has been tested in so many ways, but they persisted. They made it. Now, these students will go off into the world to make their mark.

The valedictory speaker, M. Jee Abara, started his speech by ripping it up. Life is uncertain, he said. These words hit close to home for a community all too familiar with uncertainty.

Abara will now study disaster preparedness and emergency management at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. What was a passion before the fires has only become a calling to give back to his hometown. It is a common theme for his entire class of brave, young students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lahainaluna's class of 2024. Their perseverance, courage, and strength give us all so much hope for Lahaina's recovery in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING SAMUEL AND SAUL MALDONADO AND SAMES, INC.

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Samuel and Saul Maldonado and their exceptional company, SAM Engineering & Surveying, or SAMES for short, for receiving the Department of Energy's prestigious HUBZone Small Business of the Year award.

Founded in 2008 and based in McAllen, Texas, SAMES is a minority-owned small business providing top-tier construction, engineering, and surveying services. With over 100 employees across four locations, SAMES has grown into a nationally recognized, award-winning leader in its industry, proving that it is still possible to live the American Dream.

I congratulate Samuel and Saul Maldonado and SAMES.

**CONGRESS SHOULD REMAIN IN
D.C. UNTIL BUDGET IS DONE**

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, every year since 1996, Congress has failed to pass our annual spending bills on time. Every year since 1996, despite work still left to be done, August rolls around and Congress goes home, kicking the can down the road and leaving funding for our Federal Government to another day.

Mr. Speaker, let's fix how Washington works and remain in D.C. until our budget work is done and completed this year.

We must fix how Washington works. That is why I am introducing the Do Our Job Act. If our work is not done, we must not go home in August. Let's show the American people that we are serious about reducing our debt and keeping our government running.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1530

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MALOY) at 3 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

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

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

**SMALL BUSINESS PROCUREMENT
AND UTILIZATION REFORM ACT
OF 2024**

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7988) to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7988

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024" or the "SPUR Act".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO SCORECARD REQUIREMENTS.

Section 15(y) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(y)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

"(E) The number of new small business entrants, including new small business entrants that are small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, qualified HUBZone small business concerns, small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and small business concerns owned and controlled by women awarded prime contracts in each North American Industry Classification System code during the fiscal year, and a comparison to the number awarded prime contracts during the prior fiscal year, if available.";

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking "subparagraphs (B) through (E) of paragraph (2)" and inserting "subparagraphs (B) through (F) of paragraph (2)"; and

(3) by amending paragraph (6) to read as follows:

"(6) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) NEW SMALL BUSINESS ENTRANT.—The term 'new small business entrant' means a small business concern that—

"(i) has been awarded a prime contract; and

"(ii) has not previously been awarded a prime contract by the Federal Government.

"(B) SCORECARD.—The term 'scorecard' means any summary using a rating system to evaluate the efforts of a Federal agency to meet goals established under subsection (g)(1)(B) that—

"(i) includes the measures described in paragraph (2); and

"(ii) assigns a score to each Federal agency evaluated."

SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7988, the Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024, also known as the SPUR Act, sponsored by Representatives STAUBER and PEREZ.

Small businesses are vital to the health and resiliency of America's in-

dustrial base. Broad and robust small business participation ensures that America can continue to lead the world in innovation and defend us against foreign adversaries. However, small businesses are getting squeezed out of the industrial base at a staggering rate, a direct threat to America's dominance.

There are just half as many small businesses participating in the industrial base as there were just a decade ago. This downward trend is a culmination of years of bad government policy and is being made worse by the Biden administration's regulatory onslaught, dissuading small businesses from even considering participating in the Federal marketplace.

The SPUR Act is a critical step into looking under the hood of the government and bringing accountability to agencies. By grading agencies on how many contracts have been awarded to small businesses for the very first time, we will bring together a great focus on reversing the declining participation of small businesses in the industrial base.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 7988, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Today, we are considering H.R. 7988, which requires SBA to consider new small business government contractors when grading a Federal agency's performance toward meeting its small business goals.

The government has roughly 40 percent fewer small businesses in the ecosystem than it did just a decade ago. This has been an ongoing challenge the committee has identified and sought solutions to reverse because the industrial base decline has produced negative consequences for both the government and small firms alike.

Small firms lose out on the stability government contracting can provide, and the government loses out on the innovation and competition that a larger base of small businesses provides. Yet, despite this decline, Federal agencies award a record amount of contracting dollars to small businesses each year. This means fewer small businesses are getting larger contracts, and since contracts are getting larger, fewer smalls are willing and able to compete for them.

This legislation is a productive step that will help break that cycle. I commend Mr. STAUBER and Ms. PEREZ for their work to craft a solution to this challenge.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of my bill, the Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024, also known as the SPUR Act.

Madam Speaker, I also thank my friend and colleague from Washington (Ms. PEREZ) for her support on this important legislation.

Small businesses across the United States have a problem. Despite government agencies setting aside contract opportunities for small businesses, participation in Federal contracting has plummeted by 50 percent over just the past decade.

Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They are the innovators, the job creators, and the driving force behind economic growth.

In Minnesota, small businesses account for over 99 percent of all businesses and employ over half of the workforce. It is no exaggeration to say that the success of our economy is tied to the success of our small businesses.

The Federal Government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world, and there is no better way for the government to support small businesses than to ensure they have every opportunity to contract with it.

The scorecard system, which is used to determine if the government is doing a good job contracting with small businesses, needs improvement. Agencies are graded on the total number and value of small business contracts, yet they do not factor in small businesses who won a Federal contract for the first time.

Without incorporating this into the agency scorecard grade, we have no ability to tell whether the pool of small businesses are first-time contractors or multiyear contractors. If the government continuously rewards the same firms time and time again, a new small business that has a more efficient, less expensive way of doing things may be discouraged from entering the marketplace altogether.

My bill, the SPUR Act, addresses this concern. It will require the SBA to account for the number of new entrants into the Federal procurement space when it grades agencies for use in its scorecard. Too many Federal agencies fall short of their goals for awarding contracts to small businesses, leaving billions of dollars in contracts out of reach of American small businesses and increasing the cost for taxpayers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the SPUR Act.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. PEREZ), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Ms. PEREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the SPUR Act. I thank my colleague from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) for introducing this bill.

The SBA is ensuring that small businesses are given a fair shot at competing for Federal contracting dollars. SBA publishes an annual small business procurement scorecard that grades each Federal agency on their spending toward the goal and gives agencies a score for their performance.

We all know that these Federal contracts can be an incredible financial opportunity for our Nation's entrepreneurs, but even though the amount of dollars awarded to small businesses has reached record highs, the number of small businesses in the industrial base has declined dramatically.

Put simply, the Federal Government is not retaining current small business government contractors, and new small businesses are not choosing to enter the Federal market. This is a serious problem.

For our local economies to thrive, it is important that we level the playing field and ensure that more southwest Washington small businesses can benefit from these opportunities. This bill would require the SBA to include the number of new entrants into the Federal market in the methodology for scoring each Federal agency's small business performance.

By way of example, after the 2020 pandemic hit, my husband and I spent basically the better part of a year on upgrades to our auto shop, including investments in infrastructure, like ventilation systems to keep our employees and our customers safe.

Our friends, who own another auto repair shop, instead spent the entire year learning how to navigate the contract system with the city. This is a perfect example of how it is a real loss to our communities and our local economies when small business owners have to spend a year navigating a bureaucracy and figuring out how to do business with the government.

Our bill will help shed light on how successful Federal agencies are at making sure that new businesses see the value in contracting with the Federal Government and have the capacity to overcome the regulatory burdens to tap into these resources.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-lead this bill with Representative STAUBER, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Madam Speaker, at the Department of Defense, GAO found that, over a 10-year period, the number of small businesses participating in the defense industrial base declined by over 40 percent. The civilian agencies are seeing a similar decline.

As a result, questions have been raised about how to accurately measure the health of the industrial base and the scorecard's effectiveness for tracking small business contracting. The scorecard's current criteria include a year-over-year prime contract comparison goal, but it fails to count the award of a contract for the first time.

This bill is intended to measure and include in the SBA's methodology for calculating an agency's score for small business goals the number of small businesses who are becoming Federal Government contractors for the first time.

By requiring a year-over-year comparison of new entrants rather than a single target, Federal agencies will be compelled to continuously focus on bringing in new companies and addressing the barriers, like contract size, that prevent greater small business participation.

I again applaud the work put into this legislation. It is a thoughtful product of bipartisan work.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. STAUBER and Ms. PEREZ, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, we must ensure that a greater number of small businesses are entering the government contracting space. By forcing agencies to recognize the shortcomings in awarding contracts to first-time suppliers of the Federal Government, I am hopeful that these numbers will begin to move back in the right direction.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7988.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ThinkDIFFERENTLY ABOUT DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7989) to provide for a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7989

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act".

SEC. 2. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, in consultation with the Chair of the National Council on Disability, shall—

(1) provide assistance to individuals with disabilities who desire to become entrepreneurs or to be self-employed;

(2) help individuals with disabilities find employment at small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632));

(3) assist small business concerns with hiring individuals with disabilities and with accessibility issues applicable to individuals with disabilities.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR AGREEMENT.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall carry out and coordinate the activities described in subsection (a) by entering into one or more memoranda of understanding or other appropriate agreements.

(c) OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.—In carrying out the activities described in subsection (a), the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall conduct outreach and education about such activities.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, shall submit to Congress a report on activities carried out pursuant to any memorandum or agreement described in subsection (b) that includes the following:

(1) A description of how the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, carried out such activities.

(2) An analysis of opportunities to expand the technical capabilities of the Small Business Administration in carrying out such activities.

(3) A description of achievements under any such memorandum or agreement.

(4) A description of the plans of the Administrator, in consultation with the Chair, to continue activities to expand employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7989, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

Individuals with disabilities are more likely to be self-employed than the average American, and across the Federal Government, there are numerous programs and resources to assist American small businesses. Yet, many of these resources are not tailored to entrepreneurs with disabilities.

In order to ensure that we are not leaving behind this population, this bill will increase coordination between the SBA and the National Council on Disability. The National Council on Disability is an independent Federal agency whose mission is to provide recommendations to policymakers on

issues impacting individuals with disabilities. This bipartisan council is uniquely qualified to advise and assist the SBA in their pursuit of assisting individuals with disabilities to achieve the American Dream.

I thank Representatives MOLINARO and PAPPAS for their commitment to ensuring Congress works to pave the way to success for entrepreneurs and employees with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote “yes” on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

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

Madam Speaker, I thank Representatives MOLINARO and PAPPAS for introducing the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

Earlier in the year, our committee heard testimony about the importance of supporting individuals with disabilities. Not only do they have the skills and desire to work, but hiring people with disabilities directly benefits the company they work for and the overall economy.

Through this bipartisan legislation, the SBA can collaborate with the National Council on Disability to help employers hire people with disabilities and provide much-needed support to these entrepreneurs.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

Mr. MOLINARO. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman WILLIAMS for supporting this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act.

This is yet one more piece of legislation the House is taking up to build off the work that we began when I served as county executive, our ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative. I thank Representative CHRIS PAPPAS for not only his support and cosponsorship of the legislation but his partnership on issues of significance to those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative is a call to action. It is now a national model seeking to break down barriers and create opportunities for those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities. The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act does just that.

The bill requires cooperation between the SBA and the National Council on Disability to expand employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for our disability community. Reports have shown and we know that nearly 70 percent of those living with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities are unemployed. They are relegated to the sidelines.

Too many overlook the immense potential our disability community has, especially when it comes to supporting Main Street. Some believe that certain people can't achieve certain things because they presume that they can't. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Employment and entrepreneurship opportunities allow individuals with disabilities not only to sharpen their soft skills and lead more independent lives, but they add value and benefit to employers.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act paves the way for lawmakers to assess the challenges our employees and entrepreneurs with disabilities face while proactively seeking to ensure those with disabilities have the support they need to pursue careers and opportunities of their own.

Again, I thank my colleague Representative PAPPAS for his partnership on this bill. I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense, bipartisan legislation.

Too many living with disabilities are left on the sideline when a simple act of preparing them to enter the workforce or entering the workforce not only transforms and enhances their lives but will advance the work and opportunities with employers and small businesses and certainly work to strengthen the national economy.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member and the chair for bringing this legislation to the floor. I rise to urge support of this bipartisan bill that would make needed improvements in the way that Federal partners coordinate and collaborate to support entrepreneurs with disabilities.

The ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act is a bipartisan piece of legislation I was proud to work on alongside Congressman MOLINARO, and I thank him for his leadership on these issues.

This legislation would require the SBA and the National Council on Disability to collaborate to help people with disabilities pursue small business ownership and employment opportunities.

Specifically, it would require the SBA to report to Congress on the challenges entrepreneurs with disabilities face, better understand current resources available to them, and recommend ways to address the challenges and needs these entrepreneurs have.

I remain committed to working across the aisle on behalf of our small businesses and continuing to bring the voices of our Main Streets to the Halls of Congress to ensure we are meeting their needs and ensure that we are supporting them moving forward in the challenges that they face.

This bipartisan bill is a commonsense step. It is good for people. It is good for small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman MOLINARO, once again, for his leadership, and I urge the House to pass the bill today.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 44.1 million Americans are individuals with disabilities. It is important to ensure that all Americans are included and accommodated in the workplace and business community. However, only 26 percent of people with disabilities participate in America's labor force.

One such way to improve these numbers is through entrepreneurship. There are about 1.8 million small businesses owned by people with disabilities in the U.S. Owning a small business is a major pathway for all Americans, especially people with disabilities, to achieve self-sufficiency.

Today's legislation would require the SBA to enter an MOU with the National Council on Disability to promote entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MOLINARO and Mr. PAPPAS for their collaboration, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, from the start of this Congress, Representative MOLINARO has been a strong advocate for individuals with disabilities. I am thankful for his efforts in the Committee on Small Business to continue his work to ensure Federal resources are being used as effectively as possible so every entrepreneur has a chance to succeed.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7989.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RURAL SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCE ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7984) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve access to disaster assistance for individuals located in rural areas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7984

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Rural Small Business Resilience Act".

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS LOCATED IN RURAL AREAS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall ensure that the Associate Administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience of the Administration takes such actions as necessary to ensure that individuals located in rural areas (as defined in paragraph (16) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(16))) for which a disaster declaration has been made under such section 7(b) have full access to assistance provided under such section, including by providing targeted outreach and marketing materials to such individuals.

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.

The second paragraph (16) (relating to statute of limitations) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is redesignated as paragraph (17).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the RULE, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7984, the Rural Small Business Resilience Act. This legislation would require the SBA to meet communities immediately following a disaster.

It is no secret that Americans in rural communities face different challenges following a disaster than their urban counterparts. It makes sense, then, that a one-size-fits-all outreach plan from the SBA is inadequate.

The GAO confirmed this in their February report, stating individuals in rural areas do not even know assistance is available from the SBA as they try to get back on their feet following a disaster.

The SBA's disaster loan program offers loans to help homeowners, renters, businesses, and nonprofits recover from physical and economic losses following a declared disaster.

I am grateful to Representative PAPPAS and Representative BEAN for introducing this legislation so that rural Americans will have full access to these resources when disaster strikes.

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

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

Madam Speaker, today we are considering H.R. 7984, which will require the SBA to close out the GAO recommendation, ensuring that individuals in rural areas where a disaster declaration has been made have full access to assistance, including targeted outreach and marketing materials. The SBA will have 1 year to close out the recommendation.

On February 22, 2024, the GAO issued a report examining how the SBA's disaster loan program assists communities after disasters, disaster loan trends in rural and urban areas for fiscal years 2017 to 2022, challenges rural communities face after disasters, and the SBA's actions that address challenges.

The GAO found that rural areas have characteristics that make recovery difficult, and they face challenges in seeking SBA disaster assistance. While the SBA has taken steps to address challenges to recovery, including portable outreach centers, virtual outreach, and a whole-of-SBA approach, this bill prioritizes the SBA's efforts to close out this GAO recommendation and focus on our Nation's rural communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. BEAN for their work on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN).

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, summer is right around the corner, and you know what that means: ice cream, going to the pool, going to the beach, baseball, and, unfortunately, hurricane season.

We all know that in baseball, you get three strikes and you are out, but for some small business owners, they could be out with just one major disaster strike.

According to FEMA, 43 percent of small businesses never reopen after a major disaster. An additional 29 percent go out of business within 2 years of the disaster.

That is why, today, I rise in support of H.R. 7984, the Rural Small Business Resilience Act, which I am proud to co-lead along with Representative PAPPAS from the great State of New Hampshire.

This legislation will require the SBA to appropriately tailor marketing and outreach materials to rural communities following a disaster.

In a recent report, the Government Accountability Office, the GAO, found that small businesses in rural communities are not aware of the vital assistance the SBA can provide following a disaster, which could make or break whether they remain open or closed.

The GAO recommends the SBA distinguish their marketing between rural

and urban areas in their outreach and how they get the word out that they are there to help them.

Thankfully, Representative PAPPAS and I have heard the message from GAO. It is loud and clear. We have the right answer, and it is the answer small businesses may be looking for. That answer, Madam Speaker, is the Rural Small Business Resilience Act.

I ask my colleagues to support small business and support small business owners by voting “yes” today on H.R. 7984. It could very well be a game changer for small business.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member and Chairman WILLIAMS for bringing this piece of legislation to the floor.

I rise in support of bipartisan legislation that works to support our rural small businesses and entrepreneurs. In my State of New Hampshire, small businesses are our big business, and we must advance legislation that meets their needs and supports the economies of our local communities.

I introduced this bill alongside Representative BEAN, as well as Representatives GOLDEN and MANN, and I am grateful for their leadership on this issue.

This bipartisan bill would require the SBA to develop specific outreach policies and procedures for rural communities and ensure that rural small businesses have full access to SBA disaster assistance.

It would specifically tailor outreach and marketing plans for the SBA’s disaster loan program to address challenges rural communities face in accessing disaster relief. Rural small businesses face unique challenges, and we must ensure that we are taking every step possible to see that they have access to the full spectrum of resources and support, especially with regard to disaster preparedness and relief.

As we continue to see extreme weather events impacting our communities, this legislation couldn’t be more important.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill on the floor today.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as witnessed over recent years, the number and cost of weather and climate disasters, such as tornadoes and wildfires, have been increasing across the United States.

Approximately 20 percent of the U.S. population lives in rural areas, representing 97 percent of land area, according to the 2020 Census. GAO has recommended the SBA distinguish between rural and urban communities in its outreach and marketing to disaster areas. Such targeted outreach and marketing to rural communities can make a significant difference.

□ 1600

I thank Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. BEAN for putting crazy town partisan antics aside and coming together to craft a bill that truly makes a difference for rural America.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, national disasters are devastating, and it is important that Americans understand what resources are available regardless of where they live.

I, once again, thank Representatives PAPPAS and BEAN for their work on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7984.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSPARENCY AND PREDICTABILITY IN SMALL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ACT

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8014) to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8014

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act”.

SEC. 2. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION RULES FOR CANCELLED COVERED SOLICITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to carry out the following actions:

(1) Disclose information about a covered solicitation that was issued and cancelled that includes the following:

(A) A justification for the cancellation of such covered solicitation.

(B) Available information about any plans to reissue such covered solicitation and any associated timeframes for such reissuance.

(C) Available information about any plans to include the requirements such covered solicitation in another contract or task order of the Federal agency.

(2) With respect to a cancelled covered solicitation which the Federal agency does not intend to reissue, procedures for the referral

of a small business concern that prepared a bid for such covered solicitation to the Director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (as defined in section 15(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k))) of the Federal agency for assistance in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The information required under subsection (a) shall be made publicly accessible on the single governmentwide point of entry described under section 1708 of title 41, United States Code.

(c) COVERED SOLICITATION DEFINED.—The term “covered solicitation” means a solicitation of a Federal agency for a procurement for which two or more small business concerns were eligible to submit a bid.

SEC. 3. DUTIES FOR DIRECTORS OF OFFICES OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION RELATING TO CERTAIN CANCELLED SOLICITATIONS.

Section 15(k) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (21), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(22) shall, when notified by a small business concern that a Federal agency cancelled a solicitation for which such concern prepared a bid and such Federal agency does not intend to reissue, assist such concern with identifying similar contracting opportunities.”.

SEC. 4. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.

No additional amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act or the amendments made by this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act sponsored by Representatives MFUME and ALFORD.

H.R. 8014 seeks to bring clarity to small business owners when an agency cancels a contract solicitation. Small businesses spend an incredible amount of time and resources preparing to bid on government contracts. When an agency cancels a contract solicitation, the small businesses that started preparing are left with nothing to show for their work. Furthermore, there is little clarity about what the agency will do with the products and services it originally intended to purchase.

H.R. 8014 will require agencies to share with the SBA its future plans with the canceled solicitation and a

justification as to why it was canceled all while providing assistance to small businesses who were impacted by the cancellation by helping them identify similar contracting opportunities.

Small businesses deserve to have a full understanding of what opportunities are available to them and deserve to know how agencies will fulfill their buying needs.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H.R. 8014, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act introduced by Mr. MFUME and Mr. ALFORD.

This legislation requires the government to provide information to small business contractors when they cancel solicitations.

The government has flexibility to change requirements and solicitations as needed when their circumstances change. While this flexibility is necessary, the small businesses take on the risk and can incur losses when it happens.

Requiring an agency to disclose the reasons behind a cancellation and any plans for the work will provide small contractors with a little more information to adjust their business plans and operations accordingly.

This is a commonsense strategy to provide some relief to small contractors, and that is why I support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to thank Chairman WILLIAMS and Majority Leader SCALISE for helping get H.R. 8014, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, to this very House floor.

I am honored to serve on the Small Business Committee, especially having been a small business owner myself. The committee exists in Congress to champion Main Street and to make sure that the small businesses that employ about half of all Americans can continue to thrive.

Madam Speaker, our role is to help lower the barriers to creating small businesses and to support small businesses that already exist. It is quite simple, and I think this bill helps with that.

Major tools to help existing small businesses are government contracts specifically set aside for small businesses.

However, Federal agencies cancel contract solicitations often with no warning and no reason, leaving the small businesses that spent thousands or tens of thousands of dollars and a lot of time preparing these bids out in

the cold. They have no idea why their deal did not go through.

This bill, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, will help address the problem.

This legislation would require agencies to provide to the SBA a justification for canceled contract solicitations. Additionally, this would require the agency canceling the contract solicitation to disclose available information about plans to reissue similar solicitations.

Finally, Madam Speaker, if the agency does not plan on reissuing solicitations, the agency's director of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization must assist the small business in identifying similar contracting opportunities.

I am proud to co-lead this legislation, along with Mr. MFUME of Maryland, and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and supporting Main Street America.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME), the ranking member of the Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations Subcommittee.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I thank Chair ROGER WILLIAMS and Ranking Member NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ for their cooperation in getting this piece of legislation to the floor.

This amendment represents, in many respects, the sort of amendments that are bipartisan that have come about under their leadership, first in this Congress and then in the previous Congress when their roles had been reversed. It is a good process to have, and I honestly hope that other committees can follow the example here.

The U.S. Federal Government, in case people don't know, is the largest customer in the entire world. The government spends more than \$690 billion every year on products and on services and is required by law to have those services meet the application, meet the solicitation, and then be considered properly. The government requires also by law that it gives equal consideration to businesses where applicable.

Once an agency has evaluated and assessed their needs, acquisition personnel will post a solicitation on the Federal Government's System for Award Management. It is also commonly known as SAM.gov.

That posting then is used to document and to track the eligibility of an individual or an entity to be able to receive Federal funds.

Now, winning a contract can secure for a small business tens of thousands of dollars for their products or their services where applicable, which also results, obviously, in huge financial gains, but the problem here is that this is not a simple feat.

Successfully securing a government contract requires fortitude and tenacity over and over again, day in and day out, as small businesses will need to do

in order to be able to take advantage of that solicitation.

Now, not only can it take a long time for a small business to win their first government contract, but it also requires a significant amount of financial resources. They have to be invested in the process.

Some businesses in this country spend on average \$80,000 to \$130,000 just to be able to earn their first contract. They have to get the right consultants. They have to put together the right teams. They need the right expertise that goes above and beyond what their capabilities are, and it is work, work, work.

Additionally, it can take small business owners up to 2 years to start making a return on that same investment, making the need for an adequate cash flow absolutely essential. You have to be able to ride that tide, as many small businesses will tell you, and cash flow is a huge part of that.

Now, despite the prospective award-ees' heavy lift, and it is a heavy lift, agencies on their own, unilaterally, without reason, can cancel the solicitation without ever disclosing why, leaving the small businessperson or the small minority business left on their own to recoup the money that they have put in and also being unable to bid right away on something else.

It leaves entrepreneurs in the dark. It causes them to be depleted of their resources and absent of any guidance on a path moving forward. The government doesn't say we have taken your solicitation, here is what you have to do. They just say we have canceled the solicitation, and then the small business entity has to figure out what they do next after that large investment.

Small business owners, in my opinion, deserve better allies in the Federal Government. That is why the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) and I have put together in a bipartisan way the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act. We think it is a remedy for a very serious problem.

The act requires the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue regulations that would provide for the disclosure of additional information when a small business solicitation is canceled.

In other words, if you are going to make a unilateral decision, you have to at least tell the small businesses who have invested money in trying to provide for that why you did it. We have a good SBA Administrator. I think that she just needs the right kind of language in a bill and the authority to be able to do just that.

The bill would also require the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to help small businesses seek additional opportunities if a solicitation that they bid on is arbitrarily and unilaterally canceled.

It is my hope and the hope of the gentleman from Missouri as well that we are able to provide them with the

opportunities they need to be able to continue to grow and develop their businesses and the opportunity to be successful rather than to be in a punitive situation where we offer bait and then snatch it back after businesses are, in fact, vested on a course of winning a contract.

Small businesses, needless to say, really have been the driving force in our economy, and I know that Mr. WILLIAMS and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ will agree. After all the hard work these small businesses do, they deserve the courtesy of disclosure from the Federal Government and its contracting agencies.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am in support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, this bill will prevent small businesses from being left with nothing to show for contracting opportunities that never materialize for one reason or another. It is my hope that this will increase the number of small businesses willing to take the leap of faith to compete for government contracts.

Before I yield back, I thank Representative MFUME for this bill and all the work he has done for small businesses throughout the years. I appreciate it very much.

While he may no longer be serving on our committee for the remainder of the 118th Congress, I appreciate his contributions that he has made throughout the years to America's entrepreneurs, and he is my friend.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8014.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1615

FORGOTTEN HEROES OF THE HOLOCAUST CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 537) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 537

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The following diplomats will be honored posthumously: Per Anger (Sweden), Jose Maria Barreto (Peru), Lars Berg (Sweden), Philippe Bernardini (Vatican / Italy), Hiram (Harry) Bingham IV (United States), Friedrich Born (Switzerland), Manuel Antonio Muñoz Borrero (Ecuador), Carlos de Liz-Texeira Branquinho (Portugal), Eduardo Propper de Callejón (Spain), Samuel del Campo (Chile), Aracy Moebius Carvalho de Guimarães Rosa (Brazil), José Arturo Castellanos (El Salvador), Carl Ivan Danielsson (Sweden), Luis Martins de Souza Dantas (Brazil), Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz (Germany), Harald Feller (Switzerland), Francis (Frank) Foley (United Kingdom), Jean-Edouard Friedrich (Switzerland), Carlos Almeida Afonseca de Sampaio Garrido (Portugal), Raymond Herman Geist (United States), Feng-Shan Ho (China), Constantin Karadja (Romania), Alexander Kasser (Sándor Kasza) (Sweden / Hungary), Elow Kihlgren (Sweden), Joseph Willem (Joop) Kolkman (Netherlands), Julius Kühl (Switzerland), Aleksander Ladoš (Poland), Valdemar Langlet (Sweden), Charles (Carl) Lutz (Switzerland), George Mandel-Mantello (El Salvador), Florian Manoliu (Romania), Aristides de Sousa Mendes (Portugal), Salomon Jacob (Sally) Noach (Netherlands), Giorgio (Jorge) Perlasca (Spain / Italy), Ernst Prodolliet (Switzerland), Franjo Punčuch (Yugoslavia / Slovenia), Sebastián de Romero Radigales (Spain), Konstany Rokicki (Poland), Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli (Vatican / Italy), Angelo Rotta (Vatican / Italy), Albert Emile Routier (Turkey), Stefan Ryniewicz (Poland), Gilberto Bosques Saldivar (Mexico), José Ruiz Santaella (Spain), Angel Sanz-Briz (Spain), Abdol-Hossein Sardari (Iran), Henryk Slawik (Poland), Robert Smallbones (United Kingdom), Ján Spišiak (Slovakia), Chiune (Sempo) Sugihara (Japan), Ireanaeus Typaldos (Spain), Alexander (Sándor) Újváry (Vatican / Hungary), Selahattin Ülkümen (Turkey), Gennaro Verolino (Vatican / Italy), Vladimir Vochoč (Czech Republic), Ernst Vonrufs (Switzerland), Raoul Wallenberg (Sweden), Guelfo Zamboni (Italy), Peter Zürcher (Switzerland), and Jan Zwartendijk (Holland).

(2) On September 1, 1939, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis began their invasion of Europe, which started World War II and threw the world into chaos. The Nazi plan of mass murder of the Jewish population was in full motion. As battles were being fought between countries, Jews were being rounded up and sent to concentration camps throughout Europe. This process began a mass exodus of people out of Europe, especially those in the Jewish community.

(3) During the war, members of the Jewish community used every tool and means at their disposal to flee Nazi tyranny. Thousands tried to flee on trains or boats to escape from Europe.

(4) While the armies of countries were fighting each other, a handful of diplomats, from around the world, stepped forward and took heroic actions to save Jews fleeing Europe. This was an incredibly dangerous process. If the Nazis discovered the actions of these diplomats they would be expelled, as a few of them were. Also, while worrying about the Nazis, diplomats had to worry about their careers and livelihoods back home. Many of them had strict orders from their home countries to not aid the Jewish population in any way.

(5) These diplomats used every means at their disposal to help Jews fleeing persecu-

tion. One of the most powerful tools the diplomats had to use was the issuing of passports and travel visas contrary to the instruction of the governments of the diplomats. This process alone is responsible for saving hundreds of thousands of Jewish families in Europe. This was not the only tool used as many of the diplomats were connected with the local populations and were great communicators for Jews trying to travel underground. They were able set up safehouses and getaways to hide Jews and especially Jewish children from Nazi authorities. In the most dangerous of times, several of these diplomats confronted the Nazis directly on behalf of the Jews and personally put themselves in grave danger.

(6) Every diplomat knew the dangers and knew what they were up against, and still pushed forward to save those in the most danger.

(7) The Congressional Gold Medal authorized under this Act will help remind humanity that when the diplomats were faced with terrible crises, they went beyond the fold, including risking their careers and the lives of themselves and their families, to engage in this humanitarian mission. The diplomats of today and future generations can look towards these heroes and be inspired by their lives of heroism and sacrifice.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in honor of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), in recognition of their brave and vital service of saving Jews during World War II.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) PRESENTATION OF MEDAL.—The single gold medal presented under subsection (a) shall be presented collectively to the eldest next of kin of each of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), who shall receive the medal as part of a delegation consisting of a senior official representative of the country that each diplomat served and the cochair of the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Committee.

(d) UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the 60 diplomats identified in section 2(1), the gold medal shall be given to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum should make the gold medal awarded pursuant to this Act available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with Holocaust remembrance.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3, at a price sufficient to cover the costs thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—Medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United

States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.**—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) **PROCEEDS OF SALE.**—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 537, a bill that will posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to the forgotten heroes of the Holocaust.

Madam Speaker, on September 1, 1939, Adolf Hitler and the Nazis began their invasion of Europe, which started World War II and threw humanity into what would become one of the darkest periods in history.

The Nazis sought the mass extermination of the Jewish people and wasted no time carrying out their vile plan. They hunted, rounded up, and sent Jews to concentration camps across Europe to be murdered in state-sponsored genocide that we now refer to as the Holocaust.

However, a handful of diplomats from around the world took quick and heroic action to save Jews attempting to flee Europe. They resisted the anti-Semitic Nazi agenda, risking their families, careers, and lives to help innocent Jewish people flee persecution.

Despite some receiving direct orders not to help the Jewish population, these diplomats issued passports and travel visas, set up safe houses and getaways to hide adults and children, and communicated with local communities to help fleeing Jews escape by traveling underground to safety.

Because of the actions of these diplomats, hundreds of thousands of Jewish families in Europe escaped death at the hands of Hitler's Nazi regime. Although they were not the only ones who risked their lives to aid the Jewish community, today we celebrate 60 of those diplomats and honor their lives and actions with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Sadly, anti-Semitism is an endemic and unrelenting scourge on history,

rearing its ugly head even today just as it did 80 years ago during World War II.

H.R. 537 honors those 60 diplomats who valiantly defied the systemic hatred by bravely doing what was right to stand up not only for the Jewish community but of all mankind. It is my hope that their courage will continue to inspire Americans today.

Madam Speaker, I support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it, as well. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 537, the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act, sponsored by Representative SALAZAR and myself.

Following the sacrifices honored over the weekend on the anniversary of the historic battle of Normandy, Congress today has the opportunity with this bipartisan bill to honor 60 diplomats from around the world in recognition of their courage, devotion, and sacrifice to rescue countless numbers of Jewish and other persecuted people during the Nazi occupation of Europe.

The Holocaust was the genocide of over 6 million Jews and millions of others by the Nazis and has come to symbolize the depths of human cruelty, dehumanization, and mass violence.

We remember the lives of over 10 million victims of Nazi Germany's persecution and mass executions, and today we recognize some of those individuals who demonstrated humanity and courage. The diplomats recognized by H.R. 537 and honored with this medal come from across the world. They faced a choice between being complacent with their then-Nazi occupiers or following their conscience. Risking their lives and careers, they chose humanity and became heroes.

After the Nazis took control of Germany and waged war on Europe, diplomats and foreign officials were in difficult positions. The diplomats recognized today made the decision to directly confront their own governments, the Nazi occupiers, and sympathizers to protect and rescue Europe's persecuted Jews.

From issuing visas and protective documents to establishing safe houses with hospitals, nurseries, and soup kitchens for Europe's Jewish population, these individuals often defied explicit orders from their superiors.

Individually, these diplomats saved thousands of Jews from persecution. With H.R. 537, each of us can honor their heroism and affirm for the whole Nation how one person, one act of kindness, and one act of civil disobedience can make a difference.

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

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SALAZAR), the bill's sponsor.

Ms. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge the passage of the bill, the Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act.

Anti-Semitism has always been a tragic feature of world history, but there was no greater display of anti-Semitism than when the Nazis tried to wipe out the Jews from the face of the Earth. Hitler and his satanic advisers were the architects of one of the cruelest chapters in the history of humanity called the Holocaust.

We all know too well the horrors of that period, but we often forget the remarkable individuals across the world who, at great personal risk, helped millions and millions of Jews escape the death camps.

H.R. 537 recognizes 60 diplomats—some of them are pictured right here—who used their positions and influence to help those under persecution escape death. How? By issuing fake visas or hiding them in the embassies. They simply smuggled the Jews destined for concentration camps out of the hands of evil.

These heroes come from a variety of nations, including the United States, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Spain, Italy, Poland, Japan, and even Nazi Germany. They displayed undeniable courage and embodied the best of humanity during one of the darkest times of human history.

History, unfortunately, repeats itself, and today denial of the Holocaust is at an all-time high, with one out of five Americans under the age of 30 believing it never happened. Meanwhile, anti-Semitic incidents in this country, in the United States, have gone up more than 300 percent since the terrorist attack on Israel last October.

Honoring the heroes of the past helps us acknowledge the Holocaust as a real event and serves today in the present as a chilling reminder of one of the devastating consequences of silence in the face of evil. Nonetheless, despite these unspeakable atrocities that defined that period, these people demonstrated that humanity also has the capacity for extraordinary acts of courage.

By supporting this legislation, we will honor the memory of these heroes, we will preserve the truth of the Holocaust for future generations, and we will continue to fight anti-Semitism in all its forms.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Abe Foxman and Art Reidel, as well as my co-lead of this bill, the gentleman from New York, the Honorable Congressman RITCHIE TORRES.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLOOD. Madam Speaker, I would just underscore the importance of this bill in reminding us of the evils that existed 80 years ago and still exist today, and the bravery that embodied and continues to embody mankind today.

I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for introducing this bill, and I thank the gentleman from New York for his cosponsorship. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 537, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF RYAN CORBETT, A UNITED STATES CITIZEN

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 965) calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 965

Whereas United States citizen Ryan Corbett has lived a life of service, by supporting humanitarian projects in Afghanistan by helping the Afghan people start and operate small businesses;

Whereas Ryan Corbett moved his family to Afghanistan in 2010 to help the local population and lived there for over a decade aiding the local Afghan population;

Whereas in 2017, Ryan Corbett founded "Bloom Afghanistan" to provide consulting and microloans to Afghan small businesses to help build a self-sustaining local economy of Afghan small businesses;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is known to his family, friends, colleagues, and associates as a loving father, as well as a kind, service-oriented man;

Whereas Ryan Corbett was forced to leave his life, community, and Afghan partners behind during the August 2021 Taliban takeover of Afghanistan and the ensuing evacuation of American citizens;

Whereas in August 2022, Ryan Corbett traveled to Afghanistan for a 10-day trip to check in on his business and employees and was detained by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban detained Ryan Corbett without being charged with a crime or granting him due process in any judicial proceedings;

Whereas, on October 10, 2023, Ryan Corbett was designated as wrongfully detained by the Department of State;

Whereas Ryan Corbett is being held in a 9-foot by 9-foot cell with two other detainees, and has been held in solitary confinement for months at a time;

Whereas the Taliban has not granted Ryan Corbett any consular visits by Department of State personnel;

Whereas during his detention, Ryan Corbett has only had 3 phone calls totaling 22 minutes with his family, and has only had 2 in-person visits with representatives of the

United States protecting power in Afghanistan, Qatar;

Whereas three non-American individuals previously detained with Ryan Corbett have been released and have reported on Ryan's conditions;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates stated that prisoners at that facility must survive on scraps of fatty meat, only have access to sunlight once a month, and cannot use the bathroom without permission;

Whereas Ryan Corbett's former cellmates stated that during their captivity, Ryan Corbett was suffering from seizures, fainting, and discolored extremities; and

Whereas Ryan Corbett turned 40 years old during his wrongful detention, and his physical and mental health is rapidly declining due to the stress and harsh conditions, such that his family fears he will not survive his wrongful detention: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) calls on the Taliban to immediately and unconditionally release Ryan Corbett and all other American detainees;

(2) urges the Taliban to respect Ryan Corbett's human rights and to provide full, unfettered, and consistent health and safety visits to Ryan Corbett while in detention;

(3) encourages the Government of Qatar, as the protecting power of the United States in Afghanistan, to continue in its efforts to conduct basic health and wellness checks on Ryan Corbett, thanks Qatar for its efforts thus far, and encourages Qatar to be involved in securing the release of Ryan Corbett;

(4) urges all United States executive branch officials to continue to raise the case of Ryan Corbett and to press for his immediate release in all interactions with the Taliban;

(5) condemns the Taliban's practice of hostage taking and demands the Taliban to stop detaining United States citizens for political gain;

(6) expresses sympathy for and solidarity with the families of all other citizens and lawful permanent residents of the United States wrongfully detained abroad; and

(7) expresses support for the family of Ryan Corbett and a commitment to bringing Ryan Corbett home.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, on August 10, 2022, Ryan Corbett was detained by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Ryan Corbett is a loving husband to Anna, and father of three wonderful children: Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb. I spent quite a bit of time with the family.

In 2 weeks, his oldest daughter graduates from high school, but instead of

being home with his family right now celebrating his daughter, he is suffering in a Taliban prison.

Ryan Corbett and his family lived in Afghanistan for over a decade. He supported humanitarian efforts and provided opportunities for the Afghan people. He is a good man who has dedicated his life to helping others. He is not a criminal.

Despite pressure to act from the committee I chair, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, it took over a year for this administration to declare Ryan as wrongfully detained.

After constant engagement with this administration, the Corbett family has yet to receive any information regarding a plan to secure his release. Many of these requests for meetings with high-level administration officials have been repeatedly ignored. This is unacceptable. This administration must put a priority on bringing Ryan and other wrongfully detained Americans home now.

Ryan's situation is dire. Ryan's wife, Anna, reports his mental and physical health have significantly deteriorated in recent months.

The Taliban has refused to allow Ryan the voice to advocate for himself. He has only spoken to his wife a handful of times since he has been detained. Ryan is being held in inhumane conditions in a tiny cell with unreliable access to food and no ability to go outside. He is fed only scraps to eat, and he has faced solitary confinement for weeks on end.

Ryan is facing serious medical conditions, experiencing seizures and often fainting. I want to assure Ryan's wife, Anna, along with his family, friends, and coworkers that we will continue our fight every day until we bring him home.

As the father of five children myself, I cannot begin to imagine the pain and suffering Ryan's family is feeling right now.

This Congress and all Americans stand with Ryan, and that is why I am proud to support this bipartisan resolution today that condemns the Taliban regime for its illegal imprisonment of Ryan and demands his immediate release. It calls upon the Biden administration to prioritize bringing all American citizens home who are wrongfully detained overseas.

The President must project strength on the world stage and secure the immediate release of Ryan. Anything less is a failure of American leadership.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

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

I rise in strong support of H. Res. 965, calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban, as well.

I thank Representative TENNEY and Chairman MCCAUL for their work on this resolution, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS and so many other people who joined together in a bipartisan effort to highlight the Taliban's wrongful detention of Ryan Corbett.

Ryan and his family made Kabul home for more than a decade. In 2017, he founded a business consultancy focused on straightening out Afghanistan's private sector.

Anna Corbett spoke in front of our committee this past November and again in April at a roundtable for the families of detainees. She shared the harrowing experience she and her family have been through themselves and some insights she has gained into Ryan's conditions in a Taliban prison. She has continued to advocate with our government to continue to do all that it can to bring him home.

I know that the Biden administration has made the return of Americans detained overseas, including Ryan's case, a priority at the highest of levels, particularly for Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs Roger Carstens and Special Representative for Afghanistan Tom West. I thank them for their focus on bringing American citizens wrongfully detained abroad home and pledge to continue to work with them, Representative TENNEY, and others to bring Ryan home, too.

Finally, I thank our partners in Qatar, who serve as our protecting power in Afghanistan and who have been key partners in helping secure the release of American citizens in Afghanistan and around the world. We are grateful for Qatar's ability to conduct occasional health and safety visits to Ryan and demand that the Taliban allow these visits much more frequently.

Ultimately, we call on the Taliban themselves to release Ryan immediately and allow him to safely return to his family.

Madam Speaker, I encourage our colleagues to join together in supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the author of this measure. The Corbett family resides in her district.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the Representative for yielding.

I rise in strong support of my resolution on the floor today calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban. This resolution demands the Taliban immediately and unconditionally release Ryan Corbett and all other wrongfully detained Americans from captivity.

When I first heard from my constituent Ryan Corbett's lovely wife,

Anna, about Ryan's detention and the brutal conditions he was facing, I was heartbroken. Our community is heartbroken.

Ryan was detained by the Taliban, as I said, on August 10, 2022, after dedicating over a decade of his life and his family's life to helping the Afghan people start a self-sustaining local economy.

To date, Ryan has never been charged with a crime. Ryan is being held in a 9- by 9-foot basement cell without regular access to a bathroom, sunlight, medical care, or decent food.

Reports from now-freed individuals who were detained with Ryan state that he is in poor health with discolored extremities. He suffers from fainting and seizures and fading eyesight.

Ryan has been held for over 670 days. He has had only a mere handful of phone calls with his loving wife, Anna, and his three children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb, all of whom were my guests at the State of the Union Address this year.

The Biden administration must do everything in its power to bring Ryan home and reunite him with Anna and their three wonderful children and let them spend time with their father in the way they should.

I am honored that 72 Members on both sides of the aisle have joined me as original cosponsors of this resolution, making it clear that freeing Ryan is a bipartisan priority.

In crafting this resolution, I worked closely with the minority and majority staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and, of course, the Corbett family. I give my heartfelt thanks to Chairman MCCAUL, Ranking Member MEEKS, and everyone in leadership on all sides of the Foreign Affairs Committee for their support in helping this resolution come to the floor. I am pleased to see that it passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously on February 6.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution and show the Biden administration that Congress is paying attention and stands united in demanding Ryan's freedom.

Further, this resolution will send an indisputable message to Ryan and all of our American detainees that Congress is there with them, thinking of them and praying for them, and that we are continuing to work to secure their release.

I acknowledge and thank Anna Corbett and her children for their strength and courage during these difficult days filled with uncertainty and anguish about Ryan's health and whether he will be returned.

I also mention a special word of note. Anna is a true inspiration to everyone, not only her children but everyone in our community. She exhibits incredible grace and resolve in an unimaginably difficult situation as the mother of three children and the wife of Ryan Corbett, who has been suffering this for over 670 days.

Madam Speaker, I again thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and everyone who has joined in advocating for Ryan's release, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this commonsense resolution. I thank everyone for their love and care of the Corbett family.

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY), who has been a strong supporter of Ryan's release and is working hand in hand with Ryan's father, who lives in his area.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and call for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett and all unlawfully detained Americans.

Today marks the 671st day that Ryan Corbett, an American citizen, has been wrongfully detained by the Taliban in Afghanistan—671 days.

When you have these jobs, you never know who is going to call your office. I learned of Ryan's capture when his father, Drew, called our office to let us know that his son was being unlawfully held by the Taliban. We were shocked.

It is absolutely horrifying to get that kind of call, especially from another dad in my hometown. I can't imagine as a parent what it is like to have your child taken from you, knowing they are alive, knowing they are struggling, and knowing you can't get to them. To get that call just breaks your heart.

The reality is Ryan's whole family deserves to have him home. Ryan has been allowed only eight phone calls with his family since being detained in 2022, a total of 85 minutes in 671 days. We stand committed to bringing Ryan back for them.

I am so grateful to Representative TENNEY for leading this resolution and for her persistence in fighting for Ryan and to Chairman MCCAUL and Representative KEATING for their words here today, and I thank the Biden administration for working to get Ryan home as quickly as possible.

We are with Ryan's dad, Drew; Ryan's wife, Anna; his children, Ketsia, Miriam, and Caleb; and the rest of Ryan's family and friends. We are fighting for Ryan. This is a bipartisan effort, an American effort, and we will keep doing everything we can to bring Ryan home safely.

Today, Congress sends a clear message: We must bring Ryan home now.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), a member of the Committee on Financial Services and an original cosponsor of this measure.

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman MCCAUL very much for his assistance and leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor and for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

I also thank Representative TENNEY, my good friend, for everything she has

done to advocate on behalf of Ryan Corbett, as well as Representative KEATING and others who are engaged in this important resolution.

I do rise today in strong support of this resolution, which calls for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, who has been wrongfully detained by the Taliban since August 10, 2022.

Ryan, who is originally from Susquehanna County in my district, relocated his family to Afghanistan in 2010 with the mission of aiding and assisting the Afghan population, eventually founding Bloom Afghanistan, a firm that provides consulting and microloans to Afghan small businesses.

After evacuating his family in the wake of the Afghanistan withdrawal, Ryan returned to Afghanistan in 2022, during which time he was imprisoned by the Taliban and forced to endure the most inhumane conditions, rarely being able to communicate with his family. He has never been accused of a crime.

My team and I, and many teams, as you can see here, have been involved in efforts on behalf of Ryan Corbett. We have all met with Anna Corbett, who has been mentioned here now several times, and her children many times.

Anna Corbett is working tirelessly, covering every department that she possibly can, having meetings from the top people at the State Department to all Members of Congress and with other nations' ambassadors, doing everything possible for the release of her husband, Ryan.

Today, we continue to implore the State Department to use all appropriate pressure to ensure Ryan's release.

Alongside calling for his immediate release, we also recognize Qatar for its effort in helping free Ryan and facilitating many visits, calls, and medical check-ins.

The humanitarian funding from USAID for the Taliban should be, Madam Speaker, scrutinized, minimized, or perhaps terminated until all wrongfully detained Americans in Afghanistan are returned home.

Ryan has been held hostage, as has been stated, by the Taliban for 671 days. Any sign of appeasement from the Biden administration should be hardened, and we should deal from strength. We certainly need more stick and less carrot when it comes to the release of American hostages.

We appreciate the work of the State Department, but we need to get the job done. That means getting Ryan and other American hostages in Afghanistan home immediately.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution.

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

Once again, I thank the gentleman from Texas for his leadership on the committee dealing with this, as well as Ranking Member MEKES.

Madam Speaker, I close by expressing my deepest sympathy to Anna

Corbett and all of Ryan's children, family, and loved ones. I can only imagine the pain that they must feel every day and the fear they have for Ryan's safety every day. The strength and courage they have shown and their commitment to securing his release is truly remarkable, though nothing will ease their pain until Ryan is brought home.

They should know that Congress stands with them and that we will not rest until he is home safely and reunited with them. That is the mission of this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in strongly supporting this measure.

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

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

One American hostage is too many. We remember each one of them, and we will not rest until they are safely home.

It is clear that the Taliban is holding Ryan for its own political gain and using him as leverage to extract concessions from this administration.

Anna, who we all know very well, has appeared before the Foreign Affairs Committee several times to discuss Ryan's unjust imprisonment. She has bravely shared the horror story of her husband and his family and what they are living through day in and day out.

A single day of unlawful detention is too long, and Ryan's nearly 2-year captivity must be resolved. Otherwise, we must question what the value is of an American passport and citizenship if our government fails us in our greatest moment of need.

We should be projecting power, levying sanctions, and holding governments accountable for their human rights abuses. This administration, at times, has projected weakness on the world stage, and when you do so, it is hard to negotiate from a position of strength.

Ryan's case is very dire. It is time to bring him home to his family and country.

This resolution, as Mr. KEATING stated, will send a very strong message to the Taliban that America, Republicans and Democrats alike, will not tolerate the illegitimate detention of American citizens. Our message is clear: Congress will not rest until Ryan is brought home.

We stand with Ryan, Anna, and their children. We have not, and we will not, forget them. It is hard to look Anna and her children in the eyes knowing that her husband is in solitary confinement in Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 965.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1645

CONDEMNING RUSSIA'S UNJUST AND ARBITRARY DETENTION OF RUSSIAN OPPOSITION LEADER VLADIMIR KARA-MURZA

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27) condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 27

Whereas, on April 11, 2022, Vladimir Kara-Murza was unjustly detained by Russian authorities for spreading supposedly "false information" in a speech in March 2022 to the Arizona House of Representatives;

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza in his March 15, 2022, speech presented a defiant condemnation of Vladimir Putin's policies and leadership outlining his corruption and malign intentions, and condemning the illegal war of aggression Putin has unleashed against Ukraine;

Whereas, prior to his arrest in April 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was poisoned twice by agents of the Russian Government and the Russian Federation in 2015 and 2017 with a military-grade agent banned internationally, likely in retaliation for his defiant stance in support of rule of law and democracy in Russia;

Whereas, despite having survived two assassination attempts and the subsequent side effects of these poisonings, Mr. Kara-Murza regularly returned to Russia to advocate for democratic representation in Russia;

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza has consistently advocated for democracy in Russia and insisted that democracy in Russia must be advanced by Russians for all those living in Russia;

Whereas, in August 2022, new charges were brought against Mr. Kara-Murza for "carrying out the activities" of an "undesirable foreign organization" and his arrest was extended for his work as a leading member of Russian civil society;

Whereas, in October 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was further charged unjustly with "high treason" in part due to his public condemnations of the Kremlin's military aggression on Ukraine and domestic repressions;

Whereas, in April 2023, Mr. Kara-Murza was unjustly sentenced to 25 years in prison;

Whereas the state of Mr. Kara-Murza's health has deteriorated and in addition to losing over 45 pounds, he was diagnosed with polyneuropathy, a condition that under Russian law should have precluded him from detainment;

Whereas, as a result of his diagnosis, he has lost feeling in both his feet and has experienced symptoms similar to those he experienced following his 2015 poisoning due to peripheral nerve damage;

Whereas section 5599F of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act

for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) condemned Mr. Kara-Murza's unjust detention, expressed solidarity with Mr. Kara-Murza, his family, and all individuals imprisoned in Russia for their beliefs, and urged the United States and other ally governments to work to secure the release of Mr. Kara-Murza and other citizens of the Russian Federation imprisoned for opposition to Vladimir Putin's regime and his illegal war in Ukraine;

Whereas, in April 2022, Vladimir Kara-Murza was presented the McCain Institute's Courage and Leadership Award for his unwavering commitment to fundamental values and his acts of selfless courage which have inspired the world;

Whereas, in October 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza was awarded the Vaclav Havel Prize honoring outstanding civil society action in defense of human rights;

Whereas the late Senator John McCain said Mr. Kara-Murza "is a brave, outspoken, and relentless advocate for freedom and democracy in Russia" and introduced Mr. Kara-Murza as "a personal hero whose courage, selflessness, and idealism I find awe-inspiring";

Whereas, in March 2023, the Department of the Treasury and the Department of State imposed Global Magnitsky and other targeted sanctions on six Russians involved in Mr. Kara-Murza's ongoing arbitrary detention, recognized his role as "a major advocate for the adoption of Magnitsky-style sanctions authorities by the United States, Canada, European Union, and United Kingdom to target human rights abusers and corrupt actors in Russia", and called for his immediate release; and

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza remains a political prisoner and a victim of Vladimir Putin's authoritarian state: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) condemns in the strongest possible terms the unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian democratic opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza;

(2) calls on the Russian Federation to immediately release Mr. Kara-Murza and all other Russian opposition leaders who are detained as a result of their opposition to the Putin regime;

(3) calls on all Russian citizens to outright condemn Russia's illegal and unjust invasion of Ukraine in the spirit of Mr. Kara-Murza's defiant opposition stance in front of the Arizona House of Representatives in March 2022;

(4) expresses solidarity and calls for the release of all political prisoners in Russia and Belarus, including Ukrainian citizens illegally held as prisoners by Putin's regime in violation of the rule of law as a result of their support for liberal democratic values, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, and wrongfully-detained Americans Paul Whelan and Evan Gershkovich;

(5) calls on the United States Government to designate Mr. Kara-Murza, as well as Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, as wrongfully detained under the Levinson Act; and

(6) calls on the President of the United States and leaders from across the free world to work tirelessly for the release of political prisoners in Russia and increase support for those advocating for democracy in Russia as well as independent media and civil society which Mr. Kara-Murza has worked to further.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, Vladimir Kara-Murza has been locked away in Putin's gulags for over 2 years. His only crime was standing up for human rights and democracy in Russia, for speaking out against Putin's genocidal war of aggression against Ukraine.

He is a lawful American permanent resident, and his wife and children are American citizens.

We should all be deeply concerned by his unjust imprisonment.

Mr. Kara-Murza is well known for his work exposing the Kremlin's corruption and fighting for a free and democratic Russia.

Despite two assassination attempts which nearly killed him and left him with permanent side effects that linger to this day, Mr. Kara-Murza has continued his brave work undeterred.

He understands the importance of exposing Putin and his cronies for who they really are to the world.

After Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza immediately began shining a light on Russia's atrocities.

Like many of us in this Chamber, he knew he could not be silent as Russian forces raped and murdered their way through Ukraine.

In response, the Kremlin alleged that he was spreading false information about the Russian military.

In April 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza briefly and bravely returned to Russia to advocate against the war to his fellow Russians and was promptly arrested.

That is what happens when you contradict the regime's narrative in a totalitarian state. Mr. Kara-Murza knew the risk, but he returned anyway.

Since his arrest, he has languished in harsh prison conditions without adequate access to medical care.

Last year, the Kremlin sentenced him to 25 years in prison. Due to his lingering side effects from two assassination attempts, as well as the awful conditions in Putin's gulags, this is effectively a death sentence.

Unfortunately, Mr. Kara-Murza is just one of many political prisoners in Russia.

American journalists like Evan Gershkovich and Alsu Kurmasheva and wrongfully imprisoned Marine Corps veteran Paul Whelan have all been detained by Putin's regime on bogus charges. They deserve our attention, and I call for their immediate release in addition to Mr. Kara-Murza's.

America must hold Russia to account for their continued aggression and war

crimes against humanity. We need to do everything in our power to secure Mr. Kara-Murza's release as well as the release of every unjustly detained American overseas.

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

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

I rise today in strong support of my resolution condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader, Vladimir Kara-Murza, who has stood up in the defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia. This resolution comes at a significant time, as Vladimir Putin continues his unjust war of aggression against Ukraine and reprehensible crackdown on the Russian democratic opposition both at home and abroad.

First, I would like to thank my colleagues who have cosponsored this resolution and shown support for Vladimir Kara-Murza as he remains wrongfully detained in a Russian prison. This includes Representatives TOM KEAN, STEVE COHEN, and JOE WILSON.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the leadership of the committee, Chairman MCCAUL and Ranking Member MEEKS, and the entire Foreign Affairs Committee for their support of this resolution. I know the issue of political prisoners is a serious concern to the entire committee, and this resolution brings much to bear on the demonstrations of bipartisan support for standing in solidarity with Vladimir Kara-Murza and the thousands of political prisoners in Russia, Belarus, and around the world.

This resolution strongly condemns the wrongful detention of Vladimir Kara-Murza, and it calls for his immediate release. Vladimir is a champion of justice who fought tirelessly for democracy in Russia by Russians and for Russians. He did this for decades. As we have witnessed Vladimir Putin wage his war of aggression in Ukraine and the crackdown on free expression at home, in that context, Vladimir Kara-Murza stands out as a free and independent voice of truth exposing the Kremlin's lies and oppression.

During President Biden's State of the Union Address earlier this year, I had the honor of being joined by prodemocracy activist Evgenia Kara-Murza, Vladimir's wife, as my guest. Evgenia's resolve and courage was clear, and the stories she told me about Vladimir as well as her own personal courage only reaffirmed my commitment to advocate for his immediate release.

In a March 2022 speech before the Arizona House of Representatives, Vladimir Kara-Murza presented a defiant condemnation of Vladimir Putin's malign policies and corrupt leadership. Following this brave speech, Vladimir returned to Russia defiantly to continue his work to achieve democracy in Russia. He was subsequently arrested and wrongfully charged for speaking the truth.

Well ahead of his speech before the Arizona House of Representatives, the Kremlin targeted Vladimir for his resistance and opposition. In fact, in 2015, and again in 2017, he survived two assassination attempts where agents of the Russian Government attacked him. They attacked him with a military-grade poison.

Despite the threats against his life and his 2022 detention, Vladimir Kara-Murza continues to speak out from prison against the repression he and so many other Russians suffer for calling out Vladimir Putin's authoritarian actions and his illegal war of aggression against Ukraine.

Unfortunately, Vladimir Kara-Murza is not the only individual wrongfully detained in Russia. Paul Whelan, whose sister is a constituent and a tireless advocate on his behalf, has sat in a Russian prison cell for over 5 years as the Kremlin plays politics with his life. Journalist Evan Gershkovich was imprisoned over a year ago simply for doing his job. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reporter Alsu Kurmasheva continues to make her way through a sham trial today.

It is simple. Journalism is not a crime, and this resolution stands in solidarity with all those wrongfully detained in Russia and Belarus for speaking the truth and calls for their immediate release.

At the same time, remember those like Alexei Navalny, Boris Nemtsov, Sergei Magnitsky, and many others who have died at the hands of the Kremlin and Vladimir Putin's regime.

Ultimately, this resolution represents a strong, bipartisan show of support for Vladimir Kara-Murza and a redoubling of efforts to seek his immediate release.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Massachusetts closes, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I again reflect on Vladimir Kara-Murza's work to achieve a true democracy in Russia, one made by Russians and built for Russians. In the face of death threats and physical attacks on his own well-being, Vladimir Kara-Murza remains a prominent figure in Russia's democracy movement. He has stood up for the truth, speaking against Vladimir Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine and the Kremlin's comprehensive crackdown on free expression.

As I have said before, Vladimir's story is not only one of defiance but one of Kremlin weakness. His story, his words, and his vision terrify and threaten the Putin regime, and they undermine the fictitious Kremlin narrative regarding Putin's invasion of Ukraine. That fact shows the true strength of Mr. Kara-Murza's moral conviction.

Finally, as this resolution makes its way through the House, we call on the Russian Government to immediately release Mr. Kara-Murza and all other Russian opposition leaders detained because of their opposition to the Putin regime.

At the same time, wrongfully detained Americans like Paul Whelan, Evan Gershkovich, and Alsu Kurmasheva must also be released. Journalism is not a crime, and we will not rest until all wrongfully detained Americans have returned home. We want them to return home as soon as possible.

I thank the Foreign Affairs Committee again for considering this resolution and the bipartisan cosponsors who have made the resolution possible. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I thank my good friend, Mr. KEATING, for authoring this important resolution that was unanimously adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee by a vote of 47-0.

We all know that Vladimir Putin is a dictator. He uses fear to hold on to power. Anyone that criticizes or questions him is imprisoned, silenced, or killed.

Putin knows if free speech and dissent spreads, if the truth comes to light, that his despotic regime will lose its grip on power and on the Russian people.

We all know he killed Alexei Navalny. Putin saw him as a threat to his regime. Like Navalny, Vladimir Kara-Murza represents resistance to the Kremlin's unchecked oppression, and that is why Putin has imprisoned him, because he is a champion for freedom.

The vengeance of the Kremlin knows no bounds. Putin must stop using Cold War tactics to target innocent people as diplomatic pawns. I call upon the immediate release of all Americans detained abroad.

It is time to get Mr. Kara-Murza out of a Russian gulag and back home to his family. I urge my colleagues to stand united and join me in condemning Russia's illegal detention.

This will send a strong message to Mr. Kara-Murza and to all wrongfully detained Americans in Russia that Congress will not rest until they are returned home to their families.

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

□ 1700

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H. Con. Res. 27, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING A RESOLUTION TO THE TIBET-CHINA DISPUTE ACT

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 138) to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 138

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) It has been the long-standing policy of the United States to encourage meaningful and direct dialogue between representatives of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, without preconditions, to seek a settlement that resolves differences.

(2) Nine rounds of dialogue held between 2002 and 2010 between the People's Republic of China authorities and the 14th Dalai Lama's representatives failed to produce a settlement that resolved differences, and the two sides have held no formal dialogue since January 2010.

(3) An obstacle to further dialogue is that the Government of the People's Republic of China continues to impose conditions on substantive dialogue with the Dalai Lama, including a demand that he say that Tibet has been part of China since ancient times, which the Dalai Lama has refused to do because it is inaccurate.

(4) Article 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provide, "All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development".

(5) The United States Government has never taken the position that Tibet was a part of China since ancient times.

(6) China signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on October 5, 1998, and ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on March 27, 2001.

(7) Under international law, including United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2625, the right to self-determination is the right of a people to determine its own destiny and the exercise of this right can result in a variety of outcomes ranging from independence, federation, protection, some form of autonomy, or full integration within a State.

(8) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1723, adopted on December 20, 1961, called for the "cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination".

(9) Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in a May 26, 2022, speech entitled "The Administration's Approach to the People's Republic of China", said that the rules-based international order's "founding documents include the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which enshrined

concepts like self-determination, sovereignty, the peaceful settlement of disputes. These are not Western constructs. They are reflections of the world's shared aspirations.”.

(10) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Public Law 116-260), in directing the United States Government “to promote the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people” acknowledges that the Tibetan people possess a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity.

(11) Department of State reports on human rights and religious freedom have consistently documented systematic repression by the authorities of the People's Republic of China against Tibetans as well as acts of defiance and resistance by Tibetan people against the People's Republic of China policies.

(12) The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) specifies that the central objective of the United States Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues is to promote substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity;

(2) that the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China must be resolved in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Charter, by peaceful means, through dialogue without pre-conditions;

(3) that the People's Republic of China should cease its propagation of disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;

(4) to encourage the People's Republic of China to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and uphold all its commitments under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and

(5) in accordance with the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020—

(A) to promote substantive dialogue without pre-conditions, between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama, his or her representatives, or democratically elected leaders of the Tibetan community, or explore activities to improve prospects for dialogue, that leads to a negotiated agreement on Tibet;

(B) to coordinate with other governments in multilateral efforts towards the goal of a negotiated agreement on Tibet; and

(C) to encourage the Government of the People's Republic of China to address the aspirations of the Tibetan people with regard to their distinct historical, cultural, religious, and linguistic identity.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) claims made by officials of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times are historically inaccurate;

(2) the current policies of the People's Republic of China are systematically suppressing the ability of the Tibetan people to preserve their religion, culture, language, history, way of life, and environment;

(3) the Government of the People's Republic of China is failing to meet the expecta-

tions of the United States to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama or his representatives or to reach a negotiated resolution that includes the aspirations of the Tibetan people; and

(4) United States public diplomacy efforts should counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

SEC. 5. MODIFICATIONS TO THE TIBETAN POLICY ACT OF 2002.

(a) TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 613(b) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) efforts to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.”.

(b) UNITED STATES SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR TIBETAN ISSUES.—Section 621(d) of the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

“(6) work with relevant bureaus of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development to ensure that United States Government statements and documents counter, as appropriate, disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama;”.

(c) DEFINITION.—The Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 622. DEFINITION.

“For purposes of this Act, the term ‘Tibet’ refers to the following areas:

“(1) The Tibet Autonomous Region.

“(2) The areas that the Government of the People's Republic of China designated as Tibetan Autonomous, as of 2018, as follows:

“(A) Kanlho (Gannan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Pari (Tianzhu) Tibetan Autonomous County located in Gansu Province.

“(B) Golog (Guoluo) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Malho (Huangnan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsojang (Haibei) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsolho (Hainan) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Tsonub (Haixi) Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and Yulshul (Yushu) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Qinghai Province.

“(C) Garze (Ganzi) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Ngawa (Aba) Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, and Muli (Mili) Tibetan Autonomous County, located in Sichuan Province.

“(D) Dechen (Diqing) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, located in Yunnan Province.”.

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS TO COUNTER DISINFORMATION ABOUT TIBET.

Amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available under section 346 of the Tibetan Policy and Support Act of 2020 (subtitle E of title III of division FF of Pub-

lic Law 116-260) are authorized to be made available to counter disinformation about Tibet from the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party, including disinformation about the history of Tibet, the Tibetan people, and Tibetan institutions, including that of the Dalai Lama.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the world is no stranger to the CCP's aggression. As they increase hostilities against Taiwan and other allies in the region, it is abundantly clear that the CCP seeks to dominate the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Just look at their military activities around Taiwan, Mr. Speaker, their harassment of the Philippine ships in the South China Sea, and their support for Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.

The CCP has a long history of subjugation that extends beyond Asia. The CCP has a long and violent record of oppression against the people of Tibet. In October of 1950, Chinese Communist troops annexed Tibet, slaughtering tens of thousands of innocent Tibetans and monks. The CCP's ongoing oppression of the people of Tibet ultimately forced the Dalai Lama to flee to India. This persecution has continued to this day.

In November, the CCP released a white paper on its policies in Tibet. In this document, the party doubled down on its oppression and crackdown on the religious and economic freedom of Tibetans. Some of the actions taken by the CCP include setting up boarding schools to “reeducate” Tibetan children, clamping down on the use of Tibetan language, restricting movement of Tibetans, and even attempting to insert themselves into the succession of the Dalai Lama himself.

This white paper demonstrates the need for this bill, and I am proud to have co-introduced this with Representative MCGOVERN.

The Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act helps Tibetans in several ways. It pushes back against CCP propaganda about the history of Tibet. The United States has never accepted that Tibet was part of China since ancient times as the CCP falsely claims. This legislation clarifies U.S. policy and highlights the unique language, religion, and culture of the Tibetan people. It directs U.S. diplomacy

to push back against CCP propaganda. In addition, it ensures Tibetans have a say in their own future.

This bill stresses a need for a dialogue between the CCP and other democratically elected leaders of Tibet.

Any resolution must include the wishes and voice of the Tibetan people. Tibetans are a democracy-loving people who wish to practice their religion freely and have their own wishes and desires acknowledged.

I am proud to have played a small part in supporting this dream for the Tibetan people.

I thank Senators MERKLEY and YOUNG who passed this bill unanimously through the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to push back against the CCP's oppression of the Tibetan people and vote in favor of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 138, the Senate companion bill to the bipartisan House bill, H.R. 533, which the House passed this February.

My good friend from Massachusetts, Representative MCGOVERN, and Chairman MCCAUL introduced H.R. 533, and I was proud to support its passage out of committee and on the floor last year. I am glad the Senate has followed suit so we can get to this important legislation that addresses Beijing's severe and ongoing repression of the Tibetan people signed into law.

For too long, Beijing has oppressed the Tibetan people and failed to honor its commitments to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama and his representatives regarding Tibet's future. We are deeply concerned by Beijing's systematic efforts to erase the distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people.

In a new effort to stamp out Tibetan identity, Beijing is closing local schools and uprooting children from their families by placing them in centralized Chinese boarding schools far from home. This is effectively preventing Tibetan parents and communities from passing down their language and heritage to the next generation.

This forced assimilation has raised significant concerns from multiple U.N. Special Rapporteurs who have warned that these residential schools function as a large-scale program designed to integrate Tibetans into the dominant Han culture, violating international human rights.

While Beijing employs these tactics to suppress Tibetan culture, it simultaneously propagates disinformation about Tibet and its history.

H.R. 533 calls out Beijing's oppressive tactics and relentless disinformation campaign. This bill reinforces our un-

wavering support for the Tibetan cause and calls on the PRC to engage in genuine dialogue with Tibetan representatives. It also strengthens the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 by enhancing our public diplomacy efforts to counter PRC disinformation about Tibet.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), who is the ranking member of the House Rules Committee and the author of H.R. 533.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of final passage of the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act, legislation that I was proud to have authored.

This House took the lead in considering this bill, passed it with an overwhelming majority last February, and sent it to the Senate. The Senate, in its wisdom, changed only one paragraph. So the bill has come back to this Chamber for final passage.

I thank my incredible co-lead, Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman MCCAUL, and Ranking Member MEEKS for bringing this bill to the floor and all of their incredible advocacy on behalf of the Tibetan community. I welcome the opportunity to shine a light on this legislation, once more, as we send it on its way to the President's desk.

It has been more than 60 years since the People's Republic of China forced the 14th Dalai Lama into exile and took control of Tibet against the will of the people.

The dispute between the Chinese and the Tibetans over governance of Tibet has persisted ever since, even though the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people have repeatedly expressed their willingness to engage in dialogue.

Meanwhile, the PRC has done everything it can to erode Tibetan history, language, culture, and religion, in other words, to erase the Tibetans as a people.

This bill seeks to end that in the following ways: one, by explicitly recognizing that the Tibetan people are a people with a distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity; two, by reminding everyone concerned that the Tibetan people have a right to self-determination under international human rights law; and three, by requiring the U.S. Government to actively counter the PRC's propaganda about Tibet, like the false claim that Tibet has been a part of China since ancient times, a position that the United States has never accepted.

With this bill, we hope to restart dialogue between Tibet and China in keeping with longstanding U.S. policy.

Mr. Speaker, the world is awash in conflict. At the heart of many conflicts lies the systematic denial of a people's human rights.

The decades-old dispute between Tibet and China started as an armed

conflict of invasion, resistance, and insurgency. In the long run, the only guarantee against the resumption of violence is for the People's Republic of China to fully respect the human rights and dignity of the Tibetan people.

A vote for this bill is a vote to recognize the rights of the Tibetan people, and it is a vote to insist on resolving the dispute between Tibet and the People's Republic of China peacefully, in accordance with international law, through dialogue, and without preconditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to please join me and the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. MCCAUL, in sending these important messages in solidarity with the Tibetan people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me the time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman for his remarks. There has been no more determined or erstwhile supporter of the Tibetan people than Representative MCGOVERN. I thank him for his longstanding efforts on their behalf which is really our behalf, as well, as a country.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, for too long, the Tibetan people have suffered as Beijing systematically works to erase their religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity. The forced assimilation through centralized Chinese boarding schools and tearing children away from their families are beyond the pale, and its refusal to engage in meaningful dialogue with the Dalai Lama since 2010 only highlights Beijing's blatant disregard for resolving the Tibetan question.

This is an important and timely measure, and I thank Senator MERKLEY, Representative MCGOVERN, Chairman MCCAUL, and all those individuals involved in getting this bill to the finish line. I also want to extend my gratitude to Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI for her unwavering support of this bill and principled conviction to hold the PRC accountable for its human rights violations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join with all of us in supporting this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this body has always stood for the principles of free speech, independence, and individual liberties. I thank my dear and good friend, Mr. MCGOVERN, for his efforts on this important legislation, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS and Representative BILL KEATING who worked with me to advance this bipartisan bill.

We are always strongest when we speak with one voice as one nation in support of freedom and democracy. Tibet has a rich, peaceful heritage that the CCP attempted to erase when they

invaded it in 1950, but they have failed. Their attempts to quash this vibrant history have failed because of the resilience of the Tibetan people.

The U.S. strongly condemns all CCP oppression and coercion of Tibetans as well as any CCP involvement in the succession of the Dalai Lama. Despite the CCP's attempts to erase the history and culture of Tibet over the last 70-plus years, it still remains vibrant, strong, and inspirational.

Tibetans, like all people, have the right to religious freedom which includes freedom from CCP's surveillance, censorship, and detention.

If the CCP truly does respect sovereignty, as it claims to, then they will engage in peaceful dialogue with the Tibetans to resolve this conflict, not force Tibet to accept a CCP proposal.

Passing this bill demonstrates America's resolve that the CCP's status quo in Tibet is not acceptable. I can think of no greater message or gift to the Dalai Lama and the people of Tibet than the swift passage of this bill to get to the President's desk as soon possible to help put the people of Tibet in charge of their own future.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 138.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1715

NO HIDDEN FEES ON EXTRA EXPENSES FOR STAYS ACT OF 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6543) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6543

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act of 2023" or the "No Hidden FEES Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING OF HOTEL ROOM AND OTHER SHORT-TERM LODGING PRICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered provider may not advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) EXCLUSION.—Subsection (a) does not prohibit a covered provider from displaying any individual component, including any fee or tax, that is part of the total price, if such total price is clearly and conspicuously disclosed to the consumer.

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of section 2(a) shall be treated as a violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Commission shall enforce section 2(a) in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act. Any covered provider who violates section 2(a) shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act.

(3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(b) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the attorney general of a State, or an official or agency of a State, has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of the State has been or is being threatened or adversely affected by a practice that violates section 2(a), the State may bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate district court of the United States to obtain appropriate relief.

(2) RIGHTS OF COMMISSION.—

(A) NOTICE TO COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), an attorney general, official, or agency of a State, before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), shall provide written notification to the Commission that the attorney general, official, or agency intends to bring such civil action.

(ii) CONTENTS.—The notification required under clause (i) shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate the civil action.

(iii) EXCEPTION.—If it is not feasible for an attorney general, official, or agency of a State to provide the notification required under clause (i) before initiating a civil action under paragraph (1), the attorney general, official, or agency shall notify the Commission immediately upon instituting the civil action.

(B) INTERVENTION BY COMMISSION.—The Commission may—

(i) intervene in any civil action brought by an attorney general, official, or agency of a State under paragraph (1); and

(ii) upon intervening—

(I) be heard on all matters arising in the civil action; and

(II) appeal a decision in the civil action.

(C) LIMITATION ON STATE ACTION WHILE FEDERAL ACTION IS PENDING.—If the Commission or the Attorney General of the United States has instituted a civil action for violation of section 2(a) (referred to in this subparagraph as the "Federal action"), no State attorney general, official, or agency may bring an action under paragraph (1) during the pendency of the Federal action against any defendant named in the complaint in the Federal action for any violation of such section alleged in such complaint.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prevent an attorney general, official, or agency of a

State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general, official, or agency by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, to administer oaths or affirmations, or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

SEC. 4. ONE NATIONAL STANDARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A State, or political subdivision of a State, may not maintain, enforce, prescribe, or continue in effect any law, rule, regulation, requirement, standard, or other provision having the force and effect of law of the State, or political subdivision of the State, that prohibits a covered provider from advertising, displaying, marketing, or otherwise offering, or otherwise affects the manner in which a covered provider may advertise, display, market, or otherwise offer, for sale in interstate commerce, including through a direct offering, third-party distribution, or metasearch referral, a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging that does not include each mandatory fee.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to—

(1) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State relating to contracts or torts; or

(2) preempt any law of a State or political subdivision of a State to the extent that such law relates to an act of fraud, unauthorized access to personal information, or notification of unauthorized access to personal information.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) CORPORATE, GOVERNMENT, OR INSTITUTIONAL TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—The term "corporate, government, or institutional travel management program" means—

(A) a program used by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution; or

(B) a program purchased by a company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution and used for the travel of the officers, directors, or employees of such company, government entity, or not-for-profit institution.

(3) COVERED PROVIDER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "covered provider" means a provider of a place of short-term lodging, a provider of an internet website or other centralized platform, or any other entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "covered provider" does not include any entity who advertises, displays, markets, or otherwise offers a price of a reservation for a place of short-term lodging for purchase pursuant to a corporate, government, or institutional travel management program.

(4) MANDATORY FEE.—The term "mandatory fee"—

(A) means each mandatory fee required to complete the booking or stay that is assessed by the covered provider and paid directly by the consumer; and

(B) does not include any tax or fee imposed on the consumer by a governmental or quasi-governmental entity or assessment fees of a government-created special district or program.

(5) PLACE OF SHORT-TERM LODGING.—The term "place of short-term lodging" means a hotel, motel, inn, short-term rental, or other place of lodging that advertises at a price that is a nightly, hourly, or weekly rate.

(6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and each territory or possession of the United States.

SEC. 6. APPLICATION TO PRIOR BOOKINGS.

Section 2(a) shall apply only to a reservation for a place of short-term lodging made on or after the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. 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 bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act, and urge my colleagues to join me in voting “yes” on this piece of legislation.

After spending their hard-earned money on a vacation for their family, Americans don't need to be hit with unexpected fees added to their hotel room bookings, which happens all the time. These resort fees often confuse and deceive consumers, which is why the House needs to pass this bill sponsored by my good friend and colleague, Representative YOUNG KIM.

H.R. 6543 will protect consumers from unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places for short-term lodging. Last month, we passed similar legislation for live event ticketing when we overwhelmingly passed the TICKET Act, which was my bill, bringing price transparency to the market.

Representative KIM's bill will take this commonsense approach in the lodging space. Such price transparency is needed for consumers so they know how much they will be paying for lodging upfront, and this is exactly what H.R. 6543 does.

I thank the stakeholders for working with us on this initiative to ensure that consumers know exactly the price they are going to pay upfront. I applaud Representative KIM, as well as my fellow Floridian, Representative CASTOR, for introducing this important piece of legislation, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act.

Far too often, when consumers go to check out of their hotel rooms, they are hit with surprise fees. Hotels and online travel agencies have many names for these types of fees, such as resort fees, amenities fees, facilities fees, to name just a few. Regardless of what they are called, surprise fees that consumers do not expect make it impossible to comparison shop and impose undue burdens on household finances.

That is why I am proud that President Biden and House Democrats are working to prevent junk fees like these. H.R. 6543, the No Hidden FEES Act, is a bipartisan bill that will ensure that companies make available all mandatory fee information when they advertise a hotel room or other place of short-term lodging.

The bill would also require hotels and other providers of short-term lodging to provide the total cost of a room to any internet website or other third party that the provider has allowed to advertise, market, display, or otherwise offer the short-term lodging for sale.

By ensuring everyone in the short-term lodging ecosystem displays the full price of a stay, we will protect consumers from being caught paying extra when they go to check out. I commend my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Representative CASTOR and Representative KIM, for their leadership on this issue.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), a great Member of Congress.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BILIRAKIS for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 6543, the No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act, or No Hidden FEES Act.

Hidden fees on short-term lodging stays, such as hotels, inns, and resorts, make budgeting for a trip much harder for families who are already struggling from persistent inflation and rising living costs.

Customers often find themselves paying more for their overnight stay than what was advertised online. These unexpected, deceptive fees hurt families' bottom lines.

According to a 2023 Consumer Reports survey, 37 percent of Americans found themselves paying an extra hidden fee, with more than half expressing that this additional cost took them over budget. The No Hidden FEES Act requires hotels, motels, and travel and lodging sites to disclose upfront the full cost of a short-term stay, including all mandatory and resort fees.

Currently, the way prices are advertised across the lodging industry is fragmented and not uniform. My bill would require all stakeholders in the lodging and booking industries and third-party distributors to clearly dis-

play the final price. This provides clarity for consumers and improves the quality of the American hospitality and tourism industries.

I thank Chairwoman RODGERS from the Energy and Commerce Committee for her leadership and the rest of the House Energy and Commerce staff for their tireless work on this bipartisan and commonsense legislation.

I thank Representative CASTOR for making this a bipartisan bill.

I also thank all the outside stakeholders and consumer advocacy groups who worked with us on this pro-consumer initiative.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to lead this commonsense bill and urge my colleagues to vote in support of it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), who is the ranking member of our Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and the Democratic sponsor of the bill.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the No Hidden FEES Act, H.R. 6543, and I thank my partner, the gentlewoman of California (Mrs. KIM), for leading the effort here.

Mr. Speaker, the No Hidden FEES Act would outlaw junk fees in hotel lodging. It would outlaw that unfair and misleading price advertising, whether it is motels or short-term rentals, or privately owned vacation rentals. It will require an accurate price listing that has to include all fees.

Mr. Speaker, I think all too often a family goes online when they are planning their vacation to the Gulf beaches of The Sunshine State for a lovely vacation, or anywhere across the country, too often, as they search online and try to do comparison shopping, not all of the fees are displayed. Mr. Speaker, Mr. BILIRAKIS would probably agree.

That is not fair because oftentimes, at the end their vacation, consumers will go to check out of their hotel or wherever they are staying, and they will tack on these extra fees. It is not fair. It is not right.

That is why we want to tackle this industrywide to make sure that there is a level playing field for all families ready to take their vacation and use their hard-earned dollars to do it.

These hidden fees also stifle competition because one thing consumers want when they are comparison shopping is that level playing field. They want all the information at their fingertips. This would provide those ground rules across everywhere. In many cases, the platforms are hiding these fees. That is why this legislation is so important.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the support letters from the American Hotel and Lodging Association, the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association, and a statement from Airbnb.

AMERICAN HOTEL &
LODGING ASSOCIATION,
December 4, 2023.

Hon. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS,
*Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. FRANK PALLONE JR.,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and
Commerce, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIR McMORRIS RODGERS AND RANK-
ING MEMBER PALLONE: On behalf of the
American Hotel and Lodging Association
(AHLA), and the undersigned organizations,
we are writing to express our support for the
passage of Congresswoman YOUNG KIM's (CA-
40) and Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR's (FL-
14) legislation, the No Hidden Fees on Extra
Expenses for Stays Act (H.R. 6543).

AHLA is the singular voice representing
every segment of the hotel industry includ-
ing major chains, independent hotels, man-
agement companies, REITs, bed and break-
fasts, industry partners, and more. The in-
dustry is made up of more than 62,000 hotels,
33,000 of which are small businesses, com-
prising 5.6 million rooms across the United
States. These hotels generate more than \$300
billion in sales every year and support more
than 8.3 million jobs. Hotels are integral con-
tributors to communities across the country
and annually generate nearly \$75 billion in
tax revenue at the federal, state, and local
levels.

We, along with the undersigned organiza-
tions, are extremely grateful to Representa-
tives KIM and CASTOR for recognizing the
need for consistent and broadly applicable
mandatory fee disclosure and display re-
quirements across the *entire* lodging booking
and advertising ecosystem. This bill would
create a national standard for display of
lodging prices and require that any manda-
tory fees be included in prices wherever they
are advertised, distributed, and sold. As writ-
ten, this bill would also ensure compliance
throughout the complex lodging distribution
ecosystem.

While hotels disclose mandatory additional
fees to consumers in accordance with exist-
ing FTC guidance now, it is critical that any
updated display requirements apply across
the competitive lodging advertising and
booking landscape. Recently, many of the
largest hotel chains that AHLA represents
have implemented, or announced plans to
imminently implement, changes to ensure
that mandatory fees are displayed upfront in
the pricing consumers are offered through
their owned channels.

Critically, as consumers shop for and book
lodging through a wide variety of channels
and providers, this proposed legislation
would apply to third-party distributors, such
as online travel agencies (e.g., Expedia),
metasearch sites and search engines (e.g.,
Google), as well as short-term rental plat-
forms (e.g., Airbnb). Any regulation man-
dating fee display and disclosure must be
consistently applied to *all* accommodation
providers, advertisers, and broader industry
participants to ensure consumers see the
same information, in a consistent manner,
anywhere they shop. A level competitive
playing field for industry participants paired
with clear and consistent display for con-

We thank Representatives KIM and CASTOR
for introducing this legislation and working
together in a bipartisan fashion to craft a
strong bill that will ensure compliance
across the industry. We ask that the com-
mittee report it favorably and as written.

We look forward to working with you and
your colleagues to support America's hotel

and lodging industry, employees, guests, and
local communities.

Sincerely,

American Hotel and Lodging Association,
California Hotel and Lodging Association,
Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association,
The Broadmoor, BWI Hotels, Choice Hotels
International, Hilton, Host Hotels & Resorts,
Hyatt, IHG Hotels & Resorts, Loews Hotels &
Co., Marriott International, MGM Resorts,
Omni Hotels & Resorts, Park Hotels & Re-
sorts, Pebblebrook Hotel Trust, Sea Island
Resort, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

FLORIDA RESTAURANT &
LODGING ASSOCIATION,
Tallahassee, FL, December 4, 2023.

Hon. KATHY CASTOR,
*House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE CASTOR: On behalf
of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Asso-
ciation (FRLA), I am writing to express our
support for your legislation, the No Hidden
Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act (H.R.
6543), and our gratitude for your leadership
on this issue.

The Florida Restaurant and Lodging Asso-
ciation (FRLA) is Florida's premier non-
profit hospitality industry trade association.
Founded in 1946 as the Florida Restaurant
Association, FRLA merged with the Florida
Hotel and Motel Association in 2006. FRLA's
more than 10,000 members include inde-
pendent hoteliers and restaurateurs, house-
hold name franchises, theme parks and sup-
pliers. The association's mission is to pro-
tect, educate and promote Florida's nearly
\$112 billion hospitality industry, which re-
presents 1.3 million employees. Dedicated to
safeguarding the needs of the membership,
FRLA provides legislative advocacy to en-
sure the voices of its members are heard and
their interests are protected.

FRLA is extremely grateful for your work
in recognizing the need for consistent and
broadly applicable mandatory fee disclosure
and display requirements across the entire
lodging booking and advertising ecosystem.
This bill would create a national standard
for the display of lodging prices, and it would
require that any mandatory fees be included
in prices wherever lodging is advertised, dis-
tributed, and sold. As written, this bill would
also ensure compliance throughout the com-
plex and fragmented lodging distribution
ecosystem.

While hotels currently disclose mandatory
additional fees to consumers in accordance
with existing FTC guidance, it is critical
that any updated display requirements apply
across the competitive lodging advertising
and booking landscape. Recently, many of
the largest hotel chains that include FRLA
members—including Marriott International,
Hilton, Choice Hotels International, Omni
Hotels & Resorts, and Hyatt—have imple-
mented, or announced plans to soon imple-
ment, changes to ensure that mandatory fees
are clearly displayed at the outset in the
pricing consumers are offered through their
owned channels.

Critically, as consumers shop for and book
lodging through a wide variety of channels
and providers, this proposed legislation
would apply to third-party distributors, such
as online travel agencies (e.g., Expedia),
metasearch sites and search engines (e.g.,
Google), as well as short-term rental plat-
forms (e.g., Airbnb). Any regulation man-
dating fee display and disclosure must be
consistently applied to *all* accommodation
providers, advertisers, and broader industry
participants to ensure consumers see the
same information, in a consistent manner,
everywhere they shop. A level competitive
playing field for industry participants paired
with clear and consistent display for con-

sumers is critical, and we believe this draft-
ed legislation achieves those goals.

We thank you for introducing this legisla-
tion and working together with Representa-
tive Kim in a bipartisan fashion to craft a
strong bill that will ensure compliance
across the industry.

We look forward to working with you and
your colleagues to support Florida's hotel
and lodging industry, employees, guests, and
local communities.

Sincerely,

CAROL B. DOVER, FMP,
*President & CEO,
Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association.*

SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL PRICE TRANSPARENCY
LEGISLATION

Airbnb today announced support for the No
Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays (No
Hidden FEES) Act of 2023 (H.R. 6543) intro-
duced by U.S. Representatives YOUNG KIM
(CA-40) and KATHY CASTOR (FL-14). The bill
would create a national standard for price
transparency across the accommodation indus-
try, including short-term rentals and hot-
els.

"Last year, Airbnb launched total price
display to make it easier for guests to find
stays that fit their budget, and help our
Hosts set competitive prices. We believe giv-
ing guests the ability to see a fee-inclusive
price when they search makes for a better
experience, and that's why we are proud to
support the No Hidden Fees Act to create a
national industry-wide standard for price
transparency at a time when affordability is
top of mind for consumers. We applaud Rep-
resentatives KIM and CASTOR for their work
on this legislation and we look forward to
helping raise support for its passage," said
Theo Yedinsky, Airbnb's Global Policy Di-
rector.

Last December, Airbnb launched the op-
tion to display total pricing in the US and
other countries without existing price dis-
play requirements. US guests can now view
total pricing with fees, before taxes, across
the entire app. Since we launched the tool,
over 8 million guests have booked travel on
Airbnb using total price display.

In June, Airbnb's Chief Financial Officer
Dave Stephenson joined President Joe Biden
for a meeting at the White House to high-
light private sector companies that have
launched price display improvements for
consumers.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker,
let me read what they say.

American Hotel and Lodging Associa-
tion says: "While hotels disclose man-
datory additional fees to consumers in
accordance with existing FTC guidance
now, it is critical that any updated dis-
play requirements apply across the
competitive lodging advertising and
booking landscape. Recently, many of
the largest hotel chains . . . have im-
plemented, or announced plans to im-
minently implement, changes to en-
sure that mandatory fees are displayed
upfront in the pricing consumers are
offered through their owned channels.

"Critically, as consumers shop for
and book lodging through a wide variety
of channels and providers, this pro-
posed legislation would apply to third-
party distributors, such as online travel
agencies . . . metasearch sites and
search engines . . . as well as short-
term rental platforms. . . . Any regula-
tion mandating fee display and disclo-
sure must be consistently applied to all

accommodation providers, advertisers, and broader industry participants to ensure consumers see the same information, in a consistent manner, anywhere they shop.”

Airbnb weighs in and says that they agree: “We believe giving guests the ability to see a fee-inclusive price when they search makes for a better experience, and that’s why we are proud to support the No Hidden FEES Act to create a national industrywide standard for price transparency at a time when affordability is top of mind for consumers.”

I also thank my Energy and Commerce colleagues for passing this bipartisan bill out of the committee in a unanimous fashion and urge the House to also pass this unanimously. Let’s get this relief to consumers so that, when they shop for their vacation, they understand exactly what they are getting.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill. It is important that we get at junk fees, and this is one of those bills that comes out of our committee that will accomplish that goal.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank the chairman of the full committee and the ranking member of the full committee and, of course, the ranking member of the subcommittee, which I chair. This is a great common-sense bill. It is all about transparency. I encourage final passage, and let’s get it to the Senate as soon as possible.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6543.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1730

WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2964) to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have “Do Not Flush” labeling, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2964

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act” or the “WIPPE Act”.

SEC. 2. “DO NOT FLUSH” LABELING.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—A covered entity shall label a covered product clearly and conspicuously with the label notice and symbol, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c).

(b) *REQUIREMENTS.*—

(1) *CYLINDRICAL PACKAGING.*—In the case of a covered product sold in cylindrical or near-cylindrical packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) *the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed; or*

(B) *the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and the label notice, or a combination of the label notice and symbol, shall be displayed on a flip lid in a manner that covers at least 8 percent of the surface area of the flip lid.*

(2) *FLEXIBLE FILM PACKAGING.*—In the case of a covered product sold in flexible film packaging, and intended to dispense individual wipes—

(A) *the symbol shall be displayed on the principal display panel and, if the principal display panel is not on the dispensing side of the packaging, on the dispensing side panel; and*

(B) *the label notice shall be displayed on either the principal display panel or the dispensing side panel, in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.*

(3) *RIGID PACKAGING.*—In the case of a covered product sold in a refillable tub or other rigid packaging that may be reused by a customer, and that is intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user each time a wipe is dispensed.

(4) *PACKAGING NOT INTENDED TO DISPENSE INDIVIDUAL WIPES.*—In the case of a covered product sold in packaging that is not intended to dispense individual wipes, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on the principal display panel in a clear and conspicuous location reasonably visible to the user of the covered product.

(5) *BULK PACKAGING.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—In the case of a covered product sold in bulk at retail, the symbol and label notice shall be displayed on both the outer packaging visible at retail and the individual packaging contained within the outer packaging.

(B) *EXEMPTION.*—The following shall be exempt from the requirements of subparagraph (A):

(i) *Individually packaged covered products that are contained within outer packaging, are not intended to dispense individual wipes, and have no retail labeling.*

(ii) *Outer packaging that does not obscure the symbol and label notice on individually packaged covered products contained within.*

(6) *PACKAGING OF COMBINED PRODUCTS.*—

(A) *OUTER PACKAGING.*—The outer packaging of combined products shall be exempt from the symbol and label notice requirements of subsection (a).

(B) *PACKAGES LESS THAN 3 BY 3 INCHES.*—In the case of a covered product in packaging smaller than 3 inches by 3 inches (such as an individually packaged wipe in tear-top packaging) and sold as part of a combined product, if a symbol and label notice are placed in a prominent location reasonably visible to the user of

the covered product, such covered product shall be considered to be labeled clearly and conspicuously.

(c) *REASONABLE VISIBILITY OF SYMBOL AND LABEL NOTICE.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—A covered entity shall ensure that—

(A) *packaging seams or folds or other packaging design elements do not obscure the symbol or label notice;*

(B) *the symbol and label notice are each equal in size to at least 2 percent of the surface area of the principal display panel; and*

(C) *the symbol and label notice have high contrast with the immediate background of the packaging so that such symbol and label notice may be seen and read by an ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use.*

(2) *PROXIMITY OF SYMBOL AND LABEL NOTICE.*—A covered entity may display a symbol and label notice either adjacent to or on separate areas of the principal display panel.

(3) *EXCEPTION.*—Paragraph (1)(C) does not apply to an embossed symbol or label notice on the flip lid of a covered product sold in cylindrical or near-cylindrical packaging.

(d) *REPRESENTATIONS OF FLUSHABILITY.*—With respect to a covered product, a covered entity may not make any express or implied representation that such covered product can or should be flushed.

(e) *ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.*—

(1) *UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.*—A violation of this section or any regulation promulgated under this section shall be treated as a violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

(2) *POWERS OF COMMISSION.*—The Commission shall enforce this section and any regulations promulgated under this section by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties, as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this section, and any person who violates this section or any regulation promulgated under this section shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act.

(3) *REGULATIONS.*—The Commission may promulgate regulations under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to implement this section. In developing the regulations, the Commission may consult with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, or any other agency as appropriate.

(4) *AUTHORITY PRESERVED.*—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(f) *PREEMPTION OF STATE LAWS.*—No State or political subdivision of a State may directly or indirectly establish or continue in effect, under any authority, requirements with respect to the “Do Not Flush” labeling of covered products that are not identical to the requirements of this section and the regulations promulgated under this section.

(g) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

(1) *COMBINED PRODUCT.*—The term “combined product” means two or more products sold in shared retail packaging, of which—

(A) *at least one of the products is a covered product; and*

(B) *at least one of the products is another consumer product intended to be used in combination with such covered product.*

(2) *COMMISSION.*—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(3) *COVERED ENTITY.*—The term “covered entity” means a manufacturer, wholesaler, supplier,

individual or group of individuals, or retailer that is responsible for the labeling or retail packaging of a covered product that is sold or offered for retail sale in the United States.

(4) COVERED PRODUCT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered product” means a premoistened, nonwoven disposable wipe sold or offered for retail sale—

(i) that is marketed as a baby wipe or diapering wipe; or

(ii) that is a household or personal care wipe (including a wipe described in subparagraph (B)) that—

(I) is composed entirely, or in part, of petrochemical-derived fibers; and

(II) has significant potential to be flushed.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The wipes described in this subparagraph are—

(i) antibacterial wipes and disinfecting wipes;

(ii) wipes intended for general purpose cleaning or bathroom cleaning, including toilet cleaning and hard surface cleaning; and

(iii) wipes intended for personal care use on the body, including hand sanitizing, makeup removal, feminine hygiene, adult hygiene (including incontinence hygiene), and body cleansing.

(5) HIGH CONTRAST.—The term “high contrast” means, with respect to the symbol or label notice, that such symbol or label notice—

(A) is either light on a solid dark background or dark on a solid light background; and

(B) has a contrast percentage of at least 70 percent between such symbol or label notice and the background, using the formula $(B1 - B2) / B1 * 100 = \text{contrast percentage}$, where B1 is the light reflectance value of the lighter area and B2 is the light reflectance value of the darker area.

(6) LABEL NOTICE.—The term “label notice” means the written phrase “Do Not Flush”.

(7) PRINCIPAL DISPLAY PANEL.—The term “principal display panel” means the side of a product package that is most likely to be displayed, presented, or shown under customary conditions of display for retail sale, and—

(A) in the case of a cylindrical or near-cylindrical package, the surface area of which constitutes at least 40 percent of the product package, as measured by multiplying the height by the circumference of the package; or

(B) in the case of a flexible film package in which a rectangular prism or near-rectangular prism stack of wipes is housed within the film, the surface area of which is measured by multiplying the length by the width of the side of the package when the flexible packaging film is pressed flat against the stack of wipes on all sides of the stack.

(8) STATE.—The term “State” means each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States.

(9) SYMBOL.—The term “symbol” means the “Do Not Flush” symbol, as depicted in the most recent edition of the Guidelines for Assessing the Flushability of Disposable Nonwoven Products published by the Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry (INDA) and the European Disposables And Nonwovens Association (EDANA), or an otherwise equivalent symbol adopted by the Commission through rulemaking under this section.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to a covered entity beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this particular bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2964, the Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act, or the WIPPES Act.

Wastewater treatment systems have been increasingly impacted by clogs resulting from the flushing of nonflushable wipes. These drainage issues are expensive to repair and can be a headache for both homeowners and municipalities.

Based on the available data, there is a disconnect between consumer understanding of whether certain wipes products are flushable based on the information directed toward consumers.

To address the ongoing infrastructure and environmental issues caused by the misinformed flushing of nonflushable wipes, consumers must be clearly notified when a wipe is nonflushable, which is what H.R. 2964 would achieve.

H.R. 2964 would require covered entities to label covered products clearly and conspicuously with “Do Not Flush” labels and symbols.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative MCCLAIN from the great State of Michigan. She is doing an outstanding job, and I thank her for her leadership on this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this particular piece of legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2964, the WIPPES Act.

The improper disposal of nonflushable wipes can damage critical plumbing and wastewater infrastructure and lead to environmental contamination and pollution.

A 2020 analysis by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies found that wipes result in approximately \$441 million a year in additional operating costs for our clean water utilities.

Stakeholders across the country have expressed the need for manufacturers to clearly label their wet wipe products so consumers know how to properly dispose of them. H.R. 2964, the WIPPES Act, ensures that wipe manufacturers and other covered entities clearly and conspicuously label nonflushable wipes as such.

Requiring “Do Not Flush” labels on the packaging of nonflushable wipes sold in the United States will empower consumers to help protect our plumbing and wastewater infrastructure and reduce pollution and environmental contamination.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives PELTOLA and MCCLAIN for their

leadership on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN).

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the WIPPES Act, bipartisan, bicameral legislation that I introduced alongside Congresswoman PELTOLA of Alaska, Senator JEFF MERKLEY of Oregon, and Senator SUSAN COLLINS of Maine.

I thank my friend, Chairwoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for moving this bill through the Energy and Commerce Committee and for the committee’s unanimous support.

According to the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the additional costs to wastewater treatment systems that nonflushable wipes bring is more than \$440 million, including more than \$18 million in my home State of Michigan. This jeopardizes critical infrastructure in communities across the country, and costs to repair this damage are often forced onto the taxpayer.

This bill aims to be a solution to this nearly half-billion-dollar problem. Ensuring needed information is provided to consumers will prevent damage to wastewater systems and actually save taxpayers millions in repair costs.

We have worked with industry and wastewater systems around the country to draft legislation, and I am glad to say this bill has the full support of many of these organizations.

This commonsense legislation, based on laws adopted by several States around the country, will help address this problem, protect our wastewater systems from critical damage, and save taxpayer dollars. Industry knows this. Wastewater stakeholders know this. The Energy and Commerce Committee knows this, as well.

Again, I thank Chairwoman RODGERS and the Energy and Commerce Committee for their support, and I urge the entire House to support this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, again, this is an important bill in terms of protecting our clean water. I urge everyone to support it on a bipartisan basis.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge a “yes” vote. This bill is necessary. It is very practical. Let’s get it out of the House as soon as possible. I urge a “yes” vote.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2964, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

- H.R. 6543;
- H.R. 2964; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

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

NO HIDDEN FEES ON EXTRA EXPENSES FOR STAYS ACT OF 2023

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. 6543) to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, and for other purposes, 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.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 384, nays 25, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 248]

YEAS—384

Adams	Babin	Beatty
Aguilar	Bacon	Bentz
Alford	Baird	Bera
Allen	Balderson	Bergman
Allred	Balint	Beyer
Amo	Banks	Bice
Amodei	Barr	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barragán	Bishop (GA)
Auchincloss	Bean (FL)	Blumenauer

Blunt Rochester	Garamendi	Mann
Bonamici	Garbarino	Manning
Bost	Garcia (IL)	Mast
Boyle (PA)	Garcia (TX)	Matsui
Brown	Garcia, Mike	McBath
Brownley	Garcia, Robert	McCaul
Buchanan	Golden (ME)	McClain
Bucshon	Goldman (NY)	McClellan
Budzinski	Gomez	McClintock
Burgess	Gonzales, Tony	McCollum
Bush	Gonzalez,	McCormick
Calvert	Vicente	McGarvey
Cammack	Gooden (TX)	McGovern
Caraveo	Graves (LA)	McHenry
Carbajal	Graves (MO)	Meeks
Cárdenas	Green (TN)	Menendez
Carey	Green, Al (TX)	Meng
Carl	Griffith	Meuser
Carson	Grothman	Mfume
Carter (GA)	Guthrie	Miller (IL)
Carter (LA)	Guthrie	Miller (OH)
Carter (TX)	Hageman	Miller (WV)
Cartwright	Harder (CA)	Miller-Meeks
Case	Harris	Mills
Case	Harshbarger	Molinaro
Casten	Hays	Moolenaar
Castor (FL)	Hern	Moore (UT)
Castro (TX)	Higgins (LA)	Moore (WI)
Chavez-DeRemer	Hill	Moran
Cherfilus-	Himes	Morelle
McCormick	Hinson	Moskowitz
Chu	Horsford	Moulton
Ciscomani	Houchin	Mrvan
Clark (MA)	Houlahan	Mullin
Clarke (NY)	Hoyer	Nadler
Cleaver	Hoyle (OR)	Napolitano
Cloud	Hudson	Neal
Clyburn	Huffman	Neguse
Cohen	Huizenga	Newhouse
Cole	Hunt	Nickel
Collins	Issa	Norcross
Comer	Ivey	Nunn (IA)
Connolly	Jackson (IL)	Obenolte
Correa	Jackson (NC)	Ocasio-Cortez
Costa	Jackson (TX)	Omar
Courtney	Jacobs	Owens
Craig	James	Pallone
Crawford	Jayapal	Palmer
Crenshaw	Jeffries	Panetta
Crockett	Johnson (GA)	Pappas
Crow	Joyce (OH)	Pascrell
Cuellar	Joyce (PA)	Pelosi
Curtis	Kamlager-Dove	Peltola
D'Esposito	Kaptur	Pence
Daids (KS)	Kean (NJ)	Perez
Davis (IL)	Keating	Peters
Davis (NC)	Kelly (IL)	Pettersen
De La Cruz	Kelly (MS)	Pfleger
Dean (PA)	Kelly (PA)	Pingree
DeGette	Kennedy	Pocan
DeLauro	Khanna	Posey
DelBene	Kiggans (VA)	Pressley
Deluzio	Kildee	Quigley
DeSaulnier	Kiley	Ramirez
DesJarlais	Kilmer	Raskin
Diaz-Balart	Kim (CA)	Rodgers (WA)
Dingell	Kim (NJ)	Rogers (AL)
Doggett	Krishnamoorthi	Rogers (KY)
Duarte	Kuster	Rose
Duncan	Kustoff	Ross
Dunn (FL)	LaHood	Rouzer
Ellzey	LaLota	Ruiz
Emmer	LaMalfa	Ruppersberger
Escobar	Lamborn	Rutherford
Eshoo	Landsman	Ryan
Españillat	Langworthy	Salazar
Estes	Larsen (WA)	Salinas
Ezell	Larson (CT)	Sánchez
Fallon	Latta	Sarbanes
Feenstra	LaTurner	Scalise
Ferguson	Lawler	Scanlon
Finstad	Lee (CA)	Schakowsky
Fischbach	Lee (FL)	Schiff
Fitzgerald	Lee (NV)	Schneider
Fitzpatrick	Lee (PA)	Scholten
Fleischmann	Leger Fernandez	Schrier
Fletcher	Lesko	Schweikert
Flood	Letlow	Scott (VA)
Fong	Levin	Scott, Austin
Foster	Lieu	Scott, David
Foushee	Lofgren	Sessions
Fox	Loudermilk	Sewell
Fox	Lucas	Sherman
Frankel, Lois	Luetkemeyer	Sherrill
Franklin, Scott	Luttrell	Simpson
Frost	Lynch	Slotkin
Fry	Magaziner	Smith (MO)
Fulcher	Malliotakis	Smith (NE)
Gallego	Maloy	Smith (NJ)

Smith (WA)	Thompson (CA)	Velázquez
Smucker	Thompson (MS)	Wagner
Sorensen	Thompson (PA)	Walberg
Soto	Tiffany	Waltz
Spanberger	Timmons	Wasserman
Spartz	Tlaib	Schultz
Stansbury	Tokuda	Waters
Stanton	Tonko	Weber (TX)
Stauber	Torres (CA)	Webster (FL)
Steel	Torres (NY)	Wenstrup
Stefanik	Trahan	Westerman
Steil	Trone	Wexton
Stevens	Turner	Wild
Strickland	Underwood	Williams (GA)
Strong	Valadao	Williams (NY)
Suozi	Van Drew	Williams (TX)
Swalwell	Van Dуйne	Wilson (FL)
Sykes	Van Orden	Wittman
Takano	Vargas	Womack
Tenney	Vasquez	Yakym
Thanedar	Veasey	Zinke

NAYS—25

Biggs	Edwards	Norman
Bishop (NC)	Gaetz	Ogles
Boebert	Gosar	Perry
Brecheen	Greene (GA)	Rosendale
Burchett	Jordan	Roy
Burlison	Luna	Self
Clyde	Massie	Steube
Crane	Moore (AL)	
Donalds	Nehls	

NOT VOTING—21

Aderholt	Gottheimer	Murphy
Armstrong	Granger	Phillips
Bowman	Grijalva	Porter
Davidson	Jackson Lee	Reschenthaler
Evans	Johnson (SD)	Titus
Gimenez	Mace	Watson Coleman
Good (VA)	Mooney	Wilson (SC)

□ 1859

Mrs. LUNA and Mr. JORDAN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. THANEDAR changed his from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY 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. 2964) to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have "Do Not Flush" labeling, 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 351, nays 56, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 249]

YEAS—351

Adams	Allen	Auchincloss
Aderholt	Allred	Babin
Aguilar	Amo	Bacon
Alford	Amodei	Balderson

Balint
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Bush
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Ezell
Feenstra
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foushee
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott

Frost
Fulcher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
García (TX)
García, Mike
García, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Lynch
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaull

McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Peters
Petterson
Pfluger
Pingree
Pocan
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland

Strong
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thandarr
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan

Arrington
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brecht
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Cammack
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Crane
Donalds
Fallon
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach

Armstrong
Baird
Bowman
Davidson
Diaz-Balart
Evans
Gimenez
Good (VA)

Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

NAYS—56

Fitzgerald
Fry
Gaetz
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Hageman
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hunt
Jackson (TX)
Jordan
Loudermilk
Luna
Massie
McClintock
McCormick

NOT VOTING—23

Gottheimer
Granger
Grijalva
Jackson Lee
Johnson (SD)
Mace
McHenry
Mooney

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

Miller (IL)
Mills
Moore (AL)
Nehls
Norman
Obernolte
Ogles
Perry
Rosendale
Roy
Self
Smith (MO)
Steel
Steube
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Dune
Webster (FL)

Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 4-H NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10 Pennsylvania 4-H members who recently participated in the 4-H National Conference.

I am especially proud to say that, out of the 10 students from Pennsylvania, 2 of them were from my district, PA-15. I congratulate Mara Ours of McKean County and Jaylene Everhart of Centre County for participating in this national conference.

4-H is a youth development program under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program's main goal is to educate our Nation's youth and to help them develop knowledge and skills to be caring and contributing citizens. As chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I am thrilled to see USDA's effort to bring youth voice to a high-level government discussions.

During the national conference, 4-H members ages 15 to 19 participated in roundtable discussions on pressing national topics. After a few days of brainstorming and preparation, the youth presented their ideas to the USDA. I congratulate all of them on their hard work, and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

□ 1915

SOLAR INDUSTRY EQUALITY

(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 rise today to champion the American solar industry and its dedicated workers.

Northwest Ohio, the glass capital, is home to thousands of jobs in solar manufacturing, proving American ingenuity and hard work can drive our Nation's clean energy future.

Yet, these jobs and this critical industry are under severe threat. China's state-subsidized solar companies are flooding our markets with illegally dumped products, routing their operation through Cambodia, Malaysia,

□ 1907

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 require certain products to be labeled with 'Do Not Flush' labeling, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the floor and the roll call votes for the Motions to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 6543 and H.R. 2964. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248, H.R. 6543, and YEA on Roll Call No. 249, H.R. 2964.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248 and YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 248 and Roll Call No. 249. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 248 and YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreement to the Speaker's approval of the

Thailand, and Vietnam to dodge U.S. tariffs. This blatant circumvention not only undermines our domestic manufacturers but also jeopardizes our energy security.

Both I and Senator SHERROD BROWN, with our House and Senate colleagues, have sent a letter urging the U.S. International Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce to thoroughly investigate these unfair practices.

Thankfully, the ITC has heard our call and announced an investigation last Friday into these illegal practices. By enforcing strong trade policies, our Nation can foster a diverse, competitive, and secure solar manufacturing base inside the boundaries of the United States of America. Only then will our Nation create middle-class jobs that deliver economic value but also pave the way for our Nation's path to energy independence in perpetuity.

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN VIETNAM

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

Mrs. STEEL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the Communist Party of Vietnam's chilling crackdown on religious freedom.

Freedom to worship is a basic human right, but with the recent disappearance of Buddhist leader Thich Minh Tue, Vietnam is continuing a pattern of religious persecution.

Thich Minh Tue recently led a pilgrimage across Vietnam, which ended with Communist authorities detaining him and his followers.

I am again calling on Secretary Blinken, as I did 3 months ago, to designate Vietnam as a country of particular concern. This designation leads to accountability for nations violating the freedom to worship.

I represent the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam, and we will always stand up for human rights in Vietnam. America has a moral obligation to stand for religious freedom, and the full power of the State Department should fight religious persecution and ensure the safety of Thich Minh Tue.

CONGRATULATING MIRANDA TINGLE

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

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miranda Tingle for her congressional service to the people of central and northwestern Illinois.

More than 10 years ago, she began her career in Congress working for my predecessor, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos. Miranda found the job of casework to be meaningful and something that she could do to change lives for the better.

When Cheri Bustos retired from Congress, I was thankful that Miranda wanted to continue serving the people in our community. Miranda has spent more than a decade going above and beyond for every person that we serve in Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

One of my constituents wrote to me and said: "Miranda was very clear that she couldn't make any promises, but she made it happen. Every question I had, every email or phone call was always returned within hours. I am forever grateful."

That is who Miranda is, going above and beyond consistently to ensure that we do right by the people that we serve. People like Miranda are hard to come by around here, true public servants who give of themselves for the sake of their communities.

The countless people helped by Miranda, as well as her teammates in our office, are better off today because she made a difference with all of us.

Mr. Speaker, as Miranda prepares to close the congressional chapter of her career, I thank her for years of dedicated congressional service.

Miranda embodies the belief that no time is better spent than time spent in service to our fellow neighbors.

SALUTING LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN D. STOCK

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

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Lieutenant Colonel John D. Stock for his retirement from our beloved United States Air Force.

He was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base in the 27th Congressional District of California. Lieutenant Colonel Stock served our Nation for over 20 years with honor and distinction. With 3,500 flight hours across two oceans and five continents, his service record is truly remarkable.

Whether executing missions, instructing pilots, or volunteering in his community, Lieutenant Colonel Stock exemplifies the highest standards of leadership and service. His impact on aviation and beyond is profound. He enhanced our Air Force capabilities, and he mentored those around him, a true leader.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Stock for his unwavering dedication and exemplary service. Our Nation is stronger because of individuals like him. I look forward to his continued positive impact in our community.

HONORING TINA CORDOVA

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tireless work of

Tina Cordova, a sixth-generation New Mexican from the Tularosa Basin who is being honored this week by the Albuquerque Community Foundation with the Linda K. Estes Giraffe Award, given to somebody who stands up against all the odds.

This award is particularly meaningful as Tina has spent her life advocating for the Tularosa Downwinders impacted by the nuclear fallout from the Trinity bomb test site during World War II. She and countless others have survived cancer and other illnesses that have impacted generations, as spotlighted by the Oppenheimer movie last year and our continued fight in this House this week to expand and reauthorize the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Unfortunately, our fight continues. It is because of Tina and the tireless work of our advocates that Downwinders across New Mexico and the country will not be forgotten. We will not stop until we pass this bill.

I thank Tina for her fight, her advocacy, and her voice. We are forever grateful.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOGAN NOEL SHARPE

(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 with a heavy heart to honor the life of Logan Noel Sharpe who tragically passed away May 19 in a car accident.

Logan was born on December 26, 2016, in Waycross, Georgia, to Shaunte Sharpe Williams of Patterson, Georgia, and Kevin Scott, Sr., of Waycross, Georgia.

He attended Patterson Elementary School as well as Evergreen Church in Bristol, Georgia. Logan loved Spider-Man. He loved playing with his friends. He loved riding his bike and playing Roblox. More than anything else, though, he loved spending time with his family.

He will be missed by his parents, his grandparents, his great-grandmother, and even his great-great-grandmother.

On behalf of the entire First District of Georgia, I send my condolences to Logan's friends and family for this tragic loss of life.

TROUBLED TEEN INDUSTRY AND CHILDREN'S WEEK

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, the term "troubled teen industry" probably brings to mind a specific image of struggling teens and families who need help combatting addiction and behavioral challenges.

In reality, it is not just the teens who need help. The industry itself, comprised of boot camps, residential treatment centers, and wilderness programs,

is troubled. The lack of transparency and accountability in this multibillion-dollar industry means that families seeking care are unknowingly signing their children up for nightmarish and even abusive conditions.

It happened to Paris Hilton. If it can happen to her, it can happen to anyone.

With the help of Paris and countless other survivors, I introduced the Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act. My bill will increase transparency and accountability for this industry. It has 102 cosponsors, 100 organizations, and it is moving in the Senate.

Today, in recognition of Children's Week, I urge the Energy and Commerce Committee and the House of Representatives to pass it.

HONORING DR. BOB OVERHOLT

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Bob Overholt who just passed away at 85 years old. Dr. Overholt graduated from West High School in Knoxville and went to the University of Tennessee where he was on the football team and swim team. His football career was cut short by a knee injury.

He attended the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis and was truly a Vol for life before it was cool to be such. He mentored many University of Tennessee students and politicians over the years.

After he completed an internship and a residency, he was drafted in the U.S. Army and served as a captain and physician at Fort Myer Army Base here in Washington, D.C. He then returned to Knoxville, Tennessee, and served east Tennesseans for over 50 years.

He was the president of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine, developed the Allergy, Asthma, and Sinus Center, a world-leading institute, among many other accomplishments.

Dr. Overholt was a well-known media personality in east Tennessee. He hosted "The Dr. Bob Show," which actually received over two dozen Telly Awards, and he regularly gave medical information on WBIR's "Live at Five at Four."

I offer my condolences to Carole, his wife of 63 years; his sons, Mark and John; their wives, Meredith and Martha; and countless grandchildren and other family and friends who loved him very much, especially the good folks at West Hills Baptist Church where he sang in the choir.

I always remember at my momma's funeral, Mr. Speaker, he came up to me after I said that momma wasn't a bumper sticker type of Christian; she lived it. He laughed about that, and he often would quote that to me.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bob was not a bumper sticker kind of Christian. He actually lived that life and was so generous to others. As a matter of fact, he

is the only person I know to ever get mad at me for not asking him for a contribution.

Dr. Bob will be missed and is so loved in Knoxville and around east Tennessee. I thank him for being my friend.

REMEMBERING REVEREND JAMES LAWSON

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this world lost one of its most outstanding citizens yesterday. Reverend James M. Lawson passed away at age 95.

Reverend Lawson was one of the architects of the civil rights movement in our country that brought rights to African Americans and others. He was the architect of Dr. King's practice of nonviolence. He went to India, and he studied what Mahatma Gandhi had done in India to bring about rights in India.

Dr. King adopted that and made him the person in charge of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's non-violence division. He marched in Selma with John Lewis, and both were beaten for trying to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Alabama.

He was in Memphis as a minister in 1968 when the sanitation workers went on strike, the "I Am A Man" campaign. He encouraged Dr. King to come to Memphis, which he did, which resulted in Dr. King's assassination in Memphis on April 4.

Reverend Lawson was a steadfast supporter of civil rights. He was against war, against the Vietnam war. He was for gay rights, for labor, and for progress in this country. He was a significant human being who did much for this world, and we will miss his opportunities to share and make us a better, a more perfect Union. His was a life well-lived.

RECOGNIZING THE ASSOCIATION OF EQUIPMENT DEALERS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge members of the Association of Equipment Dealers from all over the country who are in D.C. this week for their annual fly-in. In fact, some of them are joining us in the gallery tonight.

These great men and women are entrepreneurs who provide millions of pieces of equipment to all kinds of industries in our country every year that help our country's economy. They deserve our admiration and thanks. They certainly have mine.

JUNE IS DAIRY MONTH

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, this time of year, I can't wait to get home because June is a very special month for this body and for the United States. June is Dairy Month, so happy cheese day to everybody.

As you may know, June 4 was National Cheese Day. Our license plates in Wisconsin boast the phrase "America's Dairyland," and Wisconsin produces over a quarter of the Nation's cheese. We are number one in cheese production.

Whether you like sharp cheddar, Colby, provolone, mozzarella, or string cheese, the next time you go out this weekend, remember, it is the time of year to buy some cheese and celebrate America's dairy farmers.

□ 1930

HONORING PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KEAN of New Jersey). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I stand tonight to spend a few minutes on this House floor paying tribute to a long-time friend. Before I do that, I yield to the gentleman from California, MIKE GARCIA, who has been an exceptional naval aviator, corporate executive, and now the distinguished gentleman from southern California.

He is an essential member, Mr. Speaker, of our Appropriations Committee and our House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CAPTAIN RUSSELL "GNAT" MAYNARD

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Arkansas for this very special time.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a truly heroic man who was taken from us, unfortunately, too soon.

Captain Russ Maynard, who many of us knew by his call sign of "Gnat," was my good friend. He was my instructor. He was a mentor, a family man, a man of God, and he was a great American.

He flew the venerable F/A-18 Hornet and Super Hornet from aircraft carriers during combat operations. He was a graduate of TOPGUN and an instructor. Simply put: He was a badass with the humility of a man who knew that his mission, his team, and his country were more important than he was.

Russ died of cancer this last May 8, just a few days before his 51st birthday. He left behind his loyal wife, Karen, who he loved dearly after 28 years of marriage and his daughters Katie, Kiersten, and Hailey.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen too many combat fighter pilots die of cancer at such young ages. In one of Russ' prior squadrons, the VFA-97 Warhawks,

three pilots of his era, his age, have already seen the darkness of these deadly cancers. It is not a coincidence.

In 2023, the DOD found that aircrew members had a 24 percent higher chance of cancer compared to the rest of the U.S. population, including an 84 percent higher chance of melanoma, a 39 percent higher chance of thyroid cancer, and a 16 percent higher chance of prostate cancer, and these numbers for fighter pilots are significantly higher and at significantly younger ages.

I, along with other veterans in the House and Senate, remain committed to finding out what is causing these early deadly cancers at such anomalous rates. We remain committed to making sure the VA begins to treat these disability cases as presumptive claims as opposed to having to prove that these cancers are service-related. This was a fight that Russ, unfortunately, had to fight in the final days of his life.

The data supports this paradigm shift, and the especially high rates within the fighter pilot community warrant this paradigm shift by the VA for such disability claims.

I say to my friend Russ, we lost you too early, brother, but you left behind a legacy of honor and excellence that has touched thousands and will echo in the history books of naval aviation for generations to come. The girls are lucky to have had you as a daddy and as a husband, and I am lucky to have known you as a friend and truly as one of the best of the best.

Our beautiful Nation is lucky to have you as a steward of our Constitution.

Keep it above the datums up there in Heaven, buddy, as you fly loyal wingman to our Lord. Know that God and your mortal wingmen that remain here on Earth will do everything and anything to look after your family.

God bless our naval aviators, God bless our troops, and God bless you, Russ "Gnat" Maynard, for your service. May you rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for yielding to me.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California for his service as an F/A-18 Hornet pilot, a TOPGUN aviator, and the salute to his comrade, Captain Maynard. All of us lament the day that we lose close friends, and it is a special tribute to hear from Mr. GARCÍA.

Mr. Speaker, we come to this House floor tonight to pay our respects to a distinguished former Member of this body, a former Vice President, and a former President of the United States on the occasion of the centennial of his birth.

Mr. Speaker, today, we pay tribute to the life and legacy of George H.W. Bush on what would have been the week of his 100th birthday on June 12.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, to start this tribute to George Bush, what better person to call on than the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas, someone who also moved to Texas to find her career and find her success just like George H.W. Bush did, as well.

BETH VAN DUYNÉ distinctly represents north Texas. She is a former mayor of Irving. She is a former official, the regional administrator for the Department of Housing and Urban Development for President Trump.

She has been at the top of her game in the executive branch, in this legislative branch, the House of Representatives, and in local government as a city councilwoman and mayor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNÉ), my friend.

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the kind gentleman from Arkansas for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor what would have been George H.W. Bush's 100th birthday, to remember his life, legacy, and service to our Nation.

Few people have left an impact so profound, one that can truly be defined by service to others.

As the 41st President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush epitomized integrity and humility. He served our country with unwavering dedication from his early days in the military to his tenure as Commander in Chief and beyond. He understood what a lot of leaders have forgotten that the purpose of leadership is not to seek personal gain or notoriety, but to act selflessly in service of America.

Beyond the man we looked up to as Commander in Chief, I remember President Bush as a man who could connect with anyone and meet them where they were.

During the second inauguration I attended of his son, George Walker Bush, I went for a tour of the White House. It was to our astonishment that we turned into the Blue Room, and boom, there was the former President George H.W. Bush standing in the middle of the room. We were with a small group and there was a 10-year-old boy that was wearing an Indianapolis Colts jersey. I just saw the look on the former President's face as he ran up to this 10-year-old kid and said: Are you a Peyton Manning fan? This kid with a look of glory in his eyes, staring at what was the past President of the United States said: Yes, sir, I am.

Then George H.W. Bush recounted a story when he was President of when he met Peyton Manning for the first time. He went to a football game and Peyton Manning came running over to him to give him a football, and he said: Here I am, the President of the United States and I was so excited to meet Peyton Manning. I was thrilled. He was my hero on the field.

This was a man who was nearly 80 years old at the time and could still share the excitement of a ball with this 10-year-old child. He could relate with anyone. It was so touching to see this side of our legendary statesman, to hear President Bush get excited as he recounted his first meeting with his favorite football player, and he shared this joy years later with some strange 10-year-old kid, who just melted when he spoke.

In the words of his son George Walker Bush, H.W. showed how public service is noble and necessary. Rather than immediately pursue his education at Yale University, where he had already been accepted, on the day of his high school graduation, which was on his 18th birthday, when our country had entered World War II, George Herbert Walker Bush enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve, receiving his wings as the youngest pilot in naval history at the time, completing his training at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

During World War II, Bush flew 58 combat missions, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross after being shot down by Japanese antiaircraft fire. Somehow, he managed to finish his mission embodying his determination and American patriotism.

Following in his father's footsteps, Bush eventually attended Yale before deciding to embark on his own journey. Determined to forge his own path, he left his East Coast roots behind and he moved his young family to west Texas where he began working in the oil industry. He was drawn to the can-do spirit of the Lone Star State and all the possibilities that the State had to offer, something many of us Texans can still relate to.

After working as an oilfield equipment salesman, he moved his family and newly-founded oil development company from Midland to Houston, where he contributed to the creation of countless jobs.

After establishing himself as a leading force in Texas, he became the Republican Party chairman in Harris County where he developed grassroots connections and cultivated relationships with members throughout his community, even serving for a year as a part-time professor of administrative science at Rice University.

However, public service ran deep in his veins. In 1966, Mr. Bush was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Texas' Seventh District. He went on to serve two terms as a Representative in the U.S. House. He sat on the Ways and Means Committee as a freshman, which is no small feat. He became chairman of the Republican National Committee, chief of the U.S. Liaison Office to China, and director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of convenience and comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

After Mr. Bush fell short in the race for the Republican nomination for President of the United States in 1980, losing out to Ronald Reagan, he was chosen to serve as the candidate for Vice President. As any of us who have ever been in the arena and lost a battle understand, it is no easy feat to act graciously in the face of defeat, let alone put aside personal ambitions in favor of loyalty to your opponent. Yet, that is exactly what George Bush did as Reagan's Vice President, never trying to upstage him or expressing disagreement.

When President Reagan was term limited, it wasn't just George H.W. Bush's remarkable life of service and indisputable qualifications that inspired faith in the American people, but his never-ending desire to put others before himself. He once said: "Any definition of a successful life must include service to others."

Advocating for Federal deregulation, President Bush established himself as a conservative who understood we needed to limit the power of government in favor of a strong, free-market economy, capable of creating growth, opportunity, and prosperity for all Americans.

He also saw the dangers of deep political division that prevented bipartisanship and progress that could empower a stronger future for our hardworking American families.

He never forgot about the Texans that put their faith in him and inspired him to continue a career in public service. Once elected, he helped showcase Houston as a booming city, bringing world leaders to Texas and paving the way for the State to become a powerhouse in U.S. politics. Later, even once he left public office, he continued to invest in others, serving as a mentor to many, including his fellow Texan, Congressman-turned-chairman, Kevin Brady.

George Herbert Walker Bush's vision of an America blessed with individuals acting as a thousand points of light to lift up others, strengthen communities, and selflessly act in times of need exemplified the patriotism and love of our country so rare around the world today.

He understood the importance of building bridges abroad and chose to lead with grace and diplomacy. Through the end of the Cold War and the reunification of Germany, President Bush led with vision and sound judgment. He proved to the American people that he was no ordinary, empty-promise politician, cementing his commitment to peace, democracy, and decency for our fellow man.

President George H.W. Bush continued to be an inspiration and beacon of life after his Presidency through his philanthropic work with organizations like his Points of Light nonprofit, where he promoted volunteerism to create positive change across our Nation.

He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, cherishing his family

and faith above all. After leaving the White House, he settled back in Houston, and he opened The George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Texas A&M University in College Station where he skydived on to the lawn to celebrate his 75th birthday.

In his inaugural address, President George H.W. Bush said, "I do not mistrust the future. I do not fear what is ahead. For our problems are large, but our heart is larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater."

President Bush had faith in something greater than himself and believed America would always persevere. His humility and love of country were at the forefront of his Presidency, and his spirit lives on in the enduring impact of his leadership.

As we celebrate 100 years of this incredible man, let us all strive to live up to the example that he set for our Nation and choose to be points of light that lift up others and preserve the best of what America has to offer for the rest of the world to follow.

□ 1945

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for her wonderful remarks about an extraordinary American, George H.W. Bush, our 41st President of the United States.

I think about the first time I got to meet this gentleman. Upon graduating from college back in 1979, I moved to Dallas, Texas, home to then a booming economy with lots of jobs in finance which, as a brand-new college graduate, was my hopeful profession.

That fall, I was invited by friends to join the committee of young people sponsoring an informal barbecue for a possible Presidential candidate. The candidate's name was George Bush from Houston, Texas. It was a terrific evening. I met Mr. Bush, and I made a lot of new friends in my adopted town of Dallas. Little did I know, just 10 years later I would be working for him in his administration as he became the 41st President of the United States.

Three years after meeting, in 1982, I took the advice of a good friend of George Bush's, Elvis Mason, CEO of the Dallas-based banking corporation for whom I worked, and accepted an appointment to move to Washington, D.C., and handle the Banking Committee staff responsibilities for Senator John Tower of Texas.

These were the exciting early days of the first term of President Ronald Reagan. While George Bush had not been elected President in 1980, he was selected to join President Reagan's winning ticket as Vice-President.

It was during this time that I learned firsthand of the incredible warmth and generosity of George and Barbara Bush. It was their custom to invite young staffers from Texas to events at the Vice-President's residence in Washington. I will never forget one holiday season where I was sitting on the floor in front of the fireplace with Barbara Bush, cross-legged, as she was telling

stories to all of us assembled in the room.

Martha and I both volunteered for the 1988 Bush for President campaign and were thrilled when he was elected that November. His election as President witnessed the most qualified person in the history of our country to be elected to the role of Chief Executive.

Bush had been a standout athlete, a decorated U.S. Navy fighter pilot, a Congresswoman VAN DUYNE pointed out, and a pioneering successful business entrepreneur in the oil fields of Texas and in the cutting edge of the critically important niche of deepwater offshore oil and gas drilling.

At age 40, and the father of five children, George Bush was called to public service. First, he was elected the Harris County, Texas, Republican chairman. At the time, Republicans were in an ascent with the amazing special election win in May 1961 by John Tower to replace the Senate vacancy left by Lyndon Johnson becoming President Kennedy's Vice-President.

Bush's initial foray into the rough-and-tumble Texas elected politics was a flop. He was defeated in 1964 in a U.S. Senate race against the incumbent populist Democrat Ralph Yarborough. However, he dusted himself off and made a major rebound by announcing his candidacy for Texas' Seventh Congressional District in January 1966.

This brought about one of my favorite stories about the Bushes. After he announced his candidacy on a Saturday, the following Monday morning, Barbara was driving then 6-year-old Doro to school in her carpool.

One of the little girls in the car said to Doro: "I saw your daddy on television last night."

A third child in the car said: "You did? What was he doing?"

Doro responded: "Oh, you know, it was about that 'erection' that he is going to have."

Mrs. Bush's response was typical, as reported by biographer Jon Meacham: "Needless to say, we have worked on the word 'election'."

Bush would go on to win that race for Congress and would be the first freshman to win a seat on the prestigious Ways and Means Committee since 1904. He served there with distinction in this House, but his itch and ambition were far higher. He once again took a risk like he did when he moved from the East to west Texas in the oil fields and in that first race for Congress that he lost.

Bush decided to throw his hat in the ring for the 1970 race for the United States Senate against the former Democratic Congressman Lloyd Bentsen. Bush's continued ambitions for the Senate were enhanced by his April 1969 visit with former President Lyndon Johnson out at LBJ's ranch near Austin to test out his idea of another try at the Senate.

The story went something like this: "Mr. President, I have got a decision to make, and I would like your advice. My

House seat is secure, no opposition like last time, and I have got a position on Ways and Means. I don't mind taking risks, but in a few more terms, I will have seniority on a very powerful committee. I am just not sure it is a gamble I should take, whether it is really worth it."

Well, President Johnson made a very characteristic reply to Bush. He said: "Son, I have served in the House, and I have been privileged to serve in the Senate, too, and they are both good places to serve. So I wouldn't begin to advise you what to do except to say this, that the difference between a Member of the Senate and a Member of the House is the difference between chicken salad and chicken" fill-in-the-blank. For effect, Johnson paused, and he said: "Son, do I make my point?"

He did make his point for sure, but that didn't help George Bush win that Senate race. Between his leaving the House and being elected Vice-President of the United States in 1980, the now-former Congressman was appointed by Presidents Nixon and Ford to a series of senior critical leadership positions in our government: U.N. Ambassador for 2 years; followed by a year-and-a-half as chairman of the Republican National Committee, including during the Nixon Watergate resignation crisis; then moving to Beijing as our top diplomat just 2 years after the famous Nixon opening. He followed that by a key job at the helm as the 11th Director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 1976 to 1977.

For George and Barbara Bush, this pattern of appointments made them wonder, is this a way to sidetrack him from his own goal, which was to be elected President of the United States. He viewed serving as the Republican National Committee chair at the height of Watergate a thankless task; and now to be called back from China to take over the CIA, which had been battered by a decade of hostile congressional investigations, exposes, and charges that ran from lawbreaking to simple incompetence. It seemed like truly, for him, a dead-end politically.

Bush's dad, former U.S. Senator Prescott Bush, had always told him that if the President asks, you have a duty to say yes. The Bush family moved back to Washington, D.C., to face the hostile Senate confirmation for a job he wasn't even sure he wanted.

However, with the Church Commission reforms being implemented by Congress crafting a new approach to intelligence community oversight, it ended up that he was, in fact, the right man at the right time.

In this Congress, I am privileged to serve on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the companion to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, both creations of the aftermath of that Church Commission and the need for greater, more intensive congressional oversight of the intelligence community. Having now

served on this committee, I recognize the exceptional role these two oversight committees play and what a fine job George Bush did in his 12 months sitting in the corner office on the seventh floor of the CIA headquarters building.

It was an intensive 1 year. He testified before Congress over 50 times and made 21 public appearances. It was clear that he defended the important role of the intelligence community and rebuilt the morale that had been so destroyed internally by decades of bad decisionmaking and externally by the brutal battering ram of congressional investigation.

He ended up loving the job and deeply respecting the work of the officers and analysts. As he left at the beginning of the Jimmy Carter administration, he said: "This is the most interesting job I have ever had. That includes Congress, the United Nations, Peking, and the RNC," so it is fitting that the CIA headquarters building in Langley, Virginia, is named for President Bush.

As George Bush entered the Vice-Presidency in January 1981, his extraordinary career was finally put fully to work. It was this 8 years of final exceptional preparation as VP that would be put to the ultimate test as the 41st President.

Ten years from our first meeting at that barbecue as a young person, in 1989, it was such a privilege to join his administration, first at the Treasury, and later as a member of his White House staff. While he was only in office one term, he achieved so many foreign and domestic wins, like witnessing the fall of communism and the resulting unification of Germany, or ejecting Saddam Hussein for his illegal invasion of Kuwait to domestic successes, such as cleaning up the savings and loan financial debacle of the 1980s; the amendments to the Clean Air Act, or the initiation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and highlighting the success of just ordinary Americans helping their fellow citizens every day through his still prominent Points of Light initiative.

Despite these exceptional legislative and policy successes, there were disappointments. For me, the first was the rejection by the United States Senate of John Tower, his friend, my old boss, to serve as Secretary of Defense. Tower would have been an outstanding Secretary, and the attacks on him were personal, not policy.

The most disappointing and most controversial aspect of his Presidency, which contribute to the tough loss in 1992, was his decision in 1990 to include tax increases as a part of a major deficit reduction package. His 1988 campaign speech included his famous—made infamous—line: "Read my lips, no new taxes."

It blew up in his face. With a slowing economy, continued tough real estate markets following the savings and loan crisis, along with high gas prices resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait,

the U.S. economy entered a brief recession. A combination of slowing economy and higher taxes was not a political winner.

After the Presidency, the former President and a very, very proud father witnessed two of his fine sons being elected Governors of Florida and Texas, and his son George going on to be elected the 43rd President of the United States. What a powerful legacy of service.

□ 2000

As I reflect on the life and legacy of George Bush, one always focuses on just what a good man he was, what a fine President he was.

My wife, Martha, who also worked for President Bush during his time in office, always described the President as the perfect person to put on that form we have all filled out a million times: "In case of emergency, please call."

George Bush was that solid business partner, that caring neighbor, that great, intimate personal friend. George and Barbara dearly loved their five children, George, Jeb, Neil, Marvin, and Doro, and honored daily the memory of a sixth, Robin, who died in 1953 at age 3 from leukemia.

Robin was such a tremendous inspiration in the Bushes' lives and in their lifelong dedication to philanthropic support for cancer research. Over their lives, George and Barbara Bush's efforts resulted in some \$90 million being raised for research at Houston's MD Anderson.

To know George Bush and Barbara Bush is to be grateful for their compassion, patriotism, and tremendous sense of humor. Even in the gloom of the 1992 loss, a few days after the election, all the White House staff officers got a message that the President has invited you to an important meeting in the East Room of the White House.

We all assembled at the appointed time, and an offstage announcer said: "Ladies and gentlemen, the President and Mrs. Bush." Then in walked Dana Carvey, impersonating Bush, holding Mrs. Bush's hand, waving his way into the East Room and up onto the dais. President Bush strolled in, laughing hysterically behind the pair.

President Bush and Dana Carvey then outdid each other, imitating President Bush's quirky, funny mannerisms. It brightened the spirits of the loyal White House staffers in the face of a historic Presidential campaign loss. The President's typical upbeat, optimistic outlook on life endeared his legacy in the hearts of all those assembled.

As we commemorate the centennial of the birth of this good man, devoted dad, and terrific President of the United States, we know that our country is better off because George H.W. Bush was born on June 12, 1924, and devoted his life to the betterment of our Nation.

CONGRATULATING MARY BETH HATCH

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mary Beth Hatch for taking

over as chief of education for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

Most recently, Mary Beth has been serving as the coordinator of school innovation in the North Little Rock School District, leading students and teachers on trips to learn outdoor skills.

In this position, she was working directly with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to bring innovative ideas to best teach our youth about nature and conservation. With over 18 years in public education, she decided it was time to educate more than just students in the classroom.

In her new role, Mary Beth will be responsible for guiding the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's educational efforts in conservation and natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mary Beth in her new role, and I look forward to the improvements that she will make in the Natural State.

RECOGNIZING DYLAN SILVERMAN-BARNES

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dylan Silverman-Barnes, a rising senior at the University of Central Arkansas.

In April, for his honors capstone project, Dylan orchestrated the building of three new community gardens at Conway's Bethlehem House to provide fresh food to the homeless population in Conway, Arkansas.

Bethlehem House provides temporary housing to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness in Conway. They can provide housing and dinner to nearly 40 individuals, including kids, on any given night, and the house serves more than 100 people annually.

Dylan, a dietetics major, was able to make this project a reality through a grant provided by Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light, a national organization that focuses on regenerative urban agriculture and environmentally conscious practices.

Dylan's project was 1 of 20 projects approved out of 300 applications and the only one in Arkansas. I thank Dylan for his service to central Arkansas and his service to others.

THANKING DR. LARRY AND CARLENE DAVIS FOR INVESTING IN NURSING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for the creation of their new nursing endowment scholarship at the University of Arkansas Community College in Morrilton.

This scholarship is in honor of their daughter, Sarah Woods, who has a master's of science in nursing and is currently a nurse in neighboring Oklahoma.

Larry and Carlene Davis' scholarship will help change the lives of many prospective nurses. The Davis family presented the foundation with more than \$25,000 to distribute among full-time students in the practical nursing and registered nursing programs based on financial need. The scholarship ensures that talented students will have the

opportunity to hone their skills, regardless of financial background.

I thank Dr. Larry and Carlene Davis for their generosity and their investment in future nurses for the State of Arkansas.

RECOGNIZING BRAD AND TARA PEACOCK'S DEDICATION TO FARMING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brad Peacock of Bald Knob, Arkansas.

Mr. Peacock and his wife, Tara, manage 1,500 acres of farmland known as Peacock Planting, where they focus on cultivating soybeans, corn, and rice.

In February 2023, the Peacocks were named finalists in the National Outstanding Young Farmers award. This past March, Brad joined other honorees on a trip to Washington, D.C., during National Agriculture Week to interact with lawmakers and advocate for a strong reauthorization of the farm bill.

The Peacocks' dedication to farming and passion for helping those around them truly make them outstanding farmers. I thank Brad and Tara Peacock for their important work to provide food for the Nation and the world.

CONGRATULATING TRUMAN SCHOLAR DANIEL BLOCK

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Daniel Block, a proud native of Little Rock. Daniel is currently a student at Brandeis University and a member of Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock's Reform Jewish synagogue.

Last month, Daniel was named a Truman Scholar, an award for those dedicated to being future leaders in the environment, Tribal public policy, and healthcare fields.

His work at Zumwalt Acres, a farm in rural Illinois, not only leads the cause of carbon negativity but is also rooted in Jewish values of social justice.

Daniel is well deserving of this achievement, and I wish him success in his commitment and steps toward a sustainable future.

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

COMMEMORATING CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. 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 subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is with great honor that I rise today to co-anchor this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour along with my distinguished colleague, the Honorable Representative SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, from the great State of Florida.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the Congressional Black Caucus have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on the topic of Caribbean American Heritage Month, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield to the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK from the State of Florida.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Caribbean American Heritage Month, a time to recognize the profound historical significance and impact of Caribbean Americans on the history and development of the United States.

Caribbean Americans have played a pivotal role since the earliest days of our Nation's history. One of the most notable figures was Alexander Hamilton, born in Nevis, whose vision and intellect helped lay the foundation of our financial system and set forth the course for America's economic future.

During the 20th century, Shirley Chisholm, the daughter of Barbadian and Guyanese immigrants, emerged as a trailblazer in American politics.

During the same time, Malcolm X, a transformative civil rights leader whose roots trace back to Grenada, advocated for Black power and economic autonomy. His work has inspired individuals to strive for a more just and equitable society.

Next, we honor Puerto Rican-born Dr. Antonia Novello, a trailblazer in the field of public health who broke barriers as the first female and first Hispanic United States Surgeon General. She worked to improve health conditions and access to medical care, particularly for women, children, and underrepresented communities.

Finally, we celebrate the Cuban-born Celia Cruz, also known as the Queen of Salsa. Cruz not only captivated audiences but also enriched American music by popularizing salsa and creating a cultural bridge that we continue to enjoy and appreciate today.

In my home State of Florida, the historical significance of Caribbean Americans is particularly evident. In the early 20th century, waves of Caribbean immigrants arrived in Florida, playing a crucial role in developing industries such as agriculture and tourism, which remain vital to Florida's economy today.

For example, the construction of the Overseas Railroad in the early 1900s was made possible by the labor of many Caribbean workers. The railroad connected the Florida Keys to the mainland and transformed the region's economic landscape.

Let us celebrate this heritage with the recognition it deserves and a commitment to ensuring that the contributions of Caribbean Americans continue to be acknowledged and celebrated for generations to come.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor and leader, the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK of Florida, for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Caribbean American Heritage Month. For much of the long history of this Nation, it has been lost to most of our citizens the tremendous role that the nation of Haiti played in the formation of the United States of America.

What most people miss is that it was because of the Haitian Revolution that Napoleon lost interest in maintaining control over his so-called Caribbean landholdings and, therefore, saw no use in keeping Louisiana, prompting him to facilitate the Louisiana Purchase, which doubled the size of the United States of America.

The expansion of this Nation west of the Mississippi was directly related to the Haitian Revolution, a point I invite my colleagues to remember the next time they wonder why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are so concerned about Haiti.

Let me further remind my colleagues that the city responsible for my birth, the city of Chicago in the State of Illinois, was founded by a Haitian immigrant, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable.

While I was growing up, if you talked about the erasure of history, there was no monument formally dedicated in the great city of Chicago to the founding father of the city of Chicago. It was first recognized in what was formerly a city jail that Dr. Margaret Burrows turned into the DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center in the city of Chicago. Most recently, our magnificent Lake Shore Drive was renamed Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable Lake Shore Drive.

We have had to insert the history to make it whole because when history is not made whole, it is propaganda.

I was born and raised in Chicago, and there would be no Chicago without a member of the Caribbean-American community. It is about time the people of this Nation come to terms with the immense contribution of Haiti to the United States of America.

Everything that we love about New Orleans and Chicago is directly dependent upon the nation of Haiti and the children she sent around the world. The people of Haiti had as much to do with the formation of America's cultural influence as any of the descendants of Europe. Yet, somehow, Haitians are left out of the conversations when it comes to the contribution other nations have made to the formation of the American spirit.

□ 2015

The father of Chicago was a Haitian man, but there was a time in American history when history books would not

acknowledge the ancestry of persons of African heritage.

In fact, there was a time in the history of Chicago when Jean Baptiste du Sable's name would never be erected on a building. We had denied the truth of Haiti's contribution, and yet, the reality of Haiti's indelible endowment to America lives on.

Those of us who rise tonight do so because we refuse to be silent about the great contributions that African descendants from the Caribbean have made to this Nation's history and this Nation's future.

Malcolm X once said: "Of all our studies, history is best qualified to reward our research." Yet, what he meant by the statement was that it is only when we discover the immovable truth of our history that we find the footing we need to leap out of the darkness and into the kind of future we deserve.

A point which I should add is that Malcolm X was himself of Caribbean-American descent, as his mother and her descendants hailed from Grenada.

Needless to say, there is a long and noble list of Americans whose ancestry goes back to the Caribbean, and we would be wise to honor that history because in honoring it we honor, in fact, ourselves.

It is only when we honor the truth that we tear down the load-bearing walls of falsehood, hatred, and bigotry.

The days when we could be in denial about the unique and important contribution of marginalized parts of the world to the formation of America are over.

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that before you leave the house in the morning you have already depended on half the world to clothe you, to feed you, and provide you with a cup of coffee to wake you up.

I submit to the Members of this body that America is better when we are about the business of acknowledging the longstanding connection that our pursuit for freedom has with other parts of the world.

I know sometimes certain populations in America would like to believe the mythical lie of a rugged American individualism. I understand that there are those who would rather think that this country pulled itself up by its bootstraps without any assistance from anybody anywhere.

Regrettably, nothing could be further from the truth.

America is not a weaker country because nations such as Haiti assisted us and directly benefited us, but rather, we are stronger because the truth will set you free.

Mr. Speaker, this is a 220th anniversary of the Republic of Haiti. Haiti is America's longest and oldest democratic partner. Haiti now celebrates 220 years.

I would like to remind this body, on Haiti's 220-year anniversary, their democratically elected president was

highjacked, kidnapped, and taken out with U.S. assistance from his homeland to an African city.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this is a time where the Haitians certainly need our assistance. Haiti is not a debtor country. Haiti is a creditor country to the United States. Haitians supported America during the Revolutionary War in Savannah where a statue still rises from those ashes.

Let us celebrate this Caribbean Heritage Month. Let us celebrate all of those that have been erased from history that have committed such great and noble works to us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK), the co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my co-anchor, who I think, is an honorary Haitian for all his advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, today we come to the floor to celebrate Caribbean Heritage Month. It is a time to honor Caribbean Americans' vibrant culture and invaluable contributions to our Nation.

It is significant in my home State of Florida where the Caribbean diaspora thrives and flourishes.

As someone of Haitian descent, my heritage provides me with strength and resilience, traits passed down through the generations of Caribbean people who have faced and conquered tremendous challenges.

Caribbean Americans have been at the forefront of advocacy and leadership in politics. From city councils to the Halls of Congress, we have raised our voices to champion civil rights, social justice, and equality for all.

Moreover, Caribbean Americans are innovators and pioneers. From the groundbreaking research of Dr. Patricia Bath, a pioneering ophthalmologist of Trinidadian descent, to the literary genius of Jamaica Kincaid from Antigua, our contributions to science, literature, and the arts have profoundly impacted the entire world.

These achievements are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity that are the hallmarks of our heritage.

In recognizing the importance of Caribbean American Heritage Month, we acknowledge that our diversity is, in fact, our strength. It is a reminder that the United States thrives when we embrace and celebrate the unique cultures and histories that make up our entire Nation.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, my co-anchor of this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour, for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to share that Haiti has a rich and a very vibrant history. It pains me deeply to see that people look at Haiti as a beggar nation. Haiti has gone through one of the most horrendous stories in mankind.

After the Haitian people valiantly fought off those that enslaved them,

American powers and European powers forced those that had been enslaved, kidnapped, raped, and robbed to pay reparations back to France up until the 1940s.

The Haitian people are vibrant people and honorable people, and Haitians deserve our help and support. The United States asked the Kenyan Government to support the Haitian people to help gain back control of their country by the citizens for their rightful democracy. We very well, as the world's most powerful country, should be able to send our forces down and assist those people so they can build back their country.

We owe them a development plan. We cannot be the greatest nation having the poorest country in the world off of our shores. Haitians have been our best allies, our longest democratic partners, and we can do better.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard from my distinguished colleagues and the Honorable SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK of all the great issues important to the Congressional Black Caucus, our constituents, Congress, and all Americans tonight.

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

THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, every week I come behind this microphone, and I walk through the demographics and the debt and try to demonstrate that the primary driver of debt is our demographics and our health.

I have brought lots and lots of charts here over the last couple years sort of demonstrating the death spiral the country is heading towards. Total interest this year is going to be maybe just a little shy of \$1.2 trillion, making interest the second biggest expenditure in this government. Social Security will be about \$1.480 trillion; interest \$1.2 trillion, and then, believe it or not, Defense and Medicare are fighting for who is going to be third and fourth.

I thought it would actually be more honorable to come behind this mike and say, all right, we have defined the problem over and over and over and over. I don't seem to be making much progress with my brothers and sisters being willing to accept the actual math because our friends from the left say tax rich people more and that will take care of the problem. Then we show them the economic papers that make it clear that you can maximize people's taxes for those over \$400,000 on their income tax, their estate tax, the whole list of taxes, and when you do economic effects, you get about 1½ percent of GDP.

For us on the right, we have all sorts of things we want to cut, but if we are

limited to only nondefense discretionary, we come up with about 1 percent of GDP.

The problem is this year we are borrowing close to—I think our run rate in the last 365 days is like 8 percent of GDP. The long run is 6, 7, 8 percent over the years.

Does anyone see the math problem?

When the left's solutions and the right's solutions are combined, you get 2½ percent, and you are borrowing 6, 7, 8 percent of GDP, the size of the economy, maybe we need to have a brutally honest conversation of what is the driver of debt and the things that provide a solution that also have a chance of passing here.

Here is the board that gets the most complaints to my office, so let's do it again.

From today through the next 30 years—and this is in the President's math, this is in the CBO's math, this is in the outside group's math—100 percent of the debt from today through the next 30 years is interest and healthcare, and if in a decade from now the decision is, hey, the Social Security trust fund is gone, and we are not going to let people take a 21 to 25 percent cut and double senior poverty and we backfill Social Security.

So right here, the new number isn't 116. This is my older board. I think it is somewhere now in the 120, \$130 trillion in 30 years. The rest of the budget is flat. It pretty much grows with the growth of the economy. It is healthcare. If you want to disrupt debt, make this society healthier or adopt technology that makes government smaller.

Let's sort of actually walk through some of these things. I brought this board again just to reemphasize what I was just saying. The new number on Social Security for this coming year is \$1.480 trillion. My math actually has the interest being a little bit higher, and then you see Defense and Medicare.

Think of that. When you think Defense and Medicare are now down here third and fourth, and Medicare—I think Medicare is spending maybe upwards as much as 10 percent so far this year.

Let's see, if I came to you and said, all right, here is the stack of solutions, in previous years I would come here with all sorts of charts, and I would show sort of my holistic unified theory, saying you had to do things in immigration, you had to do things in fixing the tax code to maximize investment in growth. Over here you had to legalize adoption of technology to crash the price of healthcare. Over here you had to do things to make the society much more competitive and less oligopolies in our economy; you know, big players.

I kept trying to show—and we had like 20, 21 things you had to do almost at the same time. I felt like I was making no progress.

The reality of it is, we are in real trouble. A couple weeks ago I came here and did the demographics, and I

knew everyone was right on the edge of their seats wanting to understand the demographics, except demographics is your destiny.

In 15 years, we model this country has more deaths than births. Understand what is going on. Yet, you have your Medicare system, your Social Security that are sort of a pay-as-you-go system, but the number of children, the number of young people, the number of future workers we are going to have in this society—we are in trouble.

You are going to have to do things like technology substitution.

What the hell does that mean? We are going to walk through some of that.

I have a stack of articles, some boards, and we are going to walk through one of those pillars that we talk about. The two biggest changes I expect in society, in the economy, and in the world over the next decade or two will be synthetic biology and artificial intelligence.

Let's talk about one of the things on our list of like 21 disruptions of what we could fixate on policy-wise to make government smaller, more efficient, and more moral, and maybe your retirement doesn't have to implode on you, and maybe my little kids—yes, I have young kids—have a future because the math says right now that child that is young today will be poorer than their parents.

□ 2030

It is the first time in U.S. history when the expectation is, the math says, this young generation is going to be poorer. Does anyone see just the apocalyptic immorality in that?

So what is going on here? Why are we so terrified to tell the truth?

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you one of the reasons you should tell the truth. You come here and walk people through the actual math of Social Security and Medicare, how we are going to save it, what we have to do, and you will get attack ads because, God forbid, you told the truth. This side particularly over there cares much more about winning the next election than saving this country, saving your retirement, the morality of you receiving the earned benefits you worked for.

It is because the politics are so much more important. Winning the next election is so much more important than doing what is right.

Let's actually sort of walk through some ideas here.

First off, I am going to do this in the next couple of weeks. There are now starting to be economic models and discussions talking about how the debt is going to make us all poorer and how it is starting to do that.

The fact is, as far as your taxes, I have shown things here where every dime a Member of Congress votes on today is on borrowed money. So far this fiscal year, every dime of discretionary, every dime of defense, and, actually, one-quarter of Medicare are on

borrowed money. The fact is that this year, you are going to spend about \$1.2 trillion of your tax receipts in interest.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, over the last 12 months, I think we have had 1 or 2 months, maybe 3 months, where we actually had to borrow money to pay for our borrowed money to pay the interest.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker. The fact of the matter is that now we are starting to see the economists do articles explaining we are all going to be poorer because of the financing costs now on this debt and deficit.

Let's actually walk through what you would do if I came to you right now, Mr. Speaker, and said that you live in a time of miracles. We are curing diseases, and we are going to cure more diseases. We don't have to live with misery. We are on the cusp of having major disruptions in diabetes and other diseases. We could make government more efficient and smaller.

Let's actually just talk about artificial intelligence tonight. There is an article from Stars and Stripes talking about the Pentagon being substantially unauditible. We do not know where almost \$4 trillion in assets are. There are parts of this article and parts of other articles here talking about the Pentagon buying things because they don't know if they have it in inventory.

There are other articles saying that we could actually use technology to crawl through government, and it would be the ultimate whistleblower.

Some of us have been trying, saying: Why don't we do something creative?

Mr. Speaker, I need you to think, if you watch too much cable television over here, AI is going to destroy the world. There is generative artificial intelligence that crawls through and can write its code. Over here is a stack that just wants accounting data, that just is looking for assets, inventories, liabilities, and those things. That is what we are talking about at this moment.

How about if we did something creative? If you have just had I think the eighth year where the Pentagon has functionally come back as unauditible because we cannot do the asset list, how about allowing an artificial intelligence crawler, an artificial intelligence accounting package, to go up and down those assets lists and identify what we own, what we don't own, what we think we have, what we don't think we have, and what we really own so you don't get crazy articles like this one from Stars and Stripes basically saying: This was not surprising. Pentagon again failed its audit, and \$3.8 trillion in military assets, we are not sure where the hell they are.

We are going to offer this as an amendment in the next day or so on the national defense authorization bill. We will see if our brothers and sisters here are willing to say maybe some technology is better than building after building full of people looking at accounting lists unable to figure out what the hell it says. Maybe we should

actually protect the American taxpayer but also protect our national defense by knowing what we own and what we don't own.

It is a simple solution. It is also the adoption and the future of what could we do in this government if we would allow artificial intelligence crawlers to go up and down inventories, assets, where there is misallocation, where there is proper allocation, and where there are people who may be playing games with resources.

Why wouldn't we do that? The Government Accountability Office can only do so much, but the crowdsourcing of the data, the constant crawling, this exists today. Let's do it. It is just, once again, the concept of: Can we use technology to make government smaller? Of course, we can.

Mr. Speaker, I have to be brutally honest. Here is an article that was talking about using artificial intelligence in certain parts of healthcare. It was a crash and burn, but if you actually get into the academic article, they were using ChatGPT. May I suggest you don't try to use chat as your diagnostician?

However, it turns out I have four or five times more articles talking about when they use specific artificial intelligence designed to look at cancer and other things. It was remarkable.

Let's actually sort of go on through the changing of government. What would happen if you have had the experience of trying to call the IRS and sit on hold, and then you get to someone and talk to someone who may not have the specialty, may not understand what you are asking.

There is an experiment. I have to give the IRS credit on this one. It is a small experiment. They did it last tax season and this tax season: For a small portion, when you called, you were actually talking to a chat AI.

Think about the experiment that they agreed to do and where this may take us. Imagine if you called the IRS, Mr. Speaker, and it stays on the phone with you because it picks up the phone because it has ultimate capacity because you are actually talking to a plain language computer that sounds every bit like a person. It stays on the phone with you, listens to you, and walks you through how to fill out your form. If you need the form, it can email it to you. It can text it to you. It can even walk you through other forms you might need because of what you are doing.

That is morality, and it would make government less expensive. It would shrink the size of government. This is heresy and brutal, but the fact of the matter is that people are really expensive in government.

One of the ways you can start cutting budgets, yet you still want efficiency and the morality of accessibility for the public, Mr. Speaker, is to start thinking about many government agencies because they are always marching in here complaining that

they can't hire anyone. Well, let's replace those slots with technology that will give you the answers you are looking for because it has the full information set in front of it. This is the moral way to do it.

Let's walk through some of this more. If I came to you, Mr. Speaker, right now and said: What is the most powerful thing you could do if I only gave you several months and you had to come up with some way to disrupt the cost of healthcare?

We estimate and have multiple academic articles that say that about 16 percent of all healthcare spending is people failing to stay on their pharmaceutical regime. They have hypertension. They don't take their calcium inhibitor. They have cholesterol that is clogging their arteries. They don't take their statin. They don't adhere.

It turns out you could do things just like this where is it really artificial intelligence or just using basic technology where the pill bottle cap beeps at you and says: Hey, you haven't opened me today, and it is really important because this pill only costs 7 cents, but if you stroke out, it could be \$1 million.

It turns out on my next board I think there is a math problem here. This one basically says that the estimate for people not taking their prescriptions is \$528 billion per year. My math was closer to \$600 billion. I think my math is right, because if it is 16, 17 percent of all healthcare spent, this is simple. It is moral. It is not really artificial intelligence, but it is use of technology to crash the price of delivering healthcare. We have had pieces of legislation in this place for years saying: Why don't we just start drug adherence so people stay healthier? David, we can't run a bill like that. We would have to explain it.

Mr. Speaker, here is an article I grabbed just 2 days ago about the largest ever antibiotic discovery by artificial intelligence. We just discovered a whole new category of antibiotics.

Mr. Speaker, do you remember the panic over the previous couple of years that so many of our antibiotics were becoming inefficient and superbugs? Guess what, Mr. Speaker? Artificial intelligence may have just discovered new ones to actually work through it.

This is an Apple Watch on here, but about 3 weeks ago, Apple just got its next generation of watch approved by the FDA for monitoring your heart. Now, the heart portion of it is a medical device.

Mr. Speaker, I want you to think about the morality. We keep talking about how we keep our brothers and sisters healthier, yet we are heading toward a world—and I am going to show some more boards in this concept—where you can have it on your wrist, the thing you are able to blow into, the thing you lick, the sort of personal medical lab you can have in your home medicine cabinet or on your body.

I met with some folks a week ago. Forgive me if I mispronounce this, sepsis. You had surgery, and once the doctors, nurses, and medical professionals see it, it is often really dangerous, but using AI and a couple sensors on your body, they can see the tiny movements in temperature and the tiny changes in respiration and know there is something going on and know there is something that has to be dealt with.

How much healthier would we be by just adopting that bit of technology? It is here. It is here already, and now we are living in a world where you can actually have a medical lab attached to you.

Why don't we actually legalize some of this technology? The thing you can blow into that has an incredibly high level of accuracy can tell you that you have a virus, can bang off your phone your medical records and know you are not allergic to a certain antiviral and order your antivirals.

You know that is essentially illegal in this country. Your ability to have that breath biopsy, that flu kazoo, is functionally illegal, but it would help crash the price of healthcare, and you would be healthier.

There is an army of people in these hallways around here demanding that we need to subsidize more people because we don't have enough medical professionals because we are getting older. Yes, we have been talking about that for years. Maybe we could do some substitution effects with technology and the morality of having a healthier society.

Mr. Speaker, we are about to see a revolution in cures. One of our arguments is that the most moral thing this Congress can do is not help you maintain your misery. It is one of my great angers at our Democrat colleagues.

You realize they passed legislation that functionally hands \$16 billion of your tax money to Big Pharma. Yes, I am using their language, not mine, their language, Big Pharma. We are going to give \$16 billion to buy down the price of insulin. At the same time, 75 miles from here, there is a co-op making three types of generic insulin. Go look them up, Civic RX. Three types are cheaper than the subsidized price, but the Democrats have an ability to basically have it both ways: Big Pharma is evil. Here is some cash. Here is \$16 billion.

Their idea of morality is that they are going to functionally finance your misery.

Over on our side, I have been passionately trying to get this place to fixate on some of the cures. We think we are getting close to a cure for type 1. There are some miracles happening on type 2.

Actually, in a week, this Friday, we are going to publish a report in the Joint Economic Committee that I am going to get crap for, but you are going to see a top line number that, over the next 10 years, obesity will cost this country as high as \$9.1 trillion over the

next 10 years, the single biggest spend in this government. Our brothers and sisters are dying. I think we are about to have the fifth year in a row where prime-age males are dying younger.

□ 2045

Think of that. You have a country where people's life expectancy is falling. We are going to pass a farm bill, nutrition support, and not actually think about should it actually be nutrition support, or is it calorie support?

This government fights against itself. We actually give you an EBT card to go buy onion rings, and on this side we are going to cover your healthcare costs when you are sick. Have we lost our—yes, we have lost our minds, but we are actually seeing all sorts of data, and I have some of the articles here.

AI tool finds variant for heart disease. AI figured out there are 17 genes to look at that will actually give us an indicator if you are going to have certain types of heart disease.

AI traces mysterious metastatic cancer to its source. This is one of the most fascinating, and I actually have almost a binder just on this one. How Google's new AI could revolutionize medicine, but if you go on there because I know all of you are really smart and you read this crazy stuff—I mean, you have all read about the Google Fold, folding of protein over certain things so it can be actually delivered and actually withstand in your body and actually start to help cure you.

You live in the time of miracles, and this place here is one of the biggest barriers to those miracles coming to market. It is absolutely immoral.

FDA does some amazing things, but it was designed decades and decades and decades ago. We have these things called supercomputers today. We have AI that can grind through data and look at article after article and population statistics and these things.

There is actually lots of data right now saying we can cut the time down in half bringing cures and miracles to market. I would argue this is our obligation. This is people's lives. Besides the fact of the morality, it is also really good economics and would be great for the borrowing.

Remember, we are hovering between sort of \$80,000 and \$100,000 a second in borrowing. The majority of that growth in borrowing is interest and healthcare costs. Crash the price of healthcare.

Incorporating AI creates cost savings. We actually had some success in this idea last week. We were able to get two AI amendments attached to the VA bill, just to actually start with the claims side, the bureaucracy side, to actually move some of that faster.

The vast majority of our brothers and sisters here, it started to pass. Even though maybe the union didn't like it, but this is the right thing to do. We started.

We actually got another one passed. This is just for the VA, but toward studying how we streamline and mitigate the financing mechanisms to make the VA more efficient and much more nimble and actually reduce the cost. These are just inch by inch by inch.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 4 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Oh, heaven forbid. I don't know if I could actually talk any faster. I'm so sorry. Sometimes I start to talk like a machine gun.

Mr. Speaker, another piece of legislation we have is you talk to doctors' offices, you talk to surgery centers, you talk to clinics, and they will tell you half their cost is just administrative, the people having to do the back paperwork, the people in the front office.

Just walk through a concept because this actually exists today. You walk up to the counter in your surgery center or your doctor's office. You talk to a screen, and it writes down. You don't actually have to fill out the little thing on the pad.

You say: Hi, I am David, and here is my number. Here is this. Here is that.

In the back office, they use technology, not a room full of clerks doing paperwork to fight back and forth with the insurance company. You could crash the price of a healthcare clinic in half. We already have some companies starting to do this.

Mr. Speaker, we have another one that starts to actually help the concept of telehealth. Why isn't it digital health, the ability to use technology to help you take care of yourself?

Then, article after article that we live in the time of miracles. How do I get my brothers and sisters here to help us realize if we would just change some of the incentives in this place? There is another generation of miracle drugs coming. There is actually the ability of another generation of things that cure people.

I keep trying to argue here. You want to crash the debt and deficits? You want to crash spending? Cure diseases. Make people's lives less miserable. There will be armies of lobbyists in our hallways because these disrupt their business models.

I am going to ask our brothers and sisters here to do the right thing. Don't be afraid of the technology. The disruption is the morality, is the future, and is one of the ways and just one of the levers that we save ourselves from this crashing and crushing debt.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the

gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to name the following members of the Placer County Sheriff's Office to the 2024 Third Congressional District Police Honor Roll: Sergeant Isaiah Tchobanoff, Deputy Richard Porter, Deputy John Tannarome, Deputy Brandon Winschell, Deputy Paul Solbos, Deputy Kevin Hills, Deputy Joseph Durant.

On the night of May 2, 2024, deputies in the Placer County Sheriff's Office were on patrol in the city of Colfax in Placer County. The deputies observed a suspicious vehicle parked at the rear of a local restaurant that matched the vehicle description of one used while in the commission of a residential burglary earlier in the week of a Placer County citizen.

Deputies Solbos, Porter, and Tannarome attempted to contact the van occupant, who was verbally uncooperative and refused lawful orders to exit the vehicle.

Deputy Solbos called for his supervisor, Sergeant Tchobanoff, and Deputy Durant to respond and assist them. Deputies Winschell and Hills arrived a short time later.

While instituting a plan to deescalate the situation and remove the occupant from the vehicle safely, the driver of the van fired a gun from inside the vehicle, striking Deputy Porter in the upper torso.

Deputies at the scene returned fire, and Deputy Porter was immediately provided medical aid by deputies on the scene and was transported to the nearest helicopter landing zone by his fellow deputies awaiting an air ambulance.

Additional deputies and officers from outside agencies began arriving as Deputy Porter was flown to the nearest trauma center, Sutter Roseville Medical Center.

Deputy Porter spent four nights in the hospital surrounded by his loved ones and his colleagues from the sheriff's office. In tremendous news, he was released to go home on Monday, May 6, 2024, and was escorted home by the sheriff, undersheriff, and assistant sheriff, along with the command staff and patrol staff.

These law enforcement officers acted with the utmost professionalism and bravery on May 2, 2024. They trusted the advanced officer training the sheriff's office had provided and were calm, committed, and focused.

That night was a true testament to their unwavering commitment to the community they serve. Their actions embody the core values of the Placer County Sheriff's Office, and all Placer County residents can take enormous pride in these outstanding officers.

For their bravery and dedication to public safety, I am honored to include these fine law enforcement officers in the 2024 Third Congressional District Police Honor Roll.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ALDO PINESCHI

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very heavy heart that I wish to take a moment to honor the memory of Aldo Pineschi, a Roseville resident and community leader who passed away a few weeks ago on May 28, 2024.

Aldo was born and raised in Roseville, California, which is also where he decided to raise his family. Aldo attended the local high school and community college until he transferred to UC Davis, where he graduated with a degree in political science.

After his education, he worked in government relations and public affairs for 40 years and owned and operated Aldo Pineschi Consulting. Beyond his thriving career, Aldo placed his heart at the center of Placer County and served the communities within numerous leadership and volunteer positions.

His contributions to the region include his work with the Placer Business Alliance, with many of the area chambers of commerce, and several local nonprofits, such as Lighthouse Counseling, Visit Placer, The Placer Breast Cancer Foundation, and many, many more.

He raised scholarship funds for local students and was a driving force behind organizations that would help struggling families afford everyday necessities. He had a strong commitment to and understanding of the pulse of the local business community and was an invaluable contributor to the economic vitality and success of the region.

Aldo's wide diversity of accomplishments improved the quality of life and experiences for residents, businesses, and visitors in the area. It is because of the exceptional leadership and passion of people like Aldo Pineschi that Placer County and the communities that comprise it are such great places to live, work, raise a family, and retire.

Aldo will be remembered for many, many things: by his countless friends in our county, for his wise counsel, his innate kindness, and his care and consideration for those around him. As a pillar in our community, I am confident that the remarkable legacy he left behind in Placer County will be felt for generations to come.

Therefore, on behalf of California's Third Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I want to offer a heartfelt condolence to Aldo's wife, Lesli, children, Evangeline and Anthony, and the countless other lives that he touched throughout Placer County and the surrounding region.

Mr. Aldo Pineschi will be greatly missed, but his legacy will be felt for a very, very long time to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHANNA TACKITT

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize an outstanding and prominent educator from California's Third Congressional District.

I would like to highlight a teacher from the Eastern Sierra Unified School District, Johanna Tackitt, who has

dedicated 22 years toward a career in education.

Mrs. Tackitt earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a master's in advanced teaching leadership from Sierra Nevada College.

She proudly teaches at Antelope Elementary School in Coleville, California, where she has instructed classes of students in the third grade and transitional kindergarten and kindergarten.

As a young girl, Mrs. Tackitt became passionate about horses and barrel racing. Through this passion, she was inspired to become a teacher by her friend and mentor, Lauretta, who taught her dressage. She strove to emulate Lauretta's qualities of patience, positivity, and care, and later became a coach herself.

This ultimately led Mrs. Tackitt to the teaching profession, where she used these skills and values to become beloved by students, parents, and staff.

□ 2100

Her unique abilities as a former coach help her build trusting relationships with students in which she guides them toward reaching their goals, and thereby creates confident young students who believe in themselves and know they can achieve anything.

For these reasons and many more, Mrs. Tackitt was recently recognized as the 2022–2023 Mono County Teacher of the Year. She is known by others for her strong work ethic, patience, and knowledge, as well as for treating her students with respect, kindness, and empathy.

Students leave Mrs. Tackitt's classroom excited about school and learning, which is commendable. I applaud Mrs. Tackitt for her dedication to education, to the development of her students, and to promoting overall student success in academic achievement.

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am pleased to recognize Mrs. Johanna Tackitt for her significant contributions to the Eastern Sierra Unified School District and to the students of Antelope Elementary School.

RECOGNIZING TAHOE FOREST HEALTH SYSTEM

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Tahoe Forest Health System for 75 years of providing exceptional healthcare services to the Tahoe region.

In 1949, Richard Joseph and his family donated the land necessary for the construction of the new hospital in Truckee. The donation was made with the desire to care for their local community members and in memory of their son, Levon Joseph, who was tragically killed during his military service in World War II.

The community rallied behind the idea of a new hospital, and under the legacy of generosity, the Tahoe Forest Hospital District was formed. In 1952, the hospital facility named the Tahoe

Forest Hospital officially opened its doors.

The original hospital consisted of 15 beds and 2 physicians. Since its inception, the Tahoe Forest Health System has grown along with the community it serves. The Tahoe Forest Hospital expanded to 25 acute care beds and 36 long-term care beds while also providing a wide array of critical rural healthcare services, including community health outreach programs.

The hospital service area now covers six rural counties, two States, and approximately 3,500 square miles. The hospital was further developed by building the Gene Upshaw Memorial Tahoe Cancer Center and the Incline Village Community Hospital, a four-bed critical access hospital offering 24-hour emergency care, as well as a variety of other clinical health services.

The Tahoe Forest Health System has contributed to the health and well-being of Tahoe residents and visitors for more than seven decades and is a vital resource for our local mountain communities.

Tahoe Forest Health has earned multiple awards, partnerships, and recognitions and sets a high standard for excellence in rural healthcare. Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize the Tahoe Forest Health System in celebration of their 75-year anniversary, and I applaud them for their ongoing commitment to providing quality and compassionate healthcare services.

OVERTURN PROPOSITION 47

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment this evening to bring the country's attention to one of the most shocking and twisted things I have ever seen in the world of politics, which is happening right now in my State of California.

There is a scheme playing out right now on the part of the State's ruling politicians to undermine a democratic election and make nearly 40 million Californians less safe. This relates to the crime problem in our State, which, of course, is not just a California issue.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been part of several field hearings in some of America's worst cities when it comes to high crime rates, including Chicago, Philadelphia, Manhattan, and right here in Washington, D.C.

It is perhaps in my State, in California, especially in cities like Oakland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, where the problem is most pronounced, thanks in large part to a series of criminal laws that have been passed that are uniquely permissive and that are uniquely restrictive of the ability of law enforcement to keep our communities safe.

Yet, there is one law in particular that is at the root of many of the problems that we see in California when it comes to homelessness, open-air drug markets, retail theft, and smash-and-grabs. That is an initiative known as

Proposition 47, which was passed in 2014 under the false name of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, and since that time has caused an epidemic of retail theft by eliminating virtually any consequence for stealing.

It has also had the tragic consequence of making it so we cannot get drug addicts who are living on our streets, in many cases dying tragically on our streets, in many cases for fentanyl and other drugs, where we can't get them the help they need now because it has decimated our drug court system. Prosecutors no longer have the ability to use a possible felony conviction as leverage to get offenders to sign up for treatment.

For the last decade, this very misguided initiative, Proposition 47, has caused these problems to build and build in California and has made our communities less and less safe, has made our quality of life in California lower and lower, has been a major reason why people have been leaving our State in record numbers when, for much of its history, California has been the State that everyone wanted to come to.

After a decade, over the course of the last several months, there has been a citizen-led effort in California to overturn the worst provisions of Proposition 47, to restore consequences for retail theft, to revive drug treatment for those who need it, and to take on the scourge of fentanyl that is ravaging far too many of our communities.

The people of California responded overwhelmingly, with over 900,000 people signing the petition to get this measure on the ballot. Just about an hour ago this evening, it was officially announced by the California secretary of state that the initiative has qualified and that it will appear on the November ballot. All indications are that the people of California will vote for it and end this radical failed experiment in our State and set our State on a new course.

Unfortunately, there are some who hold power right now in California who do not want that to happen.

I want to be very clear that this is not a partisan statement because the initiative has broad bipartisan support. For example, it is endorsed by the Democratic mayor of San Francisco, the Democratic mayor of San Jose, and the Democratic mayor of San Diego because it is just common sense that we need to restore public safety in California.

Yet, at the State level, the supermajority in the legislature, along with Governor Gavin Newsom, have decided that they should take matters into their own hands and deny voters the opportunity to bypass this bipartisan initiative.

How might they do this, you ask? It has already qualified for the ballot. The people have made their voices heard. It is official. What is their plan? This is the scheme that they have

come up with that surpasses anything I have seen, perhaps, and I have seen a lot when it comes to the machinations of California politics.

Here is what they have done. The Governor and leaders in the legislature came up with their own package of bills that are ostensibly designed to promote public safety. In fact, most if not all of those bills are unobjectionable. Some of them are even positive, but they are really just tweaking at the edges of the problem.

None of them does anything to deal with the actual problems of Proposition 47. In fact, the bills by definition couldn't do that because Proposition 47 was a voter initiative, and it could only be corrected by voter initiative. The legislature doesn't have the power to do that.

Nevertheless, for whatever reason, maybe to look like they were doing something about the problem, maybe they genuinely wanted to help make communities safer, you had these bills that were introduced that would take some fairly modest steps in the direction of public safety.

We actually learned just a few days ago that there was a much more sinister purpose behind these bills. The leaders of the legislature will be introducing an amendment to these bills, which has what they are calling an inoperability clause.

What does that mean? They are stipulating in the language of the bills that if voters pass the initiative that is now going to be on the ballot in November, then those bills will automatically be repealed. They are putting in a provision that says that their own bills will be repealed automatically if voters make a decision that they don't like in November.

□ 2110

This is truly extraordinary. It is a threat to the people of California. Don't pass this initiative or we will weaken other criminal laws. It is a loaded weapon because the effect is automatic. The threat doesn't even need to be carried out; it is just there the moment the initiative passes, at least, this is the way they have designed it. Then those bills will be repealed, but the true purpose of this is even worse.

The true purpose is to mislead voters and give them an upside-down description of what this initiative will actually do. Because in California, the language that appears on the ballot when you go to vote that says, here is what this initiative will do, that language is written by the attorney general who is, himself, a Statewide-elected official.

The point of including what some are calling a poison pill, which says that if you pass the initiative, then these public safety bills are going to be repealed, is to influence the way that the initiative is written, an initiative that is supposed to be about helping to limit crime, reduce crime, and restore consequences. They will describe it in precisely the opposite way.

On the ballot, it will now say, oh, no, this initiative is going to repeal these public safety measures.

It is a deeply cynical scheme designed to undermine a popular voter initiative that is desperately needed to get our State back on track. I think that when people ask whatever happened to California, how did our beautiful State come to have all of these problems, where you walk through the streets of San Francisco or Los Angeles and you can't even believe that you are in the United States of America, how did this happen? This is how it has happened.

Unfortunately, we have political leaders who are willing to go so far as to undermine a democratic election and to make our State less safe in order to advance their own particular political goals.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is absolutely shameful; however, I have faith that at the end of the day, the will of the people will win out, and I think that people are frustrated with what has happened to our State.

I hear it every day. They are frustrated with machinations like this, and the people of California will find a way to make sure that this change that is desperately needed happens and that our State gets back on the right track.

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

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 2051.—An act to reauthorize the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-4499. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's Major final rule — Methylene Chloride; Regulation Under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2020-0465; FRL-8155-01-OCSP] (RIN: 2070-AK70) received May 1, 2024, 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-4500. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's correcting amendment — Addition of Diisononyl Phthalate Category; Community Right-to-Know Toxic Chemical Re-

lease Reporting; Correction [EPA-HQ-TRI-2022-0262; FRL-2425.1-05-OCSP] (RIN: 2025-AA17) received May 1, 2024, 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-4501. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's interim final determination — Determination To Defer Sanctions; California; California Air Resources Board and Local California Air Districts [EPA-R09-OAR-2024-0175; FRL-11888-02-R9] received May 1, 2024, 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-4502. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Nevada; Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability; Nonattainment New Source Review; 2015 Ozone Standard [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0494; FRL-9931-02-R9] received May 1, 2024, 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-4503. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Revisions to the Continuous Opacity Monitoring System Requirements [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0458; FRL-11759-02-R4] received May 1, 2024, 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-4504. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; KY; Revisions to Jefferson County Definitions [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0338; FRL-11798-02-R4] received May 1, 2024, 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-4505. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions to the Entity List [Docket No.: 230209-0041] (RIN: 0694-AJ14) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4506. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Entities to the Entity List; Correction of Existing Entry on the Entity List [Docket No.: 210629-0139] (RIN: 0694-AI52) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4507. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Control of Deuterium That Is Intended for Use Other Than in a Nuclear Reactor Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) [Docket No.: 210923-0195] (RIN: 0694-AI44) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4508. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Burma: Implementation of Sanctions [Docket No.: 210302-0033] (RIN: 0694-AI43) received

May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4509. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revisions of Temporary Denial Order Provisions To Allow for Extended Renewals in Certain Circumstances [Docket No.: 230824-0204] (RIN: 0694-AJ36) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4510. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions and Revisions to the Entity List and Conforming Removal From the Unverified List [Docket No.: 221209-0267] (RIN: 0694-AJ04) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4511. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Adoption of Congressional Notification Requirement for Certain Semiautomatic Firearms Exports Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) [Docket No.: 220524-0120] (RIN: 0694-AI89) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4512. A letter from the Deputy Director for Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Additional Sanctions Against Russia and Belarus Under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and Refinements to Existing Controls [Docket No.: 230515-0131] (RIN: 0694-AJ17) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4513. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Export Administration Regulations: Termination of United Arab Emirates Participation in the Arab League Boycott of Israel [Docket No.: 210528-0118] (RIN: 0694-AI48) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4514. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Additions of Entities to the Entity List [Docket No.: 240507-0130] (RIN: 0694-AJ62) received May 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4515. A letter from the General Counsel, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Implementation of HAVANA Act of 2021 [JMD Docket No.: 157; A.G. Order No.: 5922-2024] (RIN: 1105-AB71) received May 14, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-4516. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations and Standards, Office of the Chief Counsel, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Flight Training Security

Program [Docket No.: TSA-2004-19147; Amendment No.: 1552-1] (RIN: 1652-AA35) received May 6, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

EC-4517. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Ocean Dumping; Withdrawal of Designated Disposal Sites; Nome, Alaska [EPA-R10-OW-2024-0123; FRL-11819-01-R10] received May 1, 2024, 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-4518. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Water Quality Standards Regulatory Revisions To Protect Tribal Reserved Rights [EPA-HQ-OW-2021-0791; FRL-8599-02-OW] (RIN: 2040-AG17) received May 1, 2024, 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-4519. A letter from the Senior Regulation Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's Major final rule — Expand the Definition of a Public Assistance Household [Docket No.: SSA-2023-0015] (RIN: 0960-AI81) received May 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 7988. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-547). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5074. A bill to amend the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 to delay implementation of the inclusion of oral-only ESRD-related drugs in the Medicare ESRD prospective payment system; with an amendment (Rept. 118-548 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 7512. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure implementation of real-time benefit tools under part D of the Medicare program; with an amendment (Rept. 118-549 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 7980. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude vehicles the batteries of which contain materials sourced from prohibited foreign entities from the clean vehicle credit; with an amendment (Rept. 118-550). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1287. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8070) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year; re-

lating to the consideration of House Report 118-527 and an accompanying resolution; and for other purposes (Rept. 118-551). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 8675. A bill to require the Transportation Security Administration conduct a study relating to the digitization of the law enforcement officer flying armed checkpoint data collection process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. CROCKETT (for herself and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 8676. A bill to reduce enteric methane emissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 8677. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit a State from removing the name of any registrant from the official list of voters eligible to vote in elections for Federal office in the State unless the State verifies, on the basis of objective and reliable evidence, that the registrant is ineligible to vote in such elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BOWMAN (for himself and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 8678. A bill to amend certain Acts to adjust rental payments with respect to certain Federal rental assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. McCLAIN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 8679. A bill to include the Czech Republic in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of the Czech Republic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 8680. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants to train community mental wellness workers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 8681. A bill to ensure that hospitals are considered an eligible entity when awarding health profession opportunity grants under section 2008 of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 8682. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the exclusion for certain conservation subsidies to include subsidies for water conservation or efficiency measures, storm water management measures, and wastewater management measures; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 8683. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to mon-

itor efforts by the People's Republic of China to build or buy strategic foreign ports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 8684. A bill to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide for contributory liability for certain electronic commerce platforms for use of a counterfeit mark by a third party on such platforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 8685. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of Ohkay Owingeh in the Rio Chama Stream System, to restore the Bosque on Pueblo Land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LOUDERMILK (for himself, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 8686. A bill to update thresholds for certain currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. LUNA (for herself and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 8687. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to deem adulterated food containing certain color additives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LUNA (for herself and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 8688. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to treat food for human consumption as adulterated if it contains high-fructose corn syrup; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 8689. A bill to require Amtrak to publicly disclose certain bonus compensation paid to Amtrak executives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 8690. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USA Spending.gov, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 8691. A bill to prohibit forced arbitration in work disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 8692. A bill to require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CARL, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. MALOY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MILLS, Mr. ZINKE,

Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. DUARTE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FALLON, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. COLLINS, and Mr. ALLEN):

H.R. 8693. A bill to prohibit certain businesses and persons from purchasing real estate adjacent to covered Federal lands in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8694. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to permit the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff in the event of the death of the Mayor of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8695. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to create a unique identification number for registered lobbyists, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8696. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 2-year post-employment ban on the lobbying of any officer or employee of the executive branch or any Member, officer, or employee of Congress by former executive branch officials and former Members, officers, and employees of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California):

H.R. 8697. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a demonstration project to test the impact of a guaranteed monthly income on the health of individuals enrolled for medical assistance under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 8698. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to screening for type 1 diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 8699. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to develop an enforcement mechanism with respect to certain provisions relating to the transport of animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 8700. A bill to establish international artificial intelligence research partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 8701. A bill to reform the Intelligence Community, the intelligence-related activities of the counter-drug mission of the United States Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such pro-

visions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 110. Concurrent resolution establishing grounds under which Members of Congress may vote by proxy and remotely attend committee proceedings in the event of illness, a death in the family, jury service, military service, and other emergency situations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 111. Concurrent resolution providing for certain procedures for bringing debate to a close on any question in the House of Representatives and Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. PORTER:

H. Con. Res. 112. Concurrent resolution requiring Members of Congress and Senators to be seated next to Members or Senators of opposing parties during meetings or hearings of committees of Congress; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. KEAN of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. AMO, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. JACOBS):

H. Res. 1286. A resolution supporting the role of the United States in helping save the lives of children and protecting the health of people in low-income countries with vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance ("Gavi"); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H. Res. 1288. A resolution condemning certain members of the intelligence community; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1289. A resolution recognizing the contributions of academic medicine and observing Academic Medicine Week from June 10 through 14, 2024; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOYLAN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. BACON, Mr. CASE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SABLAN, and Mr. ISSA):

H. Res. 1290. A resolution recognizing June 12, 2024, as this year's observance of "Philippine Independence Day" to honor the 126th anniversary of the independence of the Philippines; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-121. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, relative to Senate Resolution No. 327, urging the United States Congress to enact much-needed reforms to federal permitting policies to accelerate deployment of new energy infrastructure; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources.

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. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 8667.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 14
rule 11 of the Committee rules, which reads as follows:

(a) Facility Naming.—No Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facility or property shall be named after any individual by the Committee unless—

(1) Such individual is deceased and was—

(A) A veteran who (i) was instrumental in the construction or the operation of the facility to be named, or (ii) was a recipient of the Medal of Honor or, as determined by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, otherwise performed military service of an extraordinarily distinguished character;

(B) A member of the United States House of Representatives or Senate who had a direct association with such facility;

(C) An Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, a Secretary of Veterans Affairs, a Secretary of Defense or of a service branch, or a military or other Federal civilian official of comparable or higher rank; or

(D) An individual who, as determined by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, performed outstanding service for veterans.

(2) Each member of the Congressional delegation representing the State in which the designated facility is located must indicate in writing such member's support of the proposal to name such facility after such individual. Evidence of a member's support in writing must be in the form of a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member proposing to name the particular VA facility in question. It is the policy of the Committee that sponsoring or cosponsoring legislation to name such facility after such individual will not alone satisfy this requirement.

(3) The pertinent State department or chapter of each Congressionally chartered veterans' organization having a national membership of at least 500,000 must indicate in writing its support of such proposal. Under certain circumstances, the Committee may grant a waiver to accept written support from pertinent chapters or posts of chartered veterans' organizations in lieu of the State department.

(b) The above criteria for naming a VA facility may be waived by unanimous consent. The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Cadillac, Michigan, as the "Duane E. Dewey VA Clinic".

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 8675.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires TSA, through the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS), to conduct a study on the digital data collection process for law enforcement officers who are flying armed on commercial flights. The study would include projected timelines for when this digital data collection could begin and estimates of what would be required to digitize the current system.

By Ms. CROCKETT:

H.R. 8676.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Enteric Methane Emissions

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 8677.

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

Article I, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Elections

By Mr. BOWMAN:

H.R. 8678.

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:
Federal rental assistance

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 8679.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To include the Czech Republic in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of the Czech Republic.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 8680.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

This would create a grant program that would allow hospitals and other medical clinics to train community mental health wellness workers.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 8681.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:
Health Care

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 8682.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Taxes on rebates

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 8683.

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

Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to monitor efforts by the People's Republic of China to build or buy strategic foreign ports, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 8684.

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

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide for contributory liability for certain electronic commerce platforms for use of a counterfeit mark by a third party on such platforms, and for other purposes.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 8685.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Tribes

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.R. 8686.

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

Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution, Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Treasury to update thresholds for certain currency transaction reports and suspicious activity reports.

By Mrs. LUNA:

H.R. 8687.

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:

This bill would ban the use of red 40, yellow 5 and yellow 6 food dye in food for human consumption.

By Mrs. LUNA:

H.R. 8688.

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:

This bill would ban the use of high-fructose corn syrup in food for human consumption.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 8689.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 8690.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to ensure that other transaction agreements are reported to USAspending.gov, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 8691.

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:

Labor

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 8692.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To apply the requirements of the Government in the Sunshine Act to meetings of Amtrak's Board of Directors,

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 8693.

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:

Prohibiting the sale of Real Estate to the Communist Chinese Party

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8694.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would permit the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff in the event of the death of the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8695.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to create a unique identification number for registered lobbyists, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 8696.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a uniform 2-year post-employment ban on the lobbying of any officer or employee of the executive branch or any Member, officer, or employee of Congress by former executive branch officials and former Members, officers, and employees of Congress, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 8697.

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

Article V of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would establish a guaranteed income pilot program through Medicaid.

By Ms. SCHRIER:

H.R. 8698.

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:

health

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 8699.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the U.S. Constitutions

The single subject of this legislation is:

Animal Welfare

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 8700.

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

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18, of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: 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:
Artificial Intelligence

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 8701.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Necessary and Proper Clause

The single subject of this legislation is:

Intelligence

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 33: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 34: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 233: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 537: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 565: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 667: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 670: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 822: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 856: Mr. HOYER.

H.R. 977: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 1015: Mr. TURNER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. NEAL, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 1041: Mr. PHILLIPS and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 1088: Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 1118: Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

- H.R. 1124: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 1277: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 1385: Mr. ARRINGTON and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1413: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 1437: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi and Mr. BURCHETT.
H.R. 1459: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 1488: Mr. FROST and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 1491: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 1582: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. ALFORD, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1610: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H.R. 1619: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1685: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 1692: Mr. LIEU, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1705: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 1721: Ms. STEVENS.
H.R. 1774: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 1776: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1785: Ms. PORTER and Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 1806: Mr. OGLES and Mr. CISCOMANI.
H.R. 1826: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 1831: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 2400: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2413: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 2584: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LATURNER, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 2630: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2743: Mr. FLEISCHMANN and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 2802: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2870: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2880: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 2889: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 2941: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 2966: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 2994: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2998: Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 3005: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 3112: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 3183: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 3303: Mr. KENNEDY and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 3347: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 3350: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 3386: Ms. McCLELLAN.
H.R. 3408: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 3416: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3417: Ms. VAN DUYNÉ.
H.R. 3432: Ms. TOKUDA and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 3464: Mr. ALFORD.
H.R. 3474: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 3482: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3592: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3611: Mr. CRANE and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 3656: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3713: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 3768: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 3776: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3777: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 3790: Ms. NORTON and Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3850: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 3869: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 3933: Mrs. McCLAIN.
H.R. 4040: Ms. SCHRIER and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 4104: Mr. BUCSHON.
H.R. 4121: Ms. WATERS, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4149: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 4170: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 4235: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 4238: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 4327: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4335: Mr. FULCHER and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 4338: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 4340: Ms. McCOLLUM, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BEYER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. TRONE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. AMO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4427: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 4456: Mr. CARSON and Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 4519: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4541: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 4602: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4663: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 4682: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 4721: Mr. COLLINS.
H.R. 4758: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 4769: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 4812: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 4911: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 4942: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4972: Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 4992: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 5003: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5012: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 5023: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 5030: Mr. FONG and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5041: Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 5048: Ms. ROSS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 5049: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 5077: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 5099: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5103: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 5221: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 5292: Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 5295: Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 5408: Mr. LIEU and Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 5433: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 5435: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 5488: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 5526: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 5530: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 5539: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 5608: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H.R. 5644: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 5669: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 5762: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 5778: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 5813: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 5819: Ms. WILD and Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 5840: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 5934: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 5970: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 5979: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5995: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 6023: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 6049: Mr. LIEU and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 6089: Mr. BENTZ.
H.R. 6173: Mr. GRJALVA.
H.R. 6176: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 6201: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. GUEST, Mr. STELL, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 6203: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 6205: Mr. PENCE, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. MENG, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 6229: Mr. MENENDEZ.
H.R. 6330: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 6414: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 6545: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 6598: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 6600: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 6618: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 6656: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6727: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BACON, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 6748: Mr. TRONE and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 6763: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 6766: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 6816: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 6887: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 6933: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 6937: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 6945: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 6951: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 6961: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 7007: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 7070: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 7087: Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 7134: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 7142: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 7185: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 7213: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 7221: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 7266: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 7279: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 7311: Mr. SUOZZI and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 7346: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 7361: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 7378: Mr. COSTA and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 7379: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 7384: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 7398: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 7438: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KEATING, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. BUDZINSKI, and Mr. ROSE.
H.R. 7480: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 7483: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 7563: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 7573: Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 7577: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 7629: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 7647: Mr. TRONE, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Mr. GOMEZ.
H.R. 7661: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 7671: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 7688: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. MENENDEZ.
H.R. 7725: Mr. BURLISON.
H.R. 7770: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. DELUZZIO, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. AMO, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. PELTOLA, and Mr. FROST.
H.R. 7779: Mr. AMODEI and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 7808: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 7828: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 7829: Ms. NORTON and Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 7857: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 7891: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 7894: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 7914: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 7921: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 7932: Mr. CARTER of Georgia and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 7936: Ms. SEWELL and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 7954: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 7977: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 8005: Mr. MAGAZINER.
H.R. 8025: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 8061: Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. LIEU, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 8108: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.
H.R. 8114: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 8117: Ms. CROCKETT.

- H.R. 8132: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. McCORMICK.
 H.R. 8164: Mr. HARDER of California and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 8195: Mr. WOMACK.
 H.R. 8206: Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. MAST, and Ms. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 8221: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
 H.R. 8260: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 8281: Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. MILLS.
 H.R. 8297: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California and Mr. MOULTON.
 H.R. 8300: Mr. RYAN.
 H.R. 8307: Mrs. BICE and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
 H.R. 8331: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. DELUZIO.
 H.R. 8390: Ms. SALINAS.
 H.R. 8407: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 8408: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
 H.R. 8419: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 8422: Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 8423: Ms. BALINT and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 8426: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. AMO, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
 H.R. 8458: Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 8466: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.
 H.R. 8501: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
 H.R. 8521: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
 H.R. 8524: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
 H.R. 8543: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 8551: Mr. STEUBE.
 H.R. 8560: Mrs. RAMIREZ and Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 8568: Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 8602: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
 H.R. 8607: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. COSTA, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
 H.R. 8610: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
 H.R. 8617: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 8621: Mrs. PELTOLA.
 H.R. 8622: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H.R. 8623: Mr. SCHIFF.
 H.R. 8631: Mr. MEUSER.
 H.R. 8641: Ms. CHU, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Mrs. TORRES of California.
 H.R. 8645: Mr. GIMENEZ.
 H.R. 8647: Mr. BOST.
 H.R. 8658: Mr. FOSTER.
 H.R. 8664: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
 H.R. 8671: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.J. Res. 72: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
 H.J. Res. 76: Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
 H.J. Res. 82: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. FOSTER.
 H.J. Res. 130: Mr. COLLINS.
 H.J. Res. 133: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. ALLEN.
 H.J. Res. 135: Mr. COLLINS.
 H.J. Res. 140: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.J. Res. 141: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.J. Res. 142: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.J. Res. 143: Mr. HUDSON and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
 H.J. Res. 144: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.J. Res. 148: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
 H.J. Res. 160: Mrs. BICE and Mr. BOST.
 H.J. Res. 163: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
 H.J. Res. 164: Mr. ISSA, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. COLLINS, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. McCORMICK.
 H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. COSTA, Ms. PORTER, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
 H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. DONALDS.
 H. Res. 133: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
 H. Res. 146: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
 H. Res. 269: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H. Res. 348: Mr. VARGAS.
 H. Res. 445: Mr. EVANS.
 H. Res. 520: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H. Res. 882: Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. EVANS.
 H. Res. 915: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
 H. Res. 965: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
 H. Res. 1014: Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H. Res. 1063: Ms. STEVENS.
 H. Res. 1079: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
 H. Res. 1148: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. HOUGHIN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
 H. Res. 1206: Ms. STEVENS.
 H. Res. 1220: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
 H. Res. 1268: Mr. LATURNER.
 H. Res. 1270: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H. Res. 1271: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H. Res. 1272: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H. Res. 1278: Ms. NORTON.



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No. 98

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Architect and Creator of our destinies, we marvel at Your power, majesty, and might. From the beginning, Your grace has underlain the foundations of our lives, so we ask that You would lead us in the paths of Your purposes.

Today, awaken in our lawmakers the ability to see the opportunities that exist in the challenges they face. May this knowledge motivate them to move forward with faith, optimism, and peace.

Lord, show them unused resources that can be mobilized to solve problems and to make dreams become reality. When they experience doubts and uncertainties, give them the wisdom to ask for Your Guidance.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 11, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WELCH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

ISRAEL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on Saturday, in a daring daytime raid, Israel rescued four innocent hostages who had suffered in Hamas captivity since October 7. The mission was the

product of careful planning. It demanded the utmost secrecy, professionalism, and bravery. In the case of one elite commander, it required the ultimate sacrifice.

The people of Israel can take pride in their Nation's dedication to restoring its security and delivering justice for the brutal attacks that shattered a quiet Sabbath morning last fall.

Of course, the same operation also exposed even further the tremendous obstacle that continues to threaten Israel's sovereignty and block the prospect of peace for both Israelis and Palestinians. It brought into focus the appalling lengths to which hardened terrorists will go to sow chaos and exploit innocent suffering, and it raised uncomfortable questions about the broader complicity of some Palestinian civilians.

With the help of U.S. intelligence, the Israeli forces' mission led them not to the depths of Hamas terror tunnels but to the heart of a refugee camp run by the United Nations and to the family home of a Hamas terrorist who self-identified as a journalist.

So the brutal exploitation of civilians is a well-documented tactic in Hamas's playbook. These are, after all, the terrorists who repeatedly deploy their weapons and combatants in or beneath schools, hospitals, and mosques in order to use civilians as human shields. The detention of Israeli hostages in family homes is a predictable extension of this despicable practice, and every drop of blood spilt this weekend is the responsibility of the party that violated a cease-fire, launched a barbaric attack, took innocent hostages, and has refused calls from around the world to release them.

These are the basic facts, but predictably, they are not what we read over the weekend in the coverage of Western media. Instead of outrage that a Hamas terrorist would exploit their profession as a cover for hostage-keeping, major publications have directed their indignation at Israel for seeing through the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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terrorists' flimsy cover as doctors and journalists and daring to bring its people home.

One major national newspaper's initial coverage of the raid made no mention of the fact that Hamas had chosen to hide its hostages in private homes. Just days after publishing its own analysis of the bogus casualty reporting of the Hamas-run Gaza Ministry of Health, another outlet reverted to breathlessly parroting the terrorist group's own death toll propaganda in the headlines of its coverage on the hostage rescue. And to the surprise of absolutely no one, the U.N.'s so-called Special Rapporteur on Palestinian human rights shamelessly accused Israel of using hostages to legitimize killing innocent civilians.

If this—if this—is the media diet the American people have to consume, then what came next should surprise no one.

In New York, masked protesters waving Hezbollah flags jeered at visitors to an exhibit honoring the victims of the October 7 attack on the music festival from which the hostages freed this weekend were abducted. Predictably, news broadcasts characterized the protesters, who chanted "Long live the intifada" and "Israel, go to hell," were merely pro-Palestinian, not anti-Israel.

Meanwhile, unhinged throngs of Hamas apologists occupied Lafayette Square, outside the White House, defacing statues, attacking law enforcement, and chanting disgusting anti-Semitic slurs—a generation of useful idiots and fifth columnists adrift on a sea of performative sympathy for terrorists and beyond the reach of fact or reality. Lest anyone doubt, this contagion is not confined to so-called elite universities.

Americans who are rightly worried about crime and violence may wonder why on Earth the President would permit this lawlessness on Federal property, let alone the park outside the White House, or why no arrests were made. They especially ought to wonder why the Biden administration chose this moment, as the people of Israel celebrated a small but precious victory in securing the freedom of four of its citizens, to try to box Israel in with a stunt—a stunt—vote at the U.N. and why the White House so desperately wants to constrain our ally's freedom of movement and to micromanage its military.

This weekend's developments may feel like a significant inflection point, but the fundamental realities of this situation have not changed. Israel has a right to defend itself. Terrorists have no right to take innocent hostages, and they alone—they alone—bear responsibility for the consequences of their actions.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on another matter, I haven't spared any breath calling attention to the parade of unfit nominees that the Biden administration would like to see confirmed to lifetime seats on the Federal bench.

I have urged my colleagues to consider Adeel Mangi's alarming connections to terrorist sympathizers and Nancy Maldonado's record of staggering unproductivity in the lower court. So it is only fitting that I call attention to another nominee whose affiliations bear all the hallmarks of the dark money influence that so animates some of our senior-most colleagues on the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate hears a great deal from our colleague the junior Senator from Rhode Island on the subject of dark money, but so far, I haven't heard him express any concern that Sparkle Sooknanan, nominated to the DC Circuit Court, has secured the support of Robert Raben.

Mr. Raben, of course, is a notorious shepherd of liberal nominees whose client list reads like a who's-who of liberal dark money, with groups backed by everyone from George Soros to Arabella Advisors.

Apparently, this nominee engaged in a discussion with Mr. Raben and his associates after—after—her nomination was announced. This sort of contact between liberal nominees and liberal handlers doesn't fit with the Senate Democrats' idea of dark money influence as simply a conservative pastime.

So it is hardly surprising that senior members of the Judiciary Committee's majority haven't found time to scrutinize Ms. Sooknanan with the sort of vigor they devote to tarring organizers for conservative causes.

Of course, maybe Senate Democrats actually support Ms. Sooknanan's legal defense of so-called vulture funds as they cut to the front of the line of Puerto Rico's creditors.

One Democratic House Member from New York says the success makes her nomination "an insult to the people of Puerto Rico." Ah, but what does she know?

Or maybe they agree with Ms. Sooknanan's supposedly conservative former law firm that she didn't disparage the former President's election-litigation efforts on a conference call and that the New York Times is simply lying when they say that she did.

It just doesn't add up, unless the real ledger being used is the one with liberal dark money from Robert Raben and Arabella Advisors.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NOVA MUSIC FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last Friday, I had the opportunity to visit the Nova exhibit in New York City, downtown on Wall Street.

The exhibit documents what happened on October 7. Thousands of beautiful young people gathered, as the Sun was setting, at a music festival. When you go into the exhibit, the first thing you see is thousands of young people dancing, embracing each other, and as happy as can be—young people, beautiful, in the prime of their lives, the

Sun shining on them as it was setting—only to realize what had happened.

The rest of the exhibit documents the brutal murder of these young people—innocent, happy, young people with so much of their lives in front of them. We see vicious Hamas terrorists machine-gunning, brutalizing, and we hear interviews that are done by the families and those who were there.

So it was a wrenching experience, the contrast—this exhibit was so well done—of those beautiful young people, happily enjoying life and then knowing that hundreds of them would be slain brutally and scores of them would be kidnapped by terrorists, running away in fear.

What was even worse—or at least adding salt into the wound—was that just a day or two after I visited the exhibit, protesters gathered outside the exhibit, chanting repugnant anti-Semitic phrases, donning banners that read: "Long Live October 7th," and "The Zionists are not Jews and not humans." How low can you go?

Having visited the exhibit and seeing those young people, then knowing and seeing on film what happened to them at the vicious hands of Hamas, and then having people come outside and protest and say "Long Live October 7th"; "The Zionists are not Jews and not humans"—how repugnant, how despicable, how terribly unnerving that humanity could sink that low.

It is the lowest of low for anyone to protest an exhibit dedicated to honoring the memory of precious lives that were brutally murdered by Hamas. It is sick that anyone should show up at an exhibit like this to protest.

The protest and the vitriolic rhetoric outside the Nova exhibit were nothing short of despicable, inhumane, and anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism, like what occurred outside the Nova Music Festival Exhibition, has no place in our city, in our State, or in America.

RIGHT TO IVF ACT

Now, Mr. President, it has been 2 years since Donald Trump and the MAGA Republicans succeeded in eliminating Roe, ripping away the right to choose and jeopardizing reproductive care for millions upon millions of women.

Today, women and families across America are worried about more than Roe's demise. They are worried about what comes next, including the erosion of reproductive freedoms nobody thought were at risk. This includes access to services like IVF.

Eighty-six percent of Americans support IVF. But in the aftermath of Roe and after frightening decisions like the one from Alabama, many families fear that this basic service cannot be taken for granted.

That is not theoretical. Here in Congress, some on the hard right are already trying to restrict IVF access. The Senate can ease people's worries and protect their freedoms through legislation.

This week, the Senate will vote on the Right to IVF Act, led by my colleagues Senators DUCKWORTH, MURRAY, and BOOKER. The Right to IVF Act establishes a nationwide right to IVF and eliminates barriers for millions of families looking to use IVF to start and grow a family.

Protecting IVF should be one of the easiest votes the Senate has taken all year. The vast majority of Senators should agree that strengthening treatments that help people start a family is a good thing.

In fact, I have seen personally the immense good IVF can do. I have seen it in my own family. One of my grandkids was conceived with the help of IVF treatment, and we are immensely grateful we had access to this service. I can't imagine what we would have done if they had told us: Sorry, we are no longer offering this treatment. Thank God we never had to deal with that.

My family's story can be repeated over and over and over again in the country, millions of times. Millions of Americans have the joy of children, thanks to IVF.

So in no way, shape, or form is protecting IVF a show vote. It is a "show us who you are" vote. Remember what some Senators said when we first pushed marriage equality 2 years ago. They called that a "show vote," "gimmicky," and a "waste." And, lo and behold, after a lot of hard work, enough Senators on both sides worked together, and marriage equality became a law. That bill certainly wasn't a show vote, and neither is this one.

So let me say this again: 86 percent of Americans support protecting IVF, and just 14 percent of Americans say it shouldn't be legal.

Supporting this bill should be a no-brainer here in the Senate, and it is all the more urgent, given what House Republican extremists are doing right now to attack women's healthcare through the appropriations process.

Just last week, the hard right stuffed the VA funding bill with poison pills that would rip away reproductive care for our veterans.

And let's not forget, 3 months ago, the Republicans Study Committee, which includes 80 percent of House Republicans—an overwhelming majority of them—pushed a radical new agenda that would endanger IVF treatment, along with a national abortion ban with zero exceptions for rape and incest—80 percent of House Republicans, an abortion ban with no exceptions for rape or incest. That is how far right that group has become on this issue. What a nasty and awful and out-of-touch message to send to the American people.

Instead of pushing policies that the vast majority of Americans support, House Republicans continue to focus only on their most extreme constituencies.

Here in the Senate, we should choose a different path, one where we show the

American people that we protect the rights they care about. And this IVF bill would be a good way to do that.

FERC NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on the FERC nominations, this week, the Senate has several important nominees to confirm to one of the most important Agencies, with a daunting-sounding name: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

FERC, as it is usually called, rarely shows up on people's radar screens, but its mission is essential. Every time you turn on the light or touch the thermostat or see new powerlines go up, the rules and regulations and policies of FERC are at work. FERC ensures the rates of electricity remain just and reasonable. That is their job, to do that. It regulates the transmission of power across State lines. It ensures our power grid is safe and reliable.

But if the Senate does not act soon, FERC could soon lose its quorum, and much of its work could come to a halt. If these vacancies go on for too long, it would create serious backlog and delay, potentially slowing down new projects that power people's homes and cities.

So I am glad to move forward on three new FERC nominations here on the Senate floor. I hope we can confirm all three by the end of the week so FERC can keep its quorum and continue its mission of providing Americans with affordable, reliable, and safe energy.

I thank Chairman MANCHIN and Ranking Member BARRASSO for working together in a bipartisan way and in good faith to bring these nominees through.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Rosner cloture motion be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that I have been working on for quite some time.

It was over 20 years ago that I introduced the DREAM Act. I introduced it with Republican Senator Orrin Hatch, who was then chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. In fact, there was a little competition, at the start, as to who would be the first named on the bill. Senator Hatch insisted that he had the idea before me. I deferred to him, as being in the majority and as chairman of the committee.

This bipartisan legislation would provide a pathway to citizenship for young immigrants brought to the United States as children and allow them to remain in this country—in fact, the only country they have ever called home.

These young people grew up alongside our own children, with the same

hopes of getting their first job, applying to college, getting a driver's license, having a bright future. And many have gone on to serve as doctors, nurses, teachers, engineers, and first responders.

Yet, without congressional action for more than two decades, every day is spent in fear of their lives being uprooted, facing fear of deportation.

I am amazed when I think about the issue of immigration. When you really come to understand America and its place in the history of the world, you realize that we are first and foremost a nation of immigrants—people who have come from every corner of the world to be part of the American dream, who, despite the odds, have overcome hardship and really built a future for themselves and made this great Nation what it is today. And yet every successive generation seems to go through the debate as to whether or not immigration is a good thing.

I think we all agree that we need an orderly process at our borders and otherwise when it comes to immigration. I think we all agree that we cannot absorb every person in the world who wants to be part of the United States today.

We have a priority to first look at those who live in this country and to measure our needs economically with the reality of immigration. We also have an obligation to only allow those to come to this country who are going to be safe and not cause any danger to those of us who live here. These are the basics.

But having said that, we are in desperate need of immigrants coming to this country for so many reasons.

Just yesterday, I was in Chicago taking a look at a new, innovative research project that is going on with our Department of Defense. The gentleman who was showing me the project is named Ben Hernandez. It is called Numat, N-U-M-A-T. It is a new material that will keep our troops safe from biological and chemical warfare.

It is amazing. His partner in this effort is Dr. Farha. Dr. Farha is Palestinian. He came to this country and used his skill to engage in this effort to keep our men and women in uniform safer—another immigrant, another immigrant story, another success story for America.

This week marks the 12th anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, known as DACA. President Obama created DACA in response to a request that I made with Senator Richard Lugar, Republican of Indiana. When we couldn't pass the DREAM Act, I appealed to the President to use his Executive authority to create a program that would protect these young people as long as possible. He came up with DACA.

Under this program, 830,000 individuals were able to be protected. Now, they had to go through a background check, every 2 years they had to renew their application, and they had to pay

a fee. That was understood. But it seemed like a reasonable thing to allow these talented people to stay in America and be part of our future.

DACA has protected more than 830,000 young people from deportation, all of whom were brought to this country as children, some as young as just a few months old.

Last month, I held a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on the importance of protecting Dreamers and DACA. We heard from some amazing witnesses who showed why it is so important that we do this.

One of the witnesses was Officer Mitchell Soto Rodriguez from my State of Illinois. She is the first-ever DACA recipient to serve as a police officer with the Blue Island, IL, Police Department. She was very clear: Without DACA, that would not have been possible. Now she is realizing her dream as a part of the police force of this community.

Let me share another story of a talented DACA recipient contributing to our country. I have come to the floor of the Senate 143 times, as of today, to tell these stories. I believe each one tells a better story than any speech I could give on the subject.

This young man's name is Wilmer Palacios. He comes from a small village in Guatemala. He came to Los Angeles when he was 14 years old. His dream: He wanted to be a registered nurse. But he didn't think it was possible because he was undocumented.

The day Wilmer heard about DACA in 2012, he immediately switched his degree to pre-nursing because, for the first time, he finally felt that he could fulfill his dream.

Mr. Palacios has held DACA status almost since the program's inception 12 years ago. He now has a master's of science degree in nursing and is a registered nurse and family nurse practitioner in a medical cardiac intensive care unit in Fresno, CA. His ultimate goal is to open a medical clinic in a low-income community, and he would like to serve in the U.S. Army as a nurse.

Do we need nurses in America? Let me tell you—go to your local hospital and ask the first person in management that question, and they will tell you we are desperate; we need more nurses. We need more people like Wilmer.

He recently said: DACA offered me the freedom and opportunities I never thought possible growing up, but I cannot deny that I live in constant fear—constant fear—of a court decision and a Presidential election that can take it all away.

DACA has allowed Wilmer to pursue his dreams for now, but it was always intended to be temporary, until Congress acted. The fact is, with precious few exceptions, for 30 years, Congress has failed to act and upgrade our immigration laws.

Everybody knows the immigration system in this country is broken. And

to fix it, we need a determined Senate, House of Representatives, and a President who is looking for a constructive solution. It has been hard to find.

Since President Obama established the DACA Program, Republicans have waged a relentless campaign to overturn DACA and deport these Dreamers back to countries they barely knew. Now, this program is hanging by a thread in the courts due to legal challenges from Republican State attorneys general, and DACA recipients like Wilmer Palacios are being forced to live with uncertainty every single day.

Last September, a Federal judge in Texas declared DACA illegal. Though the decision left in place protections for the current recipients, these Dreamers live in constant fear that the next court decision will upend their lives.

The litigation has also prevented at least 100,000 additional Dreamers from registering for the program. Keep in mind, those who register for the program go through a background check. When I hear people describe our immigrant population in America as murderers, rapists, terrorists, and the insane, I think to myself: Who are they talking about?

These DACA recipients—over 800,000 of them—go through background checks to make certain they are no danger to the United States; and like Mr. Palacios, they turn out to be absolutely essential to our future.

One study estimated that if DACA were to end, 1,000 U.S. workers would be out of work every business day for the next 2 years. Losing 1,000 workers like Wilmer—1,000 every day. Business owners in my State tell me they need more skilled workers.

There isn't a hospital in the State of Illinois that doesn't want a nurse like Mr. Palacios, who has a master's degree in nursing. They are desperate for them.

Some would say: Send them away. Deport them. They are not Americans. Some use harsh terms like they poison the blood of America. I couldn't disagree more. These people are part of our future. They are good, solid people who will be good citizens of the United States.

The threat just doesn't come from the courts. When he was President, President Donald Trump tried to end the DACA Program and deport people like Wilmer Palacios. And it is clear that, given the chance, he would try it again.

If my Republican colleagues will join us, Congress can protect the Dreamers and DACA recipients. I urge my colleagues: Meet the Dreamers personally. You will realize they are not a threat to this country; they are the future of our country. They can bring to us things that we need desperately.

They have earned the right to live in this country without fear. They should be able to put down roots, start families, further their education, and contribute to our society without the fear of deportation hanging over them.

It is time for Congress to get to work on a bipartisan basis and pass the DREAM Act. It is the right thing, and it is long overdue. I thought we had a chance to do that a few weeks ago. There was a bipartisan bill that moved forward. I look back at it and say that JAMES LANKFORD, a Republican conservative from Oklahoma, and two other Senators—CHRIS MURPHY and KYRSTEN SINEMA—all came together with a bill which would have really moved us forward in bringing order to the border, ending the crisis that we found there; put more resources into stopping the illegal flow of drugs into the United States; hire more people to do the jobs at the borders.

A leading union for Border Patrol agents endorsed this bipartisan bill. Well, what happened to it? Why wasn't it passed? Why didn't the Senate pass this bill?

There is one reason, and it is very public. The former President of the United States, Donald Trump, said: I don't want this bill to move forward. I want this issue to remain in the campaign until November.

So our opportunity for a bipartisan solution to this problem was lost.

We have got to move back to the point where we are working on a bipartisan basis to solve this program. We can do it. Virtually all of us who believe that immigration is an integral part of the history and future of the United States have an obligation to the American people to meet that responsibility.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Vermont.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me be as clear as I can be. That is, the American people—whether they are Democrats, Republicans, or Independents—are sick and tired of paying, by far, the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. The American people are sick and tired of being ripped off by giant pharmaceutical companies who make huge profits every year while charging us outrageous prices that the American people cannot afford.

A few months ago, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee—the HELP Committee—that I chair held a hearing on the extraordinarily high prices of prescription drugs in the United States, and this is what we learned.

We learned that Merck, one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, made \$14.5 billion in profits last year charging Americans struggling with diabetes \$6,900 for Januvia, when the same exact product can be purchased in Canada for \$900 and in France for \$200.

Here you go: \$6,900 in the United States, \$900 in Canada, \$200 in France. This is not a generic. This is the exact same product.

We found that this same company—which, by the way, could afford to

spend \$7 billion last year on dividends and a \$52 million compensation package for its CEO—\$52 million for its CEO—charges Americans struggling with cancer \$191,000 for Keytruda, while the same exact drug can be purchased in Canada for \$112,000, \$91,000 in France, and \$89,000 in Germany.

Keytruda: \$191,000 in the United States, \$112,000 in Canada, and \$91,000 in France.

And it is not just Merck. This is Merck, but it is not just Merck. Our committee also discovered that Bristol Myers Squibb, a company that made over \$6 billion in profits last year, charges patients in America \$7,100 for Eliquis, the popular blood thinner, when that same exact product can be purchased for just \$900 in Canada and just \$650 in France.

Eliquis: \$7,100 in the United States; \$900 in Canada; and \$650 in France—same exact product.

That same company, Bristol Myers Squibb—which, by the way, could afford to spend some \$14 billion on stock buybacks and dividends and hand out \$41 million in compensation to its CEO last year—charges Americans with cancer \$192,000 for Opdivo, while that same exact drug can be purchased for just \$89,000 in Canada and \$68,000 in France.

Opdivo, cancer drug: \$192,000 in America, \$89,000 in Canada, \$68,000 in France—same product, same company.

What else did our committee learn from its investigation? Well, we found out that Johnson & Johnson, which made over \$18 billion in profits last year, charges cancer patients \$204,000 for Imbruvica, which can be purchased for just \$46,000 in the UK and \$43,000 in France.

And that same company, which recently spent over \$17 billion on stock buybacks and dividends and gave its CEO a \$27 million compensation package last year, charges Americans with arthritis \$79,000 for Stelara when it can be purchased for just \$30,000 in Germany and \$16,000 in the UK. Stelara, Johnson & Johnson: \$79,000 in the United States, \$16,000 in the UK, \$30,000 in Germany.

Let us be clear. It is not just Bristol Myers Squibb. It is not just Merck. It is not just Johnson & Johnson. Incredibly—and this is quite incredible and unbelievable and talks to our broken and dysfunctional healthcare system—while one out of four Americans cannot afford the medicine their doctors prescribe, 10 top pharmaceutical companies in our country made over \$110 billion in profits last year and spent tens of billions on stock buybacks and dividends. In other words, you have the insane situation where people get sick. They go to the doctor. The doctor writes out a prescription. They cannot afford to fill that prescription. Well, if you are sick and you can't afford to fill the prescription, what happens to you? Likely, you even get sicker. You may end up in the hospital at an additional cost to the system, not to mention human suffering.

As the chair of the Senate HELP Committee, one of the top priorities for me is to try to substantially reduce the price of prescription drugs in the United States. And one of the ways to do that, in my view, is to hold the executives of some of the largest pharmaceutical companies in our country accountable for their actions; let them know that we understand what is going on and that the American people will not accept what is going on.

That brings us to another major pharmaceutical company, and that is Novo Nordisk, the manufacturer of the blockbuster drugs Ozempic and Wegovy. On April 24, the HELP Committee launched an investigation into the unbelievably high prices Novo Nordisk charges for Ozempic and Wegovy in the United States for millions of our people who are struggling with diabetes and obesity. We have an epidemic in this country of diabetes and obesity. People need these very, very important drugs.

Today, our investigation has found that Novo Nordisk charges Americans with type 2 diabetes \$969 a month for Ozempic, while the same exact drug can be purchased for just \$59 in Germany, \$122 in Denmark, and \$155 in Canada. Here we got it. Ozempic, blockbuster drug, important drug dealing with diabetes and obesity: United States, \$969, Canada \$155, Denmark, \$122, Germany, \$59. The same exact drug made by the same company is almost 10 times higher—more than 10 times higher. My arithmetic is not that good. It looks to be almost 20 times higher between the United States and Germany.

Novo Nordisk charges Americans with obesity—that was for diabetes—\$1,349 a month for Wegovy, while the same exact product can be purchased for just \$92 in the UK, \$186 in Denmark, and \$265 in Canada. Further, if half of the adults in our country—this is not an unreasonable projection. If half of the adults in our country with obesity took Wegovy, which is apparently a very successful drug, and the other new weight loss drugs, it could cost—and this is quite incredible, and every Member of Congress should be listening to this—it would cost us, as a nation, \$411 billion every year for weight-loss drugs dealing with diabetes and obesity. That is \$5 billion more than what Americans spent on all—A-L-L—all prescription drugs at the pharmacy counter in 2022.

Let me repeat it. If we do not change, fundamentally change, this scenario, Americans could be spending more at these incredibly absurd prices on weight-loss drugs than on all prescription drugs at the pharmacy counter for cancer, for whatever—more for weight-loss drugs than all the other drugs in the country. Clearly, it doesn't take an economist to understand that this is unsustainable. It can't happen.

The HELP Committee also found that if half of all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries who are obese—not

talking about diabetes, talking about obesity—took Wegovy and other weight-loss drugs, Medicare and Medicaid could spend \$166 billion every year, roughly what these two major healthcare programs spent on all retail prescription drugs in 2022. That would also be unsustainable.

The scientists at Novo Nordisk and the other drug companies deserve a lot of credit and thanks for developing these important lifesaving drugs. But these drugs mean nothing for the millions of people who cannot afford them. And if we do not substantially lower the prices these companies are charging, they will have a disastrous impact on the Federal deficit and the future of Medicare and Medicaid.

So all of those people worried about the Federal deficit, worried about the future of Medicare and Medicaid, listen up because just these drugs, Ozempic and Wegovy, can bankrupt those programs. We have, in my view, a moral responsibility to make sure that every American with diabetes and obesity who receives a prescription for Ozempic or Wegovy can afford to purchase those drugs. It would be a horrible thing for somebody who was in need of those drugs, who could be helped by those drugs, to not to be able to get them because they can't afford these outrageous prices.

Further, as Members of the Congress, we have a fiscal responsibility to make sure that Ozempic and Wegovy do not bankrupt Medicare, Medicaid, and, in fact, our entire healthcare system, which already spends twice as much per capita on healthcare as the people of any other country.

That is why the HELP Committee has, time and time again, invited the leadership of Novo Nordisk to voluntarily testify about the unconscionably high prices they are charging for these drugs in the United States. The reason why we invited the executives at Novo Nordisk to testify before Congress is not complicated. It is a very, very simple question that we want answered. And that question is, Why do they think it is acceptable for Novo Nordisk to charge Americans \$969 for Ozempic when that same exact drug can be purchased for just \$59 in Germany and \$155 in Canada? We want to ask them why they think it is acceptable to charge Americans \$1,349 for Wegovy when that same drug can be purchased for just \$92 in the United Kingdom.

After all is said and done, what are we trying to accomplish? The answer is obvious, and the answer is simple. We want Novo Nordisk to stop ripping off the American people, and we want them to stop charging us prices that are far, far higher than they charge the people of other countries. That is what I want to see, and that is what the overwhelming majority of American people want to see.

Unfortunately, despite the many, many discussions that I and my staff have had with Novo Nordisk over the past several months, I must confess

that we have made virtually no progress in getting them to lower their prices. We have asked the leadership of the company to come before the committee to explain why their prices are so much higher in the United States than in other countries. Unfortunately, they have not agreed to do that.

Therefore, the HELP Committee has no choice but to subpoena the leadership of Novo Nordisk to testify and explain their actions. I look forward to the presence of the leadership of Novo Nordisk at a HELP Committee hearing on July 10.

Let me be very clear. The HELP Committee that I chair will continue to ask the tough questions that the pharmaceutical industry would prefer us to ignore: Why is it that the median price of new prescription drugs in America is now over \$300,000, including for many new cancer drugs? Why has the pharmaceutical industry spent over the past 25 years some \$8.5 billion on lobbying and over \$700 million on campaign contributions?

Right now, as we speak, there are some 1,800 well-paid lobbyists of the pharmaceutical industry all over Washington, former leaders of the Republican Party and the Democratic Party, doing everything they can to make sure we do not ask those questions and that we are not successful in getting them to lower their prices.

Mr. President, let me conclude the way I began. This is an issue that is not a Democratic issue. It is not a Republican issue. It is not an Independent issue. The American people are sick and tired of being ripped off by the pharmaceutical industry, sick and tired of paying by far the highest prices in the world.

And the time is now for the Congress to have the courage to stand up to the 1,800 paid lobbyists here in Washington, DC, all the campaign contributions that come in, and tell the industry enough is enough. Lower the prices you are charging the American people.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CORDRAY

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize my friend and my former colleague, Rich Cordray. Rich's career demonstrates public service at its very best.

Nearly 14 years ago, I picked up the phone and made one of the smartest phone calls I have ever made. It was to Rich Cordray. I asked him to take a chance on me to join me in starting a new Federal Agency. That just-getting-started Agency turned out to be the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Rich was finishing up his term as attorney general for the State of Ohio. As AG, he had earned a strong reputation for being the kind of public servant who looks out for the little guy. He was in multiple battles, and he led major lawsuits against both Bank of America and AIG. Protecting con-

sumers seemed to be in his blood, so it was a natural fit for Rich to take charge of the enforcement arm of the CFPB.

Establishing the CFPB was a huge task. Critics said the new consumer Agency was a pipe dream. Republicans said that it would never get through Congress. Armies of lobbyists poured millions of dollars into opposing it. But none of that fazed Rich at all. He always stayed level, calm, and absolutely determined. He did the work needed to bring that Agency to life because that is just who he is.

Rich's courage and determination paid off. On July 18, 2011—a day I will never forget—I stood beside President Obama in the Rose Garden as he announced Rich Cordray as his nominee to be the first official Director of the CFPB. President Obama told me two things about Rich: He said he liked Rich, and he said he thought Rich would be a good leader. I agreed. I just knew that Rich would be terrific, and we were both right.

As CFPB Director, Rich forced the biggest financial institutions in this country to return billions of dollars to the consumers they cheated, and through his work, he proved that government could work not just for the millionaires and billionaires but for ordinary people.

One of the ways he did it was by having what I call the perfect balance of nerve and skill.

I will share just one story. Rich has never been shy about taking on the biggest financial institutions in this country. In the early days, he investigated Capital One for misleading customers about their cost of "free" add-ons to their credit cards. These "free" services actually cost customers a total of about \$140 million. So what did Rich do? He put in the work, fought back the armies of lobbyists and lawyers, and forced Capital One to send the hidden fees back to every single customer they had cheated. The best part—the customers didn't have to wade through reams of paperwork or stay on hold for hours. Rich set up the system so that the checks came automatically in the mail. He set the standard for what it means to protect consumers. But that is not all. On top of getting hard-working Americans their money back, Rich and his team got Capital One to pay an additional \$25 million fine. It takes a special kind of leader to get that done.

At every turn, Rich Cordray has been fearless. Thanks to Rich, the CFPB has become the watchdog that so many of us fought for, and his legacy is felt each and every day as the CFPB continues to put money back into the pockets of working people.

Since it got off the ground, the CFPB has now returned over \$20 billion and helped more than 205 million consumers. I will say that again—\$20 billion returned and 205 million consumers helped. That would not have happened without Rich Cordray. That

record of public service is awe-inspiring.

Nobody would have blamed Rich if he had said: OK, I am tired, and I am ready to throw in the towel. But that is not Rich. After his work at the CFPB, he asked: What more can I do? And for the past 3 years, he has led the Office of Federal Student Aid at the Department of Education—a powerfully important and often thankless gig.

Since joining the Department of Education, Rich has changed millions of lives for the better, and, again, that is not an exaggeration. His North Star was always clear. He worked day in and day out to protect working people who are getting crushed by student loan debt.

Rich stood up to the student loan servicers who were cheating Americans, and, like he did with the big banks, he held these guys accountable.

For years, servicers failed borrowers over and over and over but faced no consequences as they raked in hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars. Rich reversed the Trump-era guidance that stopped States from protecting their own residents against abusive servicer behavior. He implemented new accountability standards for servicers, and he backed that by hard data on customer service and performance. When those servicers didn't meet those standards, Rich wasn't afraid to hit them with penalties and push out the bad servicers. Rich was committed to ending the days of lousy service and big profits for the loan servicers.

One of the most important ways that Rich changed the lives of Americans all across this country was by over-seeing the Biden administration's efforts to cancel student debt. With Rich Cordray's help, President Biden has canceled more student loan debt than any President in the history of this country. Nearly 5 million people have seen their student loans canceled, and the administration has a plan to cancel debt for 30 million Americans in total.

Rich Cordray led the way in fixing the broken debt-cancellation programs and making them work for hard-working Americans. I will give you just one example on this.

Before President Biden took office, only 7,000 people in total, everywhere in the United States, had gotten relief through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program—7,000 total. Today, the laws are the same, but with Rich at the helm, nearly 1 million public servants have had their debt wiped out. For working people in this country, for mommas and daddies, for firefighters and nurses, for DMV workers down the street and the teacher at your local elementary school, this debt cancellation has been absolutely life-changing.

On a personal note, I am beyond proud of Rich. Rich is one of the most effective and honest public servants I have ever met. He has talent and dedication. But what makes him so special

is that Rich has always centered everyday Americans in his work. From serving as a State rep back in Ohio, to becoming their first ever solicitor general, to taking office as the State's treasurer and then its attorney general, Rich proved each and every day to the people of Ohio that their government could work for them. When he came to Washington, he always made sure that people all across America knew he was working for them. Whenever he traveled, wherever people reached out to him, Rich would listen. He would sit down with people, hear their stories, hear how they were cheated by a big bank or on a student loan, and then he would set about making things right.

Rich, the American people owe you a great debt for your work on their behalf. When our country needed you, you answered the call. You are a true example of public service and one of the most fearless leaders I have ever known. It is an honor to know you and an even higher honor to call you a friend.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Florida.

IVF

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, in vitro fertilization—or IVF, as most of us call it—has brought beautiful babies to so many families. IVF is a wonderful thing that enables so many Americans struggling with infertility to have children and start a family.

For me, it is personal. My youngest daughter has been undergoing IVF treatments to grow her family. But she is just one of countless Floridians and Americans using IVF to grow their families and bring life into the world.

While IVF remains available in all 50 States and there isn't any credible threat to it, I believe it is important for the Senate to make clear our unwavering support for current and aspiring parents using IVF to start and grow their families.

We ought to celebrate Americans trying to grow their families. I am proud to lead a resolution in the Senate doing just that. My resolution affirms the desire of parents trying to conceive a child to start or grow a family; expresses sympathy for the millions of parents experiencing infertility issues as they strive to start or grow a family and recognizes the immense physical, emotional, and psychological toll of pursuing medical assistance for infertility, including IVF; cherishes the millions of children born through the use of medical assistance to overcome infertility, including through IVF; recognizes that medical assistance for infertility, including IVF, is and remains legal in all States and territories in the United States; affirms that laws enacted by Congress should promote the sanctity of human life and support the development and growth of families in the United States; encourages further clinical research to improve outcomes for parents seeking medical assistance

to overcome infertility as they strive to start or grow a family; and supports State, legislative, and regulatory actions to establish health, safety, and ethical standards for medical facilities offering assisted reproductive technologies, including in vitro fertilization.

Now let me take a moment to clarify a few things about the bill the Democrats are pushing this week.

First, let's be clear, there is not a single State in the country that has outlawed IVF or has expressed any interest in outlawing IVF. This is just empty fearmongering by Democrats who would rather push unnecessary bills like this than take meaningful action to secure our border, improve our economy, or hold the radical members of the Biden administration accountable for their lawless conduct.

I think everyone here supports IVF, which is great because Democrats are typically advocating for unlimited abortion, not more babies, which is what we get with IVF.

If a State takes action against IVF, I will be the first to condemn it, but that isn't happening.

This is ugly politics at its worst.

I have the resolution I just outlined. I appreciate the work that Senators CRUZ and BRITT have done on this important topic.

Republicans support IVF, and the Democrats know that. But when we vote against this unnecessary bill, that is exactly what they will say when they attack us.

We will not accept this gross purity test from the radical left. The American people, who are much smarter than Democrats hope they are, see right through this.

Let's get to work solving real problems, like our wide-open southern border and the skyrocketing inflation crushing American families. That is the important work the Senate should have been focused on these last 2 weeks instead of taking political show votes for Democrats to shamelessly lie to the American people and themselves.

But if Democrats insist on taking action that impacts the ability to undergo IVF treatments, I have a proposal for them. We should help individuals and families better plan and pay for medical expenses, like IVF, by decoupling health savings accounts from high-deductible health plans, increasing the current contribution limits on HSAs, and demanding more upfront price transparency and outcome data from providers to allow families to easily shop for services to drive down costs through market forces.

I am working on a bill right now to allow every individual and family to better plan and pay for medical expenses, such as IVF, by expanding eligibility for health savings accounts and increasing the current contribution limits on those HSAs.

Helping folks financially plan as they try to expand their families is smart and the type of commonsense action

that families in all of our States expect from Washington, DC. They want action, not partisan politics or fearmongering, and the legislation I am drafting will be hugely beneficial to current and aspiring parents looking at IVF as a way to grow their families.

I hope Senator SCHUMER and every Democrat will commit to working with me on this and passing a good bill that will truly help countless families hoping to bring more babies into this world.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

AZERBAIJAN

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak out against Azerbaijan's unlawful detention of Armenian prisoners of war and alarming record of rampant human rights violations.

On September 19, 2023, Azerbaijan launched a large-scale military attack against Nagorno-Karabakh to gain full control over the territory, causing a mass exodus of more than 100,000 ethnic Armenians—virtually all of the region's ethnic Armenians—as well as the regional government to capitulate.

Azerbaijan then falsely denied that it forced people to leave and insincerely promised that it will peacefully reintegrate the region and guarantee the rights of ethnic Armenians.

Instead, even after their surrender, Azerbaijan punitively arrested and detained leaders of the former Karabakh Government, including former State Minister Ruben Vardanyan, who is here as he is being arrested by Azerbaijan military officials.

Also, ex-Presidents Arkadi Ghukasyan, Bako Sahakyan, and Arayik Harutyunyan, Foreign Minister David Babayan, Parliament Speaker Davit Ishkhanyan, and former generals, Levon Mnatsakanyan and Davit Manukyan. These eight former officials have been held in pretrial detention for more than 8 months. And just last month, Azerbaijani authorities extended the detention with another 5 months—without a trial, without due process—and Azerbaijan has routinely resorted to hostage diplomacy, prolonging unlawful detention and using prisoners of war as bargaining chips to impose its demands on Armenia, in clear violation of international law.

In fact, Azerbaijan is still holding dozens of Armenian prisoners of war and civilian political prisoners that it took captive during the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war. And, additionally, widespread reporting—including from Human Rights Watch, the International Federation of Federal Rights, and the U.S. Department of State—calls attention to the terrible treatment of political prisoners by Azerbaijan.

Former State Minister Ruben Vardanyan alone has faced punitive extended stays in solitary confinement, poor prison conditions, denial of water and clean clothing, and orders that require him to stand for hours on end. He

was also cut off from his lawyer and family for several weeks. Others are subjected to physical abuse, humiliation, and cruel and inhumane treatment.

Despite its clear pattern of committing human rights violations, Azerbaijan has incurred few costs from the international community for its egregious abuses against ethnic Armenians and illegal detention of political prisoners. The Aliyev regime thinks it can continue acting in flagrant violation of international and U.S. law, which is why it is incumbent upon Congress to speak out and say no to Azerbaijan; no to hostage diplomacy and Azerbaijan's taking of political prisoners; no to subjecting political prisoners to cruel and inhumane punishment; no to denying the rights of ethnic Armenians in the region; and no to Azerbaijan delaying the release of the political prisoners even 1 more day.

Azerbaijan must cease all of its abuse of political prisoners. It must release all political prisoners and prisoners of war, and that is why I sent a letter to Secretary Anthony Blinken urging the State Department to prioritize the release of Armenian prisoners held by Azerbaijan and the right of Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenians to return to their homes in ongoing peace talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan says it wants peace, but what it really wants is to act with impunity and still be rewarded by the United States and the international community, including with the privilege of hosting the next United Nations International Climate Conference COP29 later on this year. You cannot, on the one hand, be saying you want to host the world and then simultaneously say but ignore our human rights violations. Ignore the fact that we just arrest the political leaders of another nation and pretend that somehow or another we are still worthy of hosting the climate summit for the planet.

I urge both Congress and the White House to insist, in all interactions with the Governments of Azerbaijan and Armenia, that the release of political prisoners must be a prerequisite to any concessions, awards, or peace deals reached. We must say no to Azerbaijan's violations of international law and human rights and ensure those responsible are held accountable.

This is the perfect time to be having this conversation. Azerbaijan is getting ready to host the climate summit of the world. We must ensure that we take this opportunity to put the spotlight on all of those political prisoners who are being held wrongly by the Azerbaijan Government. It is strictly a violation of international human rights, and I call upon our government and I call upon the world to put a spotlight on these political prisoners so that they are released before the climate summit is held at the end of this year.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it is Tuesday afternoon. The Senate has its first vote of the week coming up in a few minutes, and I am experiencing a sense of *deja vu*—as Yogi Berra said, “*Deja vu* all over again.”

This week, the majority leader has teed up three votes on President Biden's nominees followed by another partisan show vote, this time on in vitro fertilization. It is another made-up controversy.

In vitro fertilization provides hope for couples across the United States who are struggling to grow their families and has helped millions of babies enter the world. I support IVF, which has been a solution for millions of families struggling with infertility.

But there is no nationwide threat to the availability of in vitro fertilization, and I am deeply disappointed—but not surprised—that Democrats are trying to politicize something that enjoys such widespread support. There is no controversy over access to in vitro fertilization. After all, this is the third partisan show vote we have had recently.

Last week, the Senate voted on a handful of nominees and held another show vote on a nonexistent threat to contraception access. There is no threat to access to contraception. But the majority leader who schedules votes on the floor, who runs the agenda, decided he wanted to create a controversy out of thin air where there was none.

The previous week included votes on several nominees, and this time another show vote on a partisan border bill that the majority leader knew would fail but decided to have a show vote anyway.

Considering the many challenges our country is facing, this is hardly what the Senate should be doing. Families are grappling with high prices as a result of 40-year high inflation rates exacerbated by unchecked spending—throwing trillions of dollars on the inflation fire only to see it get worse and worse. The Federal Reserve has done what it can do, which is raise interest rates to try to slow down the growth of inflation. But the fact is, as Congress continues to shovel money out the door, it just makes things worse.

And people on a fixed income and people who have a modest earning are being hurt the most. The Wall Street Journal recently ran a story saying that a cart full of groceries that cost 100 bucks before the Biden administration came into office, or when it did come into office, now costs \$136. That is a 36-percent increase in inflation. Wages haven't kept up that much.

So what are people supposed to do when the government continues to make their quality of life and standard of living worse this time because of reckless spending?

The American people are concerned by crime and public safety in their

communities, and they are terrified by the spread of fentanyl, which is now the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 18 and 45. We know where the fentanyl comes from: The precursor chemicals come from China; the cartels then import them into Mexico where they are then transformed into a look-alike pill that is actually a counterfeit pill. But unbeknownst to the person who takes that pill, it is contaminated with fentanyl, and they lose their life.

I have been with numerous families who have lost their high school students to fentanyl poisoning. Their kids were full of potential, came from loving families, only to lose their life as a result of this deadly drug that comes across the border from Mexico.

So along with the millions of people that are flooding across the border, the drug cartels take advantage of the diversion of resources by the Border Patrol to move the drugs into the United States only to be spread throughout the country.

And, yes, Americans are concerned about the border crisis, the growing national debt, and American's weakening influence on the world stage. Given these and countless other challenges facing our country, it is indeed sad to see the Senate spending its work period—its limited resource—doing virtually nothing other than show votes for partisan political gain.

The issue isn't limited to how the Senate is spending its time but actually how little time we are actually in session. During the entire month of June, Senator SCHUMER, who sets the agenda, has the Senate working 9 days—9 days out of June.

Of course, many of those shouldn't really even count as a full day, like today, where the first vote is at 5:30 in the afternoon. Today, the Senate convened at 3 p.m. We will finish our work by dinner. We will be in session a full day tomorrow, and I imagine we will wrap up the workweek by after lunch on Thursday. That is what passes for a full workweek in the U.S. Senate under Senator SCHUMER's leadership.

We are supposed to be doing important work. That is why all of us who ran for office and have the privilege of holding office, representing our States here in the U.S. Senate, that is why we are here, but the schedule is barely enough time to be considered a part-time job. No American working out in communities across the country works half time for full-time pay, only the U.S. Senate under Senator SCHUMER's leadership.

The lack of action on the Senate floor is just part of the problem. It is really just scratching the surface. Committees, which is where most of the work gets done when the Senate is in session, clearly don't have much time to meet these days. And there are two committees that are working on absolutely critical and time-sensitive legislation right now, but when we are in session 2½ days a week, it is hard for them to get their work done.

First is the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is crafting the National Defense Authorization Act, something we have passed more than 60 years in a row here in the Senate. In times of peace, a strong Defense Authorization Act is critical, but in the current period of global turmoil, its importance cannot be overstated.

The National Defense Authorization Act was the key to modernizing our military, supporting our troops, and preserving America's military readiness in a very dangerous world. Given the threats we face from every corner of the planet, it is absolutely imperative that the Senate pass a strong Defense authorization bill this summer, but the majority leader's schedule created an impossible time crunch.

This week, members of the Armed Services Committee are effectively sprinting a marathon to complete their work on the National Defense Authorization Act. This is arduous, detailed, and time consuming, and it involves multiple hearings, markups, and hundreds of amendments.

Now, I appreciate Senator REED and Senator WICKER, the chairman and ranking member of that committee, and all of our colleagues on the committee who are giving the National Defense Authorization bill the time and attention it deserves. But the process here, under the majority leader, is making their job much harder, rather than easier.

Another committee that is working overtime this month to try to get its work done is the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is trying to mark up 12 annual funding bills. These are bills that fund our national defense, pay our servicemembers, and ensure that we can keep the lights on here in Washington and ensure that all the government operations—big and small—continue day to day.

When the Senate is only working 2½ days a week, it doesn't give the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Senator MURRAY, or the ranking member, Senator COLLINS, much room to maneuver. How are the members of the committee and subcommittees supposed to debate, amend, and advance 12 funding bills when the Senate is only working 9 days during a given month?

With this type of schedule, there is simply not enough hours in the day for our colleagues to complete their work. And given the Senate's schedule for the next several weeks, I am concerned about the prospects of any of these bills passing before the end of summer, much less before the end of the fiscal year, the end of September.

Simply put, the majority leader is setting the Senate up for failure. Including this week, we are scheduled to be in session for 5 weeks—5 weeks—before adjourning for the August recess.

In total, we are only scheduled to be in session 8 weeks before the November election, which is almost 5 months away. When those weeks are wasted—squandered, really—on low-level nomi-

nees and partisan show votes, it comes with a serious opportunity cost.

There are countless bipartisan bills that deserve a vote by the Senate, but the majority leader is simply disinterested. One example is drug pricing, something that affects almost every American. Senators on both sides of the aisle have offered bills to address rising prices at the pharmacy, something I think everybody can relate to.

This has been a problem for years, of course, but it has become even more important given the effects of inflation. Families are paying more for groceries, as I mentioned earlier. They are paying more for rent, for insurance. Their mortgage rates are higher because of interest costs. Every penny counts, and my constituents in Texas want Congress to prevent bad actors from gaming the system at the expense of patients.

By and large, this is a bipartisan priority. I am not talking about a partisan show vote. I am talking about a bipartisan approach to bringing down prescription drug costs.

Just one example is the bill that Senator BLUMENTHAL—the Senator from Connecticut, a Democrat—and I introduced, called the Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Act, to crack down on anti-competitive practices that game the patent system and keep prices high. This legislation was approved by the Judiciary Committee in February of last year, along with four other bipartisan bills to bring down prescription drug prices.

The majority leader could bring those bills to the floor tomorrow—or today, actually. That would be doing something worth doing—not show votes, scaring people into thinking that in vitro fertilization or contraception are somehow going to be limited or whether that is actually a real, serious debate. It is not.

Each of these drug pricing bills was crafted on a bipartisan basis. Each went through the committee process, which is important. And each was approved by the majority of the Judiciary Committee. But here we are, 16 months later, without any progress being made on the Senate floor, on something the American people really, really care about. Five bipartisan bills passed the Judiciary Committee nearly a year and a half ago, and the majority leader has higher priorities in partisan show votes involving in vitro fertilization and contraception. It is really sad and shameful.

The American people deserve better. This is supposed to be the world's greatest deliberative body, but, lately, we haven't had the opportunity to deliberate on anything really of substance.

Forget partisan show votes. Forget election year antics. This Chamber needs to get back to doing its job and doing its job for a full workweek, not halftime.

This is the job each of us was sent here to do. But the person that occu-

pies this desk, the majority leader of the Senate, is the only one who sets the Senate schedule and Senate agenda. No matter how much 99 of the rest of us demand it, if he says no, we are going to waste our time on show votes and work 2½ days a week. That is the way it is, and it is a shame and an opportunity lost.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SQUIRE DRENDEL

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of two incredible Nevadans who tragically passed away earlier this year. One is John Squire Drendel, and the other is Tom Rodriguez. These two men were dear friends of mine and fierce advocates for our communities in Nevada, and they will be sorely missed. So I would like to talk a little bit about them to all of you and to those who are listening as well.

John Squire Drendel, whom you see right here—I want to celebrate the life of this good friend, not just to me but to so many throughout Nevada, whose 100th birthday I recognized right here in the Senate, just a few months ago.

John dedicated his life to serving his fellow Nevadans and being a voice for those who had none, and, for 70 years, he shaped Nevada's legal community.

On August 4, 1923, John was born in Carson Valley, NV, a beautiful rural community just south of Carson City. In the midst of the Great Depression, John left home to work on a nearby ranch and complete his studies at Douglas County High School.

During his first semester at the University of Notre Dame, in the fall of 1941, the bombing of Pearl Harbor altered the trajectory of his life. John served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant and as a commander of a landing craft tank in Pacific Islands.

In 1945, when John was on leave from his Navy training, he came here to Washington, DC, where he met none other than President Harry Truman, as you see right here—you see him on the left—two inspiring men who spent their lives giving back to the community.

And following the end of World War II, John took advantage of the education benefits provided in the GI bill to complete his undergraduate education, and he attended law school at the University of Colorado. After obtaining his law degree, John returned home to Nevada with his wife Marilyn to raise their four children and work as a Nevada highway patrolman.

In 1950, John passed the Nevada bar exam and later partnered with William

O. Bradley to form Bradley & Drendel, a premier personal injury firm in Northern Nevada. And, in 1957, in order to make their services more accessible to their clients, the two selected a converted garage in Reno, NV, to serve as their firm's office.

Now, by 1970, John had solidified his reputation by representing a diesel mechanic from Ely, NV, who suffered from a debilitating injury while at work. John won the highest verdict awarded to a single plaintiff in the United States at that point in time, providing financial security for the mechanic and his family. And, today, his firm—that firm, Bradley & Drendel—continues to serve our community in Northern Nevada, and, currently, John's son Thomas is of counsel to the firm.

Now, you have to know that John was deeply respected by so many in Nevada—by his peers in Nevada's legal community, as a founding member and former president of the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association and the Washoe County Bar Association. John was honored with countless accolades throughout the duration of his career, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association, in the year 2001.

John strived for excellence throughout his career. His professional accomplishments are surpassed only by the wonderful family and community that he built in the Silver State.

He is survived by his children, Mary, John, and Thomas; their grandchildren, Sarah, Andrew, Anne, Clara, Nathaniel, Mary, and Matthew; and their four great-grandchildren.

I am honored to recognize his incredible life on the Senate floor today. He was a dear friend and an incredible advocate for so many in Nevada, and I know not only will I, but many will miss him. And I am honored to be able to recognize him today with all of you.

TRIBUTE TO TOM RODRIGUEZ

Mr. President, there is a second person I would like to recognize as well. His name is Tom Rodriguez. This is Tom. Tom was a friend of my father's. As Latino leaders in Las Vegas, my father and Tom worked together to promote and strengthen the Hispanic community in Southern Nevada.

As a powerful voice in my State, Tom tirelessly advocated for Latinos throughout his entire life, and I am so sad to lose his voice. But I am also proud of the positive influence and lasting political, social, and educational change he brought to our State.

Tom was born, actually, in Topeka, KS, in 1940 and grew up in a neighborhood referred to as "the Bottoms," which exposed him early on to a community rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. And after graduating from college, Tom began pursuing writing and activism.

In 1981, Tom moved to Nevada with his then-fiancee and future wife, Doris Soto, to work as the director of planning and evaluation for the Las Vegas

Clark County Consortium. For the next 5 years, Tom supported the local training and employment association of a large portion of southern Nevada.

Tom then went on to work in the Clark County manager's office, where he supported the development of the League of United Latin American Citizens' multipurpose senior center. He modernized the region's justice court system, and he ushered in the emerging television cable industry in Nevada.

Tom later served as the first executive manager for Diversity and Affirmative Action programs with the Clark County School District—which, by the way, is the third largest school district in the Nation—and for 23 years in this role. Tom worked tirelessly to ensure equality and opportunity within our education system.

Throughout his life, Tom authored and coauthored many books and articles that documented the Latino experience in Nevada, which he felt had been neglected by previous historians. Tom played a critical role in chronicling the dynamic growth and successes of Nevada's expansive Latino community.

Tom himself was essential to that success. For 6 years, he coordinated the Latin Chamber of Commerce's career day scholarship program, which awarded funds to Latino students at colleges and universities throughout Nevada; but after learning that many scholarship recipients struggled with finding a support system and adjusting to life on campus, Tom made it his personal responsibility to help them.

So, in 1994, Tom cofounded the Latino Youth Leadership Conference to bring Latino high school students together and prepare them for college. Now that conference is entering its 31st consecutive year of operating. The program's over 1,500 alumni have gone on to achieve success in their chosen fields, ranging from lawyers to educators to business owners and even Members of Congress.

I am incredibly grateful for Tom's lifelong commitment to advancing the Latino community in Nevada. Tom believed that his purpose in life was to help others achieve more than they thought possible. His professional achievements are only matched by the pride and love he had for his family and his friends.

I will say I will truly miss Tom, but I know that his impact on Nevada will be felt for generations to come.

I thank the Presiding Officer as it is an honor to come to the floor to be able to talk about these two incredible men from Nevada.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FERC NOMINATIONS

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss three individuals who have been nominated by President Biden to serve as members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as FERC, F-E-R-C.

Just last week, climate scientists announced that our planet has surpassed the water half-degree-Celsius warming threshold for the 12th consecutive month. The signs of climate change are all around us. Alaska's rivers are turning orange as a result of rapidly melting permafrost and the resulting chemical reaction. Much of the Western United States is experiencing temperatures 20 to 30 degrees hotter than usual for this time of year, and scientists tell us that there is more carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere today than ever before—in history. We are running out of time to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. Having said that, I have always believed that in adversity lies opportunity, and there is still time today, and there is still opportunity today.

Thankfully, last Congress, the Presiding Officer and I and a bunch of other folks on this floor passed the bipartisan infrastructure law and the Inflation Reduction Act—two once-in-a-generation investments in infrastructure and in fighting climate change. Together, these laws are making and stimulating the investments in clean energy and infrastructure that we need in order to reduce our emissions and to meet our climate goals. As a result, more clean energy projects are in the pipeline in this country than ever before. In fact, according to the Clean Investment Monitor, clean energy and transportation investment hit a record \$71 billion in the first quarter of this year—that is \$71 billion in a "b" this year—dwarfing last year's \$51 billion in the same timeframe.

We haven't stopped there. We haven't stopped there. The Biden administration is taking strong steps to build a more efficient and effective environmental review process in order to connect clean energy to the grid as soon as possible. For example, in April of this year, the Council on Environmental Quality issued their final rule to implement changes to something called the National Environmental Policy Act made by the Fiscal Responsibility Act last year. This rule reforms the permitting process and will accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, like solar, like wind, and like battery storage—all while advancing environmental justice and ensuring that communities have a voice in the build-out of critical infrastructure.

One might ask, how does the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission support our clean energy future? Well, that is a good question. Let me take a shot at it.

As it turns out, connecting clean energy to the electric grid and delivering this energy to consumers who demand it remains one of the major challenges

to help transition our grid to reliable, carbon-free sources.

With well over 2 terawatts of energy—I asked my staff, what is a terawatt? I think a terawatt is a billion. Two terawatts would be 2 billion. So with well over 2 billion watts of energy—most of it clean energy currently on the sidelines—FERC plays a vital role in expanding our Nation's transmission capacity in order to allow new projects to move forward quickly. To put that figure in perspective, that is 2 billion—2 billion—watts of energy. That is double the amount of electricity-generating capacity that we have today. For example, just last month, FERC finalized two rules to tackle pressing challenges in the transmission planning process.

But there is more to do. There is a lot more to do. It is up to us in this body, in this Congress and over in the House of Representatives—but especially in this body—to ensure that the Commission has a full slate of Commissioners in order to continue with their work to modernize our electric grid for the 21st century.

As we know, President Biden has nominated not one, not two, but three well-qualified individuals—two are Democrats, and one is a Republican—to serve terms on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC. One is David Rosner, one is Lindsay See, and the other is Judy Chang.

We are joined here on the Senate floor by the chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He will have more to say about this in a minute, I know. Last week, his committee that he chairs and leads reported these three nominations out of committee with broad bipartisan support.

Should they all be confirmed this week, Congress will have done its job to ensure that the Commission is fully seated so that FERC can continue to advance these policies that we need to enable us to bring more clean energy off the sidelines and onto the grid.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support shown so far for these nominees in committee. I salute the committee chairman in no small part for that. I hope that in a few minutes here, they are going to receive the same kind of broad bipartisan support today and in the days to come.

With that, as a West Virginia native, I am happy to yield the floor to another West Virginia native—two former Governors who find common ground here on these nominees to FERC.

With that, I yield the floor.

Mr. MANCHIN. He meant to say two recovering former Governors, right?

Mr. CARPER. Barely recovering.

Mr. MANCHIN. Barely.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, first of all, let me thank my dear friend Senator CARPER, who heads up EPW and does a tremendous job with his staff.

We have had a great working relationship here.

We all know that having a fully staffed FERC is going to make a lot of difference in what we do in this country, so we begin work this evening on the first of three nominations for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. David Rosner is one, Lindsay See, and Judy Chang are the three that Senator CARPER mentioned.

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources reported all three of these nominations with extremely strong bipartisan support.

During their confirmation hearing, each of the nominees demonstrated deep experience on energy and legal matters, a commitment to follow the law and work within the authorities Congress has provided to FERC, and a recognition that all of our Nation's energy sources play an important role, providing affordable, reliable energy to families and businesses across our country.

Like most of our independent regulatory Commissions, by law, FERC must be bipartisan. But in protecting the public interest, Commission members must conduct themselves as non-partisan guardians, no matter what their party affiliation might be, of the public interest. That is exactly what we need from FERC Commissioners as they undertake the critical work of the Commission, and that is what I expect from these three nominees before the Senate as they come up for votes this week.

Simply put, FERC's job is to ensure the "orderly development of plentiful supplies of electricity and natural gas at reasonable prices." It must ensure adequate and reliable service while protecting customers from excessive prices. It enables us to keep the lights on and to heat and cool our homes and power our businesses and industries.

When Congress established FERC, it stipulated that members of the Commission must be able "to assess fairly the needs and concerns of all interests affected by Federal energy policy." As the Supreme Court has said, the Commission serves as the guardian of the public interest in these matters. As David Rosner said during his confirmation hearing, "None of our country's economic or policy priorities can be achieved if energy reliability is not preserved. Consumers demand it, they deserve it, and it is FERC's most sacred duty to ensure it."

I take special pride in speaking on the first of these nominations this evening.

David Rosner has been on my detail—as far as our detail—from FERC to the majority staff of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for the past 2 years, so I know David. I have seen firsthand his expert knowledge on energy issues, his fairness, his non-partisan approach to every concern and every problem we have had, and his ability to work on both sides of the aisle, and he has done that tremendously.

David Rosner has what it takes for this job. He has extensive experience with energy issues. He has been employed by FERC as an energy industry analyst for over 7 years, including his detail to our committee. He previously worked at the Department of Energy as an economist and as a senior policy adviser and at the Bipartisan Policy Center. It doesn't get any better than that.

I can personally attest to his extensive knowledge of FERC matters based on his work for the Energy Committee. I have seen his willingness and ability to work with others across the aisle on behalf of all Americans. Our committee members have come to rely on David's expertise, so we are proud that David has the opportunity to serve his country in an even more important role.

Although he will be missed by many of us here in the Senate, I have every confidence that he will make a great FERC Commissioner, and I urge my colleagues to support his nomination this evening.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask that the next vote, the vote scheduled for this evening, start immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 669, David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Charles E. Schumer, Joe Manchin III, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Jeanne Shaheen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Mazie Hirono, Ben Ray Lujan, Maria Cantwell, Peter Welch, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Angus S. King, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Mark Kelly, John W. Hickenlooper.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2027, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SUL-LIVAN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 24, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Ex.]

YEAS—67

Baldwin	Grassley	Ricketts
Barrasso	Hassan	Risch
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Schatz
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Lujan	Tester
Cassidy	Lummis	Tillis
Collins	Manchin	Van Hollen
Coons	McConnell	Warner
Cornyn	Merkley	Warnock
Cortez Masto	Mullin	Warren
Crapo	Murkowski	Welch
Daines	Murphy	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Murray	Wicker
Durbin	Ossoff	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—24

Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Johnson	Sanders
Braun	Kaine	Schmitt
Britt	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Budd	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Markey	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Vance

NOT VOTING—9

Butler	Hagerty	Rubio
Ernst	Menendez	Sinema
Fetterman	Moran	Sullivan

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). On this vote, the yeas are 67, the nays are 24.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Arizona.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as a result of multiple flight delays and cancellations due to the severe storm sweeping across Florida, I will miss today's votes.●

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-42, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$220 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCHE,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-42

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$ 50
Other \$220 million.

Total \$220 million.
Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (TW-D-KDW).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: TW-D-KDV.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 5, 2024.

*as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States—F-16 Standard Spare and Repair Parts

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO) has requested to buy standard spare and repair parts, components, consumables, and accessories for F-16 aircraft; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$220 million.

This proposed sale is consistent with U.S. law and policy as expressed in Public Law 96-8.

This proposed sale serves U.S. national, economic, and security interests by supporting the recipient's continuing efforts to modernize its armed forces and to maintain a credible defensive capability. The proposed sale will help improve the security of the recipient and assist in maintaining political stability, military balance, and economic progress in the region.

The proposed sale will improve the recipient's ability to meet current and future threats by maintaining the operational readiness of the recipient's fleet of F-16 aircraft. The recipient will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

This equipment will be transferred from U.S. Air Force stock. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the recipient.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
THOMAS J. TICKNER

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional office in the U.S. Army, MG Thomas J. Tickner, who serves as the chief legislative liaison of the U.S. Army, and will retire from Active Duty after more than 33 distinguished years of active Federal service on 1 September 2024. Throughout his career, Major General Tickner has personified the highest standards of Army professionalism and the soldierly virtues of duty, integrity, and selfless service to the Army and our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Major General Tickner, and it is my privilege to recognize his achievements.

Major General Tickner is a distinguished leader whose career in the U.S. Army has been marked by unwavering dedication and exceptional service. Born and raised in Wayne, PA, Major General Tickner embarked on his military journey with a commitment to excellence that would define his decades-long career.

Commissioned as a distinguished military graduate through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, known as the ROTC, in 1989, Major General Tickner began his service as a platoon

leader in the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division—Air Assault. His early years in the Army laid the foundation for a remarkable career characterized by a tireless work ethic and a commitment to the mission.

Throughout his 33 years of service, Major General Tickner has held a variety of tactical, operational, and strategic assignments, each demanding excellence and leadership. From serving as a company commander in the 84th Engineer Battalion—Combat Heavy in Hawaii, to overseeing engineering operations in Afghanistan as the engineer director for the Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan, known as the CSTC-A, Major General Tickner's career has been defined by versatility and proficiency.

Major General Tickner's leadership roles have spanned the globe, including commanding the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and serving as chief, Army Budget Liaison, in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller. Notably, Major General Tickner's tenure as commanding general of the North Atlantic Division, United States Army Corps of Engineers, in Brooklyn, NY, saw him overseeing an extensive program of projects aimed at supporting the military, protecting water resources, and mitigating disaster risks, among other critical objectives.

In July 2017, Major General Tickner assumed command of the Pacific Ocean Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where his responsibilities included engineering design, construction, and real estate management across a vast region encompassing Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. His leadership was instrumental in overseeing multibillion-dollar programs vital to regional security and cooperation.

Major General Tickner's commitment to education and professional development is evident in his academic achievements, including a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Pennsylvania State University, a master of civil engineering degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a master of science in national resource strategy from the Eisenhower School, National Defense University.

Throughout his illustrious career, Major General Tickner has been honored with numerous military awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Engineer Silver de Fleury Medal, among others. His exemplary service and steadfast leadership have earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues and superiors alike.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank Major General Tickner, his wife Sheri; children Austin, Mason, Brooklyn, and Audrey; and their entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout Major General

Tickner's honorable military service. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING UNIVISION 34 ATLANTA'S LIGA DE CAMPEONES

• Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Univision 34 Atlanta's "Liga de Campeones" initiative for its 20-year commitment to empowering Georgia's Hispanic youth through education.

Since 2004, this initiative has provided invaluable support to high school seniors and college students, recognizing their academic excellence, perseverance, and dedication to community service.

"Liga de Campeones" stands as a beacon of hope, showcasing the resilience and determination of our youth in the face of adversity. By awarding scholarships and amplifying the stories of recipients on Univision 34 Atlanta's television and digital platforms, the program inspires others to pursue their dreams despite obstacles.

Through "Liga de Campeones," Univision 34 and its local partners have helped over 150 students overcome challenges and achieve their educational aspirations.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Univision 34 Atlanta as they celebrate this 20-year milestone of "Liga de Campeones" and for their continued positive impact on Georgia's Hispanic youth.●

REMEMBERING JOAN JACOBS

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Joan Jacobs, who passed away on May 6 at the age of 91. Through her philanthropic efforts, Joan spent decades improving the educational, technological, and cultural landscape of San Diego. Joan Jacobs was born on January 17, 1933, in New York City. She attended Cornell University, where she received her bachelor of science degree in 1954. That same year, she would meet her husband of 70 years, Irwin Jacobs. The couple soon made San Diego their adopted home after Irwin accepted a job at the small engineering school taking shape at UC San Diego. Years later, Irwin co-founded Qualcomm, which has become one of the largest employers in the region.

Joan and Irwin began to use their resources to uplift the arts, education, and so many other important causes in San Diego. To this day, San Diegans cannot travel far without feeling the incredible impact that Joan Jacobs left on the region.

In 2002, Joan and Irwin donated \$120 million to the once-bankrupt San Diego Symphony, allowing it to thrive and once again contribute to the cultural footprint of San Diego.

Additionally, the history of UC San Diego cannot be fully told without

highlighting the remarkable impact Joan made on its campus. The Jacobs family has infused over \$125 million into the UC San Diego School of Engineering. Today, the aptly named Irwin and Joan Jacobs School of Engineering is one of the top engineering schools in the country and boasts the highest enrollment of engineering students on the West Coast. Joan and Irwin also provided \$100 million to help develop the Jacobs Medical Center at UC San Diego, which has become one of the finest teaching hospitals in the country and provides critical specialized care to San Diegans.

So many other organizations across San Diego have been the beneficiaries of Joan's generosity, including the San Diego Central Library, the La Jolla Playhouse, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the Salk Institute, and the San Diego Food Bank.

Joan Jacobs has had an immeasurable impact on the city she loved and the community she served, and her legacy will be felt for generations to come. My heartfelt sympathies go out to my friend and colleague, Representative SARA JACOBS, and the entire Jacobs family. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the extraordinary life of Joan Jacobs.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL MICHAEL J. GARSHAK

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO, Representative MIKE SIMPSON, and Representative RUSS FULCHER, to recognize MG Michael J. Garshak on his retirement from the National Guard and his distinguished service as the Adjutant General of Idaho.

Major General Garshak has dedicated over three decades of his life to serving our Nation and the State of Idaho. He began his military career in 1987 when he received a commission as an aviation officer through the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at Northern Arizona University.

Major General Garshak has demonstrated exceptional leadership, professionalism, and commitment to duty throughout his career. During his Active-Duty service, Major General Garshak served as an Apache attack helicopter platoon leader in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He also served as an Apache helicopter instructor pilot at Ft. Rucker, AL. In 1993, he joined the Idaho National Guard and served with the 1-183rd Aviation Regiment. He deployed as the 1-183rd Aviation Task Force Commander to Bosnia-Herzegovina from 2002-2003. His career of distinguished service and leadership ultimately led to his 2017 appointment by Governor Butch Otter to serve as the Adjutant General of Idaho.

Major General Garshak's dedication to his craft is evident through his extensive education and training. He holds a bachelor of science in business administration from Northern Arizona

University and a master of science in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. He has also completed numerous military schools, including the Aviation Officer Basic Course, Officer Rotary Wing Aviator Course, AH-64 Aircraft Qualification Course, AH-64 Instructor Pilot Course, and the UH-60 Aircraft Qualification Course.

Throughout his career, Major General Garshak held various command and staff positions, including aviation battalion and group commander, State Army aviation officer, G3 operations officer, and chief of staff of the Idaho Army National Guard. His leadership and expertise have been instrumental in ensuring the readiness, effectiveness, and future of the Idaho National Guard.

Major General Garshak's contributions have been recognized with numerous awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal.

Beyond his military accomplishments, Major General Garshak has been actively involved in professional organizations and has made significant contributions to the Idaho community. He has served as an executive board member of the Idaho National Guard Officer's Association and is a member of the National Guard Association of the United States and the U.S. Army War College Alumni Association.

Please join us in expressing our deepest gratitude and appreciation to MG Michael Garshak for the exemplary service to our Nation and the State of Idaho. His leadership, dedication, and selfless commitment to duty have made a lasting impact on the Idaho National Guard and the lives of countless servicemembers. We wish him a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. STEVEN T. REED

● Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I submit this statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to honor the public service of Dr. Steven T. Reed. In his professional and personal capacities, Dr. Reed has gone above and beyond for the good of his community.

In 1991, Dr. Reed graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with highest honors and a degree in biochemistry. He pursued further studies at the Southern College of Optometry, receiving a doctor of optometry. After completing his education, he embraced the entrepreneur's life by opening his own clinic in Magee, MS.

Over the years, countless Mississippians have benefited from Dr. Reed's expertise. He reached even more of his neighbors when he opened additional clinic locations in nearby cities.

Despite the demands of running a business, Dr. Reed has consistently found time to help those around him. He is a member of the Magee Lion's

Club, and he stepped up to lead the Magee Chamber of Commerce. At his church, Dr. Reed chaired the stewardship committee and served as a deacon.

The optometry community has repeatedly demonstrated its respect for Dr. Reed. His colleagues have placed him in numerous leadership positions at a variety of organizations, including but not limited to the Congress of the American Optometric Association—AOA—and the Mississippi Optometric Association, MOA. In both 2010 and 2016, Dr. Reed received the MOA's James P. Brownlee Optometrist of the Year Award.

This year, he will assume the presidency of the AOA, the first Mississippian to be named to the role. His activities as president-elect characterize his charitable instincts. Today, he is helping lead the "Eye Deserve More" campaign, which encourages the public to sign up for eye examinations. It is out of gratitude for that spirit of service that I praise Dr. Reed today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8580. An act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2051. An act to reauthorize the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4487. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to develop artificial intelligence training resources and toolkits for United States small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4488. A bill to amend the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 to establish a pilot program to award grants to facilitate home delivery of commodities under the commodity supplemental food program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4489. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco, California, as the "Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building," and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4490. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to increase the funds available to Governors for statewide youth workforce investment activities, and statewide adult and dislocated worker employment and training activities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 4491. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for an operational and training deferment for parents; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FISCHER:

S. 4492. A bill to improve the transparency of Amtrak operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAMER:

S. 4493. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to create a safe harbor for finders and private placement brokers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4494. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the provisions relating to providers of training services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4495. A bill to enable safe, responsible, and agile procurement, development, and use of artificial intelligence by the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4496. A bill to expand the authorities of the Office of Strategic Capital of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4497. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize the use of individual training accounts for certain youth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. 4498. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to extend State plans and other plans from a 4-year period to a 5-year period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 4499. A bill to reauthorize grants to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, the Boy Scouts of America, the National 4-H Council, and the National FFA Organization to establish pilot projects to expand the programs carried out by the organizations in rural areas and small towns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4500. A bill to modify operations of the National Water Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. 4501. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to improve the performance accountability system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr.

PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4502. A bill to prohibit forced arbitration in work disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 4503. A bill to prevent exploitative private equity practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4504. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to screening for type 1 diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4505. A bill to approve the settlement of water rights claims of Ohkay Owingeh in the Rio Chama Stream System, to restore the Bosque on Pueblo Land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE:

S. 4506. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to clarify reporting requirements for information relating to providers of training services; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 4507. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to make the method used by the Department of Energy for calculating electric vehicle-equivalent petroleum fuel economy more accurate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 4508. A bill to prepare for contested logistics environments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 4509. A bill to authorize the appropriation of amounts for the construction of a consolidated rigging facility for the special operations forces at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4510. A bill to amend the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 to delay implementation of the inclusion of oral-only ESRD-related drugs in the Medicare ESRD prospective payment system; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 4511. A bill to provide for the crediting of funds received by the National Guard Bureau as reimbursement from States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 4512. A bill to amend the Job Corps program under subtitle C of title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 4513. A bill to expand eligibility for Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit par-

ticipation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4514. A bill to clarify that amounts from declinations should be deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and to temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4515. A bill to combat foreign terrorist acquisition of unmanned aerial systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 727. A resolution designating June 2024 as "Great Outdoors Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. Res. 728. A resolution commending the University of South Alabama on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and its years of service to the State of Alabama and the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 71

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 71, a bill to extend the customs waters of the United States from 12 nautical miles to 24 nautical miles from the baselines of the United States, consistent with Presidential Proclamation 7219.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 618

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 618, a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 928

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 928, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prepare an annual report on suicide prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1028, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens, and for other purposes.

S. 1462

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1558

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1558, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

S. 2311

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2311, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, California.

S. 2407

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2407, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coordination of programs to prevent and treat obesity, and for other purposes.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2647, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 2703

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2703, a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish the Office of the Farm and Food System Workforce.

S. 2807

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2807, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish and carry out a grant program to conserve, restore, and manage kelp forest ecosystems, and for other purposes.

S. 2913

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2913, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to deny Federal retirement benefits to individuals convicted of child sex abuse.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2924, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to improve the management of improper payments, and for other purposes.

S. 3293

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3293, a bill to provide for the creation of a Congressional time capsule in commemoration of the semiquincentennial of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3369

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3369, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 3401

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3401, a bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to authorize the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development on a single index insurance policy, and for other purposes.

S. 3410

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3410, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from final-

izing a proposed rule regarding minimum staffing for nursing facilities, and to establish an advisory panel on the nursing home workforce.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3540

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 3540, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to increase grants to combat domestic violence for States that implement domestic violence prevention training in the cosmetologist and barber licensing process, and for other purposes.

S. 3565

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3565, a bill to appropriate funds for the Affordable Connectivity Program of the Federal Communications Commission.

S. 3606

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3606, a bill to reauthorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, and for other purposes.

S. 3679

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3679, a bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3803

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3803, a bill to make price gouging unlawful, to expand the ability of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and equitable relief, and for other purposes.

S. 3964

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3964, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the highway safety improvement program, and for other purposes.

S. 3983

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3983, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a grant program to increase capacity for providing abortion services and other

sexual and reproductive health care, and for other purposes.

S. 3984

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3984, a bill to amend the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 to authorize the State Justice Institute to provide awards to certain organizations to establish a State judicial threat intelligence and resource center.

S. 4001

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4001, a bill to establish a commission to study the potential transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

S. 4141

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4141, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes.

S. 4154

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4154, a bill to support communities that host transmission lines and to promote conservation and recreation, and for other purposes.

S. 4206

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4206, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit certain activities involving prohibited primate species, and for other purposes.

S. 4270

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4270, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the financial aid process for homeless and foster care youth.

S. 4297

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 4297, a bill to repeal the Corporate Transparency Act.

S. 4363

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4363, a bill to secure the rights of public employees to organize, act concertedly, and bargain collectively, which safeguard the public interest and

promote the free and unobstructed flow of commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 4368

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4368, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require, as a condition of receiving Federal Medicaid funding, that States do not prohibit in vitro fertilization (IVF) services, and for other purposes.

S. 4396

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4396, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize an individual who is awarded the Purple Heart for service in the Armed Forces to transfer unused Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to a family member, and for other purposes.

S. 4445

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4445, a bill to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization.

S. 4459

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4459, a bill to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are not nationals or citizens of the United States at birth.

S. 4464

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4464, a bill to require the United States Postal Service to apply certain requirements when closing a processing, shipping, delivery, or other facility supporting a post office, and for other purposes.

S. 4484

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4484, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons of the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 39

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a co-

sponsor of S.J. Res. 39, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the article of amendment commonly known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" has been validly ratified and is enforceable as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the Archivist of the United States must certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment without delay.

S.J. RES. 82

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 82, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Drug Administration relating to "Medical Devices; Laboratory Developed Tests".

S.J. RES. 90

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 90, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to "Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities".

S.J. RES. 91

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 91, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting".

S.J. RES. 94

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 94, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the proposed rule submitted by the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to the Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule.

S. RES. 505

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 505, a resolution condemning the use of sexual violence and rape as a weapon of war by the terrorist group Hamas against the people of Israel.

S. RES. 574

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 574, a resolution expressing support for starting and growing a family through in vitro fertilization.

S. RES. 599

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 599, a resolution protecting the Iranian political refugees, including female former political prisoners, in Ashraf-3 in Albania.

S. RES. 638

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 638, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban.

S. RES. 669

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 669, a resolution designating October, 10, 2024, as "American Girls in Sports Day".

S. RES. 718

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 718, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Government should immediately place a moratorium on all federally funded gain-of-function research given the increased safety concerns.

S. RES. 725

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 725, a resolution affirming the legal status of contraception following the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022).

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4489. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco, California, as the "Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building," and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of my bill to rename an iconic Federal building in San Francisco after my former colleague, mentor, and dear friend, the late Senator Dianne Feinstein.

Dianne was a towering figure not just in modern California politics but in the history of our State and our Nation. She broke barriers throughout her career. Her leadership as the first woman

to serve as the mayor of San Francisco in the aftermath of the tragic assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk showcased her unique ability to lead with grace and strength in the face of adversity.

This bill would designate the Federal building at 50 United Nations Plaza in San Francisco as the “Senator Dianne Feinstein Federal Building.” Located just steps away from San Francisco City Hall, where Dianne served for 18 years, the Federal building is a cornerstone of the San Francisco Civic Center.

This Neoclassical building was completed in 1936 as part of the city’s efforts to rebuild its Civic Center following the devastation caused by the 1906 earthquake. It received a major renovation in 2013 to upgrade building systems, restore historically significant architecture, and redesign office workspaces. In 2017, the building was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, the six-story, 350,000-square-foot Federal building is home to the General Services Administration’s Region 9 headquarters as well as Department of Education staff. The building is LEED Platinum certified, a well-known global standard given to the most sustainable and energy-efficient buildings. The building’s renovation also received several prestigious awards, including the National Project Achievement Award from the Construction Management Association of America and the Preservation Design Award from the California Preservation Foundation.

Over the past several months, I have worked to introduce bills that would honor Dianne’s lifetime of service by commemorating public spaces in her memory. The Federal building at 50 U.N. Plaza stands as a reminder of the responsibility that the Federal Government holds in serving the public. Dianne spent her life dedicated to that responsibility, and it is only fitting that we honor her by renaming this Federal building in her beloved hometown.

I thank Senator BUTLER for joining me in this effort, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill as swiftly as possible.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4514. A bill to clarify that amounts from declinations should be deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and to temporarily provide additional deposits into the Crime Victims Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4514

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. DEPOSITS IN CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

Section 1402(b)(6) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101(b)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a declination of a criminal prosecution or other similar final disposition not involving a conviction; or

“(D) during the period beginning on the date of enactment of this subparagraph and ending on September 30, 2029, sections 3729 through 3731 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘False Claims Act’), except that—

“(i) amounts necessary to remunerate quitam plaintiffs as described in subsection (d) of section 3730 of title 31, United States Code, are not available for deposit to the Fund; and

“(ii) amounts necessary to reimburse the United States Government for the damages which the Government sustains from an act described in subsection (a) of section 3729 of title 31, United States Code, are not available for deposit to the Fund.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 727—DESIGNATING JUNE 2024 AS “GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH”

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 727

Whereas hundreds of millions of individuals in the United States participate in outdoor recreation annually;

Whereas Congress enacted the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-249; 130 Stat. 999) to assess and analyze the outdoor recreation economy of the United States and the effects attributable to the outdoor recreation economy on the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, updated in November 2023 by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, shows that outdoor recreation generated \$1,100,000,000 in economic output in 2022, comprising approximately 2 percent of the current-dollar gross domestic product;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account shows that, in 2022, the outdoor recreation sector grew 3 times faster than the overall economy of the United States, while also providing 5,000,000 jobs across the United States;

Whereas the Great American Outdoors Act (Public Law 116-152; 134 Stat. 682) provides billions of dollars to help eliminate the maintenance backlog on public lands and waters and fully funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund;

Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with economic growth, positive health outcomes, and better quality of life;

Whereas outdoor recreation activities at the Federal, State, and local levels have seen a recent surge in participation;

Whereas many outdoor recreation businesses are small businesses that are cornerstones of rural communities, and outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States;

Whereas it is imperative that the United States ensure that access to outdoor recreation is available to all its people for generations to come; and

Whereas June 2024 is an appropriate month to designate as “Great Outdoors Month” to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2024 as “Great Outdoors Month”; and

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to responsibly participate in recreation activities in the great outdoors during June 2024 and year-round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 728—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY AND ITS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ALABAMA AND THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. TUBERVILLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 728

Whereas the University of South Alabama was chartered by an act of the Alabama Legislature on May 3, 1963, following the efforts of local leaders who saw a great need for a 4-year degree-granting institution along the fast-growing Alabama Gulf Coast;

Whereas the University of South Alabama’s first classes were held on June 8, 1964, on a new campus in West Mobile, with 276 total students;

Whereas, in 1969, the Alabama Legislature passed legislation establishing a new medical school, and in 1973, the University of South Alabama began providing medical education at the Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine;

Whereas, in 1970, the University of South Alabama’s adoption of Mobile General Hospital and the creation of its new medical school gave rise to what is today University of South Alabama Health (referred to in this preamble as “USA Health”);

Whereas USA Health in Mobile, Alabama is—

(1) the only academic health system along the upper Gulf Coast;

(2) home to USA Health Children’s & Women’s Hospital, which serves the area with the only pediatric emergency center, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit;

(3) home to USA Health University Hospital, which serves the area with the only Level 1 trauma center, burn center, and comprehensive stroke center;

(4) home to USA Health Providence Hospital, which serves the area with a full-service 349-bed hospital that provides 24/7 emergency care and a Level III trauma center;

(5) home to the USA Health Mitchell Cancer Institute, which serves the area as the only academic cancer treatment and research facility along the upper Gulf Coast, using continuous research and technological advancements to best treat patients; and

(6) home to the USA Health Physician Enterprise, the region’s largest multispecialty practice, providing patients with primary and specialty care, including many services unique in the community;

Whereas, from its first class of 276 students, the University of South Alabama has grown to host more than 13,500 students annually, who participate in over 115 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs through its 10 colleges and schools;

Whereas the University of South Alabama's offerings include programs in medicine, nursing, and allied health with 1 of only 2 allopathic medical schools in the State, an established College of Nursing, a burgeoning School of Marine and Environmental Sciences adjacent to the Mobile-Tensaw Delta and the Gulf of Mexico, a comprehensive College of Engineering, and programs in business, computing, education, the sciences, and humanities;

Whereas the University of South Alabama is dedicated to supporting the academic success of student-athletes while striving for on-field success;

Whereas the University of South Alabama, a charter member of the Sun Belt Conference, is composed of 17 Division I men's and women's programs, including football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, golf, cross country, and track and field; and

Whereas the University of South Alabama has distinguished itself by producing alumni who have excelled in various sectors, including research, medicine, business, education, engineering, the sciences, the arts, and athletics, among others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of South Alabama on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and its years of service to the State of Alabama and the United States;

(2) recognizes the University of South Alabama for its education, research, and health care service as the "Flagship of the Gulf Coast"; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of the University of South Alabama, the Honorable Jo Bonner;

(B) the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of South Alabama, Dr. Andrea Kent; and

(C) the Dean of the Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine & Vice President for Medical Affairs at the University of South Alabama, Dr. John Marymont, and the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Associate Vice President for Medical Affairs at University of South Alabama Health, Mr. Owen Bailey.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have four requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

The Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., to markup legislation.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 5 p.m., to markup legislation.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigation of the Committee Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following detailees to the Senate Judiciary Committee be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 118th Congress: Allison Kent, Andrew Parker, and Stacie Harris.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH STILLBIRTH PREVENTION ACT OF 2024

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4581, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4581) to amend title V of the Social Security Act to support stillbirth prevention and research, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4581) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 713.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 713) designating May 2024 as "ALS Awareness Month".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the

preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 713) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 23, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 727 and S. Res. 728.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. KELLY. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Rosner nomination postcloture; further, that the cloture time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and, following the cloture vote on the See nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; and further, that if cloture has been invoked on the See nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. KELLY. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:50 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT: SANDRA GALASSI

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the long-distinguished career of Sandra Galassi, a dedicated public servant. In April 2022, Sandra Galassi retired from the Social Security Administration after 48 years of service to our Nation and our residents.

For almost five decades, Ms. Galassi was the epitome of dedication, commitment, and service excellence within the Social Security Administration. She was based in the Chicago North field office, the Chicago Region's most culturally and ethnically diverse field office. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Galassi exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and compassion. She would often work tirelessly to ensure members of the public were assisted. From her early days as a fresh recruit, to her eventual role as a Title II Claims Specialist, she navigated each challenge with grace, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to serving the public with integrity and empathy. Each day, Ms. Galassi approached her work with a sense of purpose and a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of others. With 48 years of service, Ms. Galassi touched tens of thousands of lives, each one better for having encountered her.

Ms. Galassi's tenure is not merely a testament to longevity but also to her enduring passion for public service. The numerous awards of recognition she has received serve to solidify the indelible impression Ms. Galassi has left on the Social Security Administration. This was not her only time spent on behalf of the public. Prior to joining the Social Security Administration, she spent time working for both the United States Treasury Department and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Ms. Galassi was born and raised in Chicago, and then raised a family of her own with her husband Robert in Niles, Illinois. I am proud to have her as a constituent of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, and I know that she is an irreplaceable member of the local community. On behalf of the constituents of the 9th Congressional District, we thank Ms. Galassi for her 48 years of service and dedication.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL HARLAN CHAPMAN

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Lieutenant Colo-

nel Harlan Chapman, USMC, who recently passed away at the age of 89. Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was a committed husband, father, veteran, and the Marine Corps' longest held POW of the Vietnam War.

Chapman was born in 1934 in Elyria, Ohio. In June 1956, he commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps through Miami University's Navy ROTC program. Chapman served for over a decade before deploying to North Vietnam where he flew a Vought F8 Crusader off the aircraft carrier USS *Oriskany*.

During a fateful mission in Vietnam on November 5, 1965, Chapman's strike group was tasked with hitting a railroad and highway bridge deep behind enemy territory. Piloting the last plane of the strike group, Chapman skillfully and successfully delivered his payload to the target. Hit by anti-aircraft fire, he was forced to eject and was soon captured. Chapman spent 2,657 days—over seven years—as a prisoner of war in the notorious so-called 'Hanoi Hilton' and other North Vietnamese camps where Chapman and other American prisoners endured ongoing torture, interrogation, and isolation.

On February 12, 1973, during Operation Homecoming, Chapman was the first Marine Corps POW of the Vietnam War to be released. Upon his return to the United States, Chapman continued to serve our country and assumed command of Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron 314 in El Toro, California, until his retirement in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was an American hero in the truest sense of the word. His story and service illustrate the indomitable American spirit in the face of great adversity. On behalf of Ohio's Fifth District, I want to thank Lieutenant Colonel Chapman for his service to our great Nation. May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM 'BILL' PHILLIPS OF BELL BUCKLE, TENNESSEE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the achievements, dedication, and hard work of William 'Bill' Phillips of Bell Buckle, Tennessee. Bill has lived a life dedicated to serving his Nation and keeping our military the strongest in the world.

Bill grew up on a farm in Tennessee and received a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Agriculture. This, however, was just the first of many educational degrees Bill would achieve. He also earned a Master's in Personnel Management, a Master's in Procurement and Material Management, and a Master's from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

In addition to his educational achievements, Bill also served our Nation in the United

States Army. Bill retired as a Lieutenant General in May of 2014 while serving as the Army's Senior Acquisition Officer. He also served in the role of an Army Aviator with more than 30 years of experience. Bill became certified on the CH-47, UH-1, and OH-58 helicopters.

After retiring from the Army, Bill began a second career in the private sector. In May of 2015, Bill began working for Boeing as the Vice President for Army and Special Operations. At Boeing, Bill was in charge of five offices: Huntsville, AL, Fort Eustis, VA, Fort Novosel, AL, Tampa, FL, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and Austin, TX.

Among Bill's other achievements are Middle Tennessee ROTC Hall of Fame, 2018, Defense Acquisition University Hall of Fame, 2014, Army's Acquisition Commander of the Year, 2000.

Bill and his wife, Marylyn, reside in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, where Bill still farms.

On behalf of our Nation, I thank Bill Phillips and congratulate him for all he has achieved personally and for the efforts and sacrifices he has made for our country.

RECOGNIZING VETERAN & PUBLIC SERVANT JOHN JOSEPH AVILA

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Joseph Avila for his years of dedication as a community leader in the City of Pomona.

John Avila was a first generation Mexican-American, who understood the importance of representation, which fueled his pursuit of service, education, and public office. After graduation from high school, John served in the Marine Corps for 8 years. Upon his return home, John pursued a degree from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley. In 1961, John and his wife, Dona, relocated to Pomona, California, where they began working for the Pomona Unified School District. As a middle school teacher, John's passion for expanding quality education for underserved communities was ignited. He organized with the Association of Mexican American Educators and successfully lobbied for funding to spread Pre-K through 12th grade bilingual education. John created curriculum to recruit, train and coordinate educators to meet the needs of their Spanish-speaking students and families.

Over the course of his life, John was a member of many organizations including the Catholic Newman Community, the Optimist Club, the United Farm Workers, La Raza Unida Party and the League of United Latin American Citizens. Using his experience as a middle school teacher and membership of these organizations, John ran for the Mayor of Pomona in 1995. He lost to the incumbent but

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

continued to seek opportunities to provide leadership in public service. Upon his official retirement as a teacher, John was elected as the School Board President for the Pomona Unified School District and served for over a decade.

Sadly, our community is now in mourning. On Tuesday, May 7, 2024, John peacefully passed away, surrounded by love and care from his family. He is survived by his wife, 3 children, 10 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

For his outstanding accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize John Joseph Avila. His years of service and commitment to the people of Pomona are worthy of the highest commendation.

RECOGNIZING FORMER IMPD
POLICE CHIEF, JAMES TOLER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of former Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Chief James Toler who lived a life of selfless and profound service to the Indianapolis community. Chief Toler passed away on June 4, 2024, at the age of 82.

James Toler has been described as a trailblazer. He came from humble beginnings and worked long nights climbing up the ranks from sergeant to major before he was appointed Indianapolis' first Black police chief. Chief Toler understood the magnitude of his service, sharing he "felt a tremendous responsibility to do very well in the position so that if the opportunity comes for the selection of another minority, they would never be able to look at me and look at me as a failure."

During his tenure, Chief Toler implemented community policing within IMPD, improving connections between police and Indianapolis residents. This model was relatively unknown at the time but is now utilized nationwide. He also played a key role in helping IMPD's administration become more efficient. Chief Toler retired from IMPD in 2001 following 38 years of service.

Chief Toler will always be remembered by not only his biological family and loving friends, but also through his special relationship with the entire Indianapolis community. We treasure the legacy he leaves. James' blood, sweat, and tears paved the way for so many, and he will continue to serve as an inspiration to all who want to make a difference in the world.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me honoring a true Hoosier public servant. Our thoughts are with his family during this time.

RECOGNIZING THE MONMOUTH
COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser as they are honored by the Monmouth County Historical Association at its 49th Annual Garden Party. Mr. Broege, Ms. Jones, and Mr. Millhiser are the members of the Association's recently formed Advisory Council and it is a fitting tribute for the Association to recognize their dedication on its 125th anniversary.

Robert Broege is a long-time supporter of the Monmouth County Historical Association. He has served on the Association's Board of Trustees since 1992 and has lent his time and expertise to various committees, including the ethics committee. He and his wife Marilyn are also repeat hosts of the Garden Party. In addition to his work with the Monmouth County Historical Association, Mr. Broege is a trustee of Elberon Memorial Church, Chairman of the Oceanport Environmental Commission, and previously served on several hospital foundation boards. Mr. Broege remains an active and charitable member of the community and his involvement reflects his passion to help others and improve our communities.

The granddaughter of Mrs. J. Amory Haskell who restored and later donated Marlipit Hall to the Monmouth County Historical Association, Hope Jones is dedicated to preserving the history of Monmouth County. Continuing her family's charitable legacy, Hope Jones joined the Monmouth County Historical Association's Board of Trustees in 1976. She was an exemplary leader of the board for many years, serving as secretary and president. Despite no longer residing in New Jersey full-time, Ms. Jones maintains her Monmouth County roots and has continued to support the mission of the Association. Ms. Jones was recognized for her long-time commitment to the Monmouth County Historical Association as the honoree of the 2008 Garden Party.

Returning to his childhood community of Rumson in 2002, Ross Millhiser and his wife Diane reside in the same home that has been in his family for 65 years. In 2008, he joined the Monmouth County Historical Association Board of Trustees in 2008, combining his love of history with service to the community. Over the years, he served as trustee, first vice president, and vice president emeritus, and as a member of several committees. His active involvement and knowledge has been valuable to the Monmouth County Historical Association and the greater community.

For 125 years, the Monmouth County Historical Association has provided Monmouth County residents and visitors with a vast collection of our local history and heritage. Through its programs, exhibits, and resources, the Association continues to educate and enlighten our communities with both a historical and humanities perspective. Its efforts to preserve and promote the region's rich history help to ensure that this important knowledge is available for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, on the 125th anniversary of the Monmouth County Historical Association, please join me in thanking Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser for their leadership and contributions to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NA-
TIONAL PARK SERVICE RANGER
TOM LORIG

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of National Park Service Ranger Tom Lorig, who tragically passed away at the age of 78 on Friday, June 7, 2024, while on the Job in Bryce Canyon, Utah.

Ranger Lorig worked and volunteered as a National Park Service Ranger for fifty-six years. He became involved with the park service in 1968, working at the Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico for five years. During his career, he served at fourteen national park sites, including Badlands, Bryce Canyon, Yosemite, Zion, and the Dinosaur National Monument, for which he had a particular affection. He also served for over ten years as a permanent, seasonal, and volunteer park ranger across many of these park sites.

Beyond his service to our national parks, Ranger Lorig was also a registered nurse for forty years in the Seattle, Washington area, demonstrating his commitment to helping people and supporting those who needed it.

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to Ranger Lorig's family, friends, and the Bryce Canyon National Park community. His loss will be felt by those who knew him and the many he assisted during his impactful career as both a nurse and a Park Ranger.

It is public servants like Ranger Lorig who truly make our country great.

HONORING LOIS MADOLYN CROSS
BROOKS

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I seek to honor Lois Madolyn Cross Brooks, who was born on June 13, 1924, in Durham, North Carolina. At the age of one, her family relocated to Alexandria, Virginia. She attended Parker-Gray School in Alexandria, which in 1932 became the first high school for African Americans in Alexandria, who previously had to travel to Washington, D.C. if they wished to continue their education beyond 8th grade. Mrs. Brooks graduated from Parker-Gray School in 1942 along with 26 other students.

She worked for the Federal government at the Marine Corps headquarters. She was one of nine children and has one child and two grandchildren. Mrs. Brooks still lives in Alexandria and stays active by reading, following politics, and interacting with young people. I wish her a joyous and healthy centennial birthday.

HONORING JOHN FISHER FOR HIS
INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude that I rise today to extend my thanks and best wishes to John Fisher, the former Executive Director of New Haven's Shubert Theater. For more than two decades, John led this theatrical landmark with a unique dedication and commitment. Tonight, friends, colleagues and community leaders have gathered to thank him for that leadership and celebrate his contributions to the New Haven arts community.

John's professional career has been dedicated to the arts. Prior to coming to New Haven, he spent six years as the general manager of the Big Apple Circus before spending two years in Atlanta as Director of Satellite Olympic Villages for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. He arrived in New Haven in 1997 where he began his career with the Shubert as its general manager. When the Shubert's ownership was transferred from the City of New Haven to the Connecticut Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA), a decade-long process through which John guided and nurtured the historic theater, he became the Executive Director. He would hold this position until his retirement at the end of 2020.

Prior to John's arrival, New Haven's Shubert Theater had been experiencing extreme financial pressures and was in need of serious capital improvements. While it was beloved by the community, the City, which owned it at the time, was not in the position to support the kind of financial investment that was needed. It was John who saw the benefits of transitioning ownership to CAPA and it was his leadership that saw it through.

Over the course of his twenty-four years with the Shubert, John built a strong foundation for the theater, not only by bringing season after season of engaging and exciting performances, but also by building strong partnerships that not only strengthened the Shubert but New Haven's vibrant arts community as a whole. He expanded the theater's community footprint through collaborations with the Board of Education, Cooperative Arts & Humanities High School, the New Haven Free Public Library, as well as arts institutions like the International Festival of Arts & Ideas, the New Haven Ballet, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and Yale Opera.

John's contributions to New Haven's arts community extend far beyond his professional career at the Shubert. He is a former commissioner and Chairman of the Coliseum Authority for New Haven and has been a board member of the New Haven Ballet, the Workforce Alliance, the Connecticut Arts Alliance, and the Arts Council of New Haven. Through all of these efforts, his good work has gone a long way in broadening community access to the arts, ensuring that its magic, artistry, and creativity is shared with new generations.

For his innumerable and invaluable contributions, I am proud to stand today and extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to John Fisher. I wish John and his wife, Liz, as well as their family all the best as they enjoy their retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during votes on Tuesday, June 4th or Wednesday, June 5th.

Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 242, and NAY on Roll Call No. 247.

COURAGEOUS BENJAMIN
NETANYAHU

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to courageous Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the successful rescue of four hostages from Iranian puppets.

Despite biased, fake news, Netanyahu knows the Hamas Covenant of August 18, 1988, Article 7 which states, "The Day of Judgement will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him."

A Netanyahu victory is essential, as we are in a war we did not choose of Dictators With Rule of Gun invading Democracies With Rule of Law, exemplified by war criminal Putin invading Ukraine on February 24, 2022 with mass murder.

I was grateful to be invited by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON to attend the D-Day 80th Anniversary in Normandy, France, to be reminded of President Reagan's historic speech of 1984, ". . . isolationism never was and never will be an acceptable response to tyrannical governments with an expansionist intent."

Every day we are reminded of corrupt, unethical Judge Merchan and his unintended achievement of re-electing Donald Trump with the judge earning my invitation for the Trump Inauguration. The unfairness of a Democrat prosecutor, Soros financed; a Democrat judge Biden contributor; and a Democrat jury in an old Democrat jurisdiction which should require a change of venue.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War on Terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws; we need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as repeatedly warned by the FBI.

NEWSLETTER FROM
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an

update to my constituents to bring awareness to issues surrounding the federal spending process, standing with Israel, and supporting our men and women in blue.

DEAR FRIEND: Washington is broken. If we're going to change what Washington does, we must fix how it works. That's my goal as your representative.

As a member of the House Appropriations and Budget committees, I am now in the thick of the federal spending process, which provides opportunities to reinforce our support for veterans and those currently serving to defend our freedoms.

In setting the spending allocations for each of the 12 subcommittees for the coming fiscal year, the House Appropriations Committee adhered to the caps established under the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023. These caps are projected by the Congressional Budget Office to reduce discretionary spending by \$246 billion for fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

This is proof that we can exercise fiscal restraint while still advancing critical priorities, as funding for our national security will increase by nearly \$9 billion, and veterans' medical care and benefits will be fully funded.

Non-defense programs will be reduced by six percent, with cuts distributed in a measured and thoughtful way. Years of over-spending have led us to this point, but I am helping to flip the script on how the federal government spends hard-earned tax dollars.

Under the previous House majority, you would most often see the annual appropriations process end with an omnibus spending package, rushed through usually right before Christmas and with little time for Members to know what they were voting on.

Here again, House conservatives are flipping the script. We avoided an omnibus last year, and I am optimistic that the Appropriations Committee, which is returning the House to "regular order" by marking up each subcommittee's bill and passing them individually on the House floor, will be able to do the same for FY25.

PRIORITIZING AMERICA'S STRENGTH AND
SAFETY

The House took up the first in a series of appropriations bills, the FY25 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

The bill reflects and is a product of the committee's commitment to our service members both during active duty and as they become veterans, and addresses critical national security challenges in the Pacific.

This legislation would honor our commitment to veterans, bolster our national security, focus the executive branch on its core responsibilities, and support American values and principles. Some of the specifics of the bill, including conservative wins, are:

Fully funding veterans' health care programs, veterans' benefits, and VA programs.

Blocking the administration from using funds to promote or advance critical race theory.

Prohibiting the implementation, administration or enforcement of the administration's executive orders on diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, initiatives.

Banning taxpayer dollars from being used for abortion.

To no one's surprise, the president already issued a Statement of Administration Policy on the funding bill, threatening to veto this legislation that would fully fund the health care and benefits of our veterans that they have earned.

This sends a terrible message by prioritizing radical and woke policies over the safety and well-being of the men and

women in uniform—past and present—who have served our country.

The president's priorities are changing the focus of our military, weakening our readiness and failing to keep promises made to our veterans, and we must reverse course before it is too late.

The House Appropriations Committee's military construction and veterans affairs bill would deliver on our commitment to America by prioritizing our nation's strength and safety, and keeping the promises made to our veterans. I urge the White House to reconsider its hasty and misguided decision.

**STOPPING THE ICC'S ILLEGITIMATE CASES
AGAINST OUR ALLY ISRAEL**

The International Criminal Court's (ICC) decision to file applications for arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, while ignoring the atrocities committed by Iran and the Hamas terrorists, is unacceptable.

The United States does not recognize the jurisdiction of the ICC, and from the very beginning refused to join a body that could, and has, conducted politically motivated prosecutions against U.S. citizens and allies.

The House passed H.R. 8282 with my support to impose sanctions on the ICC to protect our nation and allies by deterring the ICC from pursuing these illegitimate cases where they have no jurisdiction.

Make no mistake: If the ICC pursues the arrest of Israeli officials, it would set a dangerous precedent that is a risk to the U.S., given the ICC's ongoing investigation regarding Afghanistan.

**BRING DOWN INFLATION TO LOWER THE COST OF
LIVING**

Since the president took office, inflation has risen newly 20%.

With high rates of inflation, American families—especially those on federal food assistance—are struggling to maintain their standard of living.

Hard-working Americans should not have to bear the brunt of Washington's reckless spending and regulation, and from my seats on the House Appropriations and Budget committees, I'm continuing to push to fix how Washington works by reining in out-of-control spending and driving down costs for all Americans.

**INVESTIGATING THE WEAPONIZATION OF
GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE AMERICAN PEOPLE**

Last week, history was made.

Should anyone be surprised that Donald Trump would not get a fair and unbiased trial in New York, where prosecutors and their families were contributing to leftist candidates?

The Manhattan court's verdict showed the world just how politicized our judicial system has become, with the left weaponizing our Justice system.

I do not believe the verdict will hold up to a fair and truly impartial appeal.

Meanwhile, U.S. House committees continue to investigate examples of weaponization of government against our people.

SUPPORTING OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN BLUE

Backing the blue is essential at all levels of government to keep our citizens safe, and I applaud the City of Asheville for putting forth a proclamation in support of the Asheville Police Department.

The proclamation provided opportunities for folks across the city to commemorate National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day by showing our gratitude for the men and women in blue who risk their own lives to protect our communities.

On the federal level, I'm doing my part to support the Asheville Police Department by

requesting funding needed to implement a Real-Time Intelligence Center in the City of Asheville. This capability would provide data in a centralized location, which would help Asheville police officers more efficiently gather, analyze, and investigate intelligence to enhance emergency response tactics and services.

**REMINDER "CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS:
UNPLUGGED" TOWN HALL SERIES**

If you haven't already, please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 20, to join my next in-person town hall in Graham County. The town hall will take place from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Graham County Courthouse, 12 N. Main St., Robbinsville, NC.

I'm looking forward to sharing an update about legislative priorities in Congress and answering questions about the issues that matter to you.

With my warmest regards,
CHUCK EDWARDS,
Member of Congress.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF WILLIE MIMS**

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative JOHN GARAMENDI, to recognize the life and service of Willie Mims.

Throughout his life, Willie demonstrated his passion for his community, working tirelessly to empower and serve East County residents. He grew up in what is now Bay Point, California and graduated from Pacific High School in 1963. Willie first became interested in politics in 1964, advocating for the Rumsford Fair Housing Act which aimed to combat racial discrimination in housing. Willie was committed to educating and uplifting our county's youth and advancing equity throughout Contra Costa. He earned his Associate Arts Degree from Diablo Valley College and his Bachelor of Arts and M.A. in English & Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. Willie obtained his teaching credentials in 1978 and went on to have a long career in teaching with the Vallejo City Unified School District. Willie worked as a teacher at John Finney High School, formerly known as Peoples High School, for over 25 years. After retiring in 2009, Willie continued to attend school board meetings to advocate on behalf of Contra Costa parents and students.

Additionally, Willie was a former mentor of Safe in My Brother's Arms (S.I.M.B.A.), a youth program for boys 8-16; former board member of the East County Boy's and Girl's Club; an original member of Pittsburg's Black Political Association; and was part of the Executive Committee of the East County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), serving as its Education Chair. He was also instrumental in the creation of the Antioch School District's African American Male Initiative, which sought to address racial disparities between Black students and their peers. In addition, Willie also volunteered with Greater Faith Food Pantry, helping to feed underserved Pittsburg residents, and served as a volunteer historian for the Parents Connected Organization. Willie was recognized for his efforts to promote ra-

cial justice and equity, receiving the Dr. Martin Luther King Freedom Fighter Award in 2008, being named Contra Costa County's 2024 Humanitarian of the Year, and being given the key to the city of Antioch in February 2024. Willie was a devoted civil rights activist and community leader who always spoke truth to power.

Sadly, Willie passed away on May 22, 2024. He is survived by his children, Dana and Marcus (Cassandra) Mims, his sisters Hilda Murdoch, Nancy Mims-Burt, Ruth Mims-Jemerson, and Melodye Montgomery, his brother-in-law Larry Harold, six grandchildren, and other family members. Willie will be remembered for his indelible impact on our community and his steadfast dedication to promoting justice and equality. Please join me and Representative GARAMENDI in recognizing Willie for his many years of devoted service.

**HONORING THE 2023 FELLOWS OF
THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF IN-
VENTORS**

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 162 inventors who will be inducted as the 2023 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). An induction ceremony will take place this June 18th in Raleigh, North Carolina to celebrate these inventors and their incredible accomplishments. The ceremony will be presided over by Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Derrick Brent, and President of the National Academy of Inventors, Dr. Paul R. Sanberg. To be named as a Fellow, these individuals were nominated by their peers and underwent a review process by the NAI Selection Committee, which ultimately deemed their innovations as making a significant impact on the quality of life, economic development and the welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida and the United States.

Collectively, this year's NAI Fellows hold over 4,500 patents. This remarkable group includes individuals from 118 research universities and non-profit research institutions from across the United States and the world. Today, the NAI maintains a strong membership of 1,898 Fellows; it is comprised of more than 170 senior leaders of research universities and nonprofit research institutes, over 700 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, 59 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 69 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Technology and Innovation and U.S. National Medal of Science, 53 Nobel Laureates, 533 AAAS Fellows, 395 IEEE Fellows and 232 Fellows of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, among other awards and distinctions.

Founded by Dr. Paul R. Sanberg at the University of South Florida in 2010, the NAI's mission is to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, enhance the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property,

educate, and mentor innovative students and translate the inventions of its members to benefit Florida and communities all throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor the 2023 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors for this outstanding achievement. We owe a debt of gratitude to these inventors for their invaluable contributions to society, which continually propel us forward. May their example inspire future generations to pursue their own paths of discovery and innovation, ensuring a bright and innovative future for us all.

The 2023 NAI Fellows Class includes:

Kenneth Adler, North Carolina State University, Rigoberto Advincula, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Arvind Agarwal, Florida International University, Ken Anderson, Southern Illinois University, Daniel Anderson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Bahman Anvari, University of California, Riverside, Mehmet Arik, Auburn University, David P. Arnold, University of Florida, Chieko Asakawa, Carnegie Mellon University, Farrokh Azazi, Georgia Institute of Technology, Sanjoy Banerjee, City University of New York, Krystof Bankiewicz, The Ohio State University, Michel Barsoum, Drexel University, David Beebe, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mark Benden, Texas A&M University, Danielle Benoit, University of Oregon;

Magnus Berggren, Linköping University, Bryony Bonning, University of Central Florida, Robert Brown, Iowa State University, Eric Burger, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Diane Burgess, University of Connecticut, Yiran Chen, Duke University, Guang-Hong Chen, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Jung-Chih (J.-C.) Chiao, Southern Methodist University, Eric (P.Y.) Chiou, University of California, Los Angeles, Steve S. Chung, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Daniel Ciobanu, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Robert Cohen, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Henry Colecraft, Columbia University, Lynn Conway, University of Michigan, David Coy, Tulane University, David T. Curiel, Washington University in St. Louis;

Sajal Das, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Shanta Dhar, University of Miami, Yizhou Dong, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Vincent Donnelly, University of Houston, Xiangfeng Duan, University of California, Los Angeles, Christine Ehlig-Economides, University of Houston, Jason M. Eichenholz, University of Central Florida, Munir Eldesouki, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST), Maohong Fan, University of Wyoming and Georgia Institute of Technology, Carol Feghali-Bostwick, Medical University of South Carolina;

Gerhard Fettweis, Technical University of Dresden, Wolfgang Fink, The University of Arizona, Dan Fleetwood, Vanderbilt University, Joseph Fox, University of Delaware, Paul Friedman, Mayo Clinic, Yun Fu, Northeastern University, Eric Fullerton, University of California, San Diego, Ashok Gadgil, University of California, Berkeley, Jinming Gao, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Charles Garris Jr., The George Washington University;

Michael Good, The University of Utah, David Grainger, The University of Utah, Timothy Grotjohn, Michigan State University, Joel Habener, Massachusetts General Hospital, Sang Han, The University of New Mexico,

Jung Han, Yale University, John Hardy, Lancaster University, Balakrishna Haridas, Texas A&M University, Lambertus Hesselink, Stanford University, Douglas Hofmann, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Bernard Horowitz, New York Blood Center, Hsing-Pang Hsieh, National Institutes of Health, S. Jack Hu, University of Georgia, Tony Hu, Tulane University;

Ana Jaklenee, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, James Janetka, Washington University in St. Louis, Mark Jaroszeski, University of South Florida, Shaoyi Jiang, Cornell University, Christopher W. Jones, Georgia Institute of Technology, David Kaplan, Tufts University;

Yoshihiro Kawaoka, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Shana Kelley, Northwestern University, Kevin Kelly, Louisiana State University, Ali Khademhosseini, Terasaki Institute for Biomedical Innovation;

Eun Sok Kim, University of Southern California, Jungsang Kim, Duke University, Nam Sung Kim, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Nobuhiko P. Kobayashi, University of California, Santa Cruz, Dan Kohane, Harvard University, Dimitri Krainc, Northwestern University, Fred Kramer, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Werner Kuhr, Texas Tech University, M.N.V. Ravi Kumar, The University of Alabama, Prashant Kumta, University of Pittsburgh, Sam TW Kwong, City University of Hong Kong;

Wilbur Lam, Emory University, Shulamit Levenberg, Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Guann-Pyng, Li, University of California, Irvine, Jun Liu, University of Washington, Yuk-Ming (Dennis) Lo, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Bruce R. Locke, Florida State University, David Love, Purdue University, Douglas Loy, The University of Arizona, Helen Lu, Columbia University, Nicky Lu, National Taiwan University;

Edward Maginn, University of Notre Dame, Joshua Makower, Stanford University, Prashant Mali, University of California, San Diego, Dinesh Manocha, University of Maryland, College Park, Arumugam Manthiram, The University of Texas at Austin, Hai-Quan Mao, Johns Hopkins University, Susan Margulies, National Science Foundation/Georgia Institute of Technology/Emory University, Ernesto E. Marinero, Purdue University, Marcela V Maus, Massachusetts General Hospital, Robin L. McCarley, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University;

Brian McClendon, University of Kansas, Morten Meldal, University of Copenhagen, R. John Milne, Clarkson University, Ian Mohr, New York University, Hooman Mohseni, Northwestern University, Joseph Moorman, University of Virginia, James Mulé, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute, Seemantini Nadkarni, Massachusetts General Hospital, Jagjit Nanda, Stanford University, Thuc-Quyen Nguyen, University of California, Santa Barbara, Svante Paabo, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Xiaochuan Pan, The University of Chicago;

Ravindra Pandey, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Niketa A. Patel, University of South Florida, David Peyton, Portland State University, Nevile Pinto, University of Cincinnati, Milos Popovic, Boston University, Zoya (Zorana) Popovic, University of Colorado Boulder, Cassandra Quave, Emory University, Milica Radisic, University of Toronto, P. Hemachandra Reddy, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, David Reinkensmeyer, University of California, Irvine;

Debra Rolison, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory, Roger Ruan, University of Minnesota, Boris Rubinsky, University of California, Berkeley, Omowunmi "Wunmi" Sadik, New Jersey Institute of Technology, José-Alain Sahel, University of Pittsburgh, Aliasger Salem, University of Iowa, Robert Savinell, Case Western Reserve University, Joseph Schlenoff, Florida State University;

Holly Sellers, University of Georgia, Haval Shirwan, University of Missouri-Columbia, Jeffrey Siewerdsen, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Patrick J. Sinko, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Anil Sood, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Srinivas Sridhar, Northeastern University, Jonathan Stamler, Case Western Reserve University, Karthikeyan Sundaresan, Georgia Institute of Technology, Hsing-Wen Sung, National Tsing Hua University;

Michael Tweedle, The Ohio State University, Victor Velculescu, Johns Hopkins University, Guido Verbeck, Augusta University, Maria Vicent, Principe Felipe Research Center, Lai-Xi Wang, University of Maryland, College Park, Kevin Ward, University of Michigan, Jon Weidanz, The University of Texas at Arlington, Paul S. Weiss, University of California, Los Angeles, Christian Wolf, Georgetown University;

Robert Woods, The University of Texas at Arlington, Tohru Yamada, University of Illinois Chicago, Masanobu Yamamoto, Purdue University, G. Craig Yencho, North Carolina State University, Qiming Zhang, The Pennsylvania State University, Wei Zhao, Stony Brook University, Chongwu Zhou, University of Southern California.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORIC MAIN STREET OXFORD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Historic Main Street Oxford (HMSO), an exemplary economic and community development organization established by the Oxford City Council on July 24, 2014. For nearly a decade, HMSO has been a beacon of progress and revitalization in Northeast Alabama, embodying the principles and practices that make our communities thrive.

Historic Main Street Oxford operates under the esteemed Four Point Approach strategy of Organization, Promotion, Design and Economic Vitality as outlined by Main Street America. This approach ensures HMSO remains an effective tool for community-based, volunteer-driven, grassroots revitalization efforts.

Since its inception, HMSO has been accredited by Main Street America and Main Street Alabama, a testament to its dedication to preserving the charm and vitality of downtown Oxford. Over the past decade, HMSO has welcomed 31 businesses, with 18 still successfully thriving in the downtown area. This is a clear indicator of the robust economic environment HMSO has fostered.

In 2018, HMSO launched an innovative city-funded facade grant program. This initiative

has significantly enhanced the aesthetic appeal of our downtown, with 28 projects funded, resulting in a public investment of \$37,664 and a remarkable private investment of \$163,296. This program not only beautifies the downtown, but also stimulates further private investment and economic growth and has had over \$10 million of investment since 2014.

HMSO has played a crucial role in coordinating community events and business development workshops. These activities support local businesses and foster a strong sense of community.

HMSO stands as a model of success-based economic and community development. Its efforts have transformed downtown Oxford into a vibrant hub of activity and culture, reflecting the hard work and dedication of its leaders and volunteers. I commend HMSO for its outstanding contributions to our community and look forward to witnessing its continued success and growth.

HMSO exemplifies the power of community-driven efforts in creating sustainable and vibrant local economies. Their accomplishments over the past decade highlight the importance of preserving our historic downtowns while adapting to modern needs and opportunities. Let us celebrate and support such initiatives that enrich our communities and our lives.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 10th anniversary of Historic Main Street Oxford.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL CARBAJAL

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Michael Carbajal, “Little Hands of Stone (Manilas de Piedra)”, and all his accomplishments. Since becoming a boxer, he has accumulated six world championships, an Olympic silver medal, and a 49–4 career record, all of which landed him in the Boxing Hall of Fame. He was also selected Fighter of the Year in 1993 for Ring Magazine and was Comeback Fighter of the Year in 1999. Since his retirement in 1999 after winning the WBO light flyweight title belt, he has shared his expertise, mentoring the next generation of boxers in the Phoenix area. Inducted into the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame, Carbajal has left an indelible mark on Arizona’s boxing scene.

Carbajal’s outstanding leadership and unwavering dedication have been a tremendous source of inspiration for young boxers throughout Arizona. His ongoing support and commitment to Arizona will make a lasting impact for generations to come.

Since he was six years old, Carbajal has been a unified champion, serving as the face of boxing in Arizona for decades. Carbajal’s story lives on as he tirelessly contributes to the next generation of boxers at his 9th Street Gym, blocks from where he grew up. I am proud to recognize Carbajal and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE GORDONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TIGERETTES ON CLAIMING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes for winning the 2024 ISSAA 1A State Championship in softball for the second year in a row.

Gordonsville, Tennessee, is known as a “Title Town” for having won 10 state championships in their history. This year, “Title Town” has another jewel in its crown thanks to the Gordonsville High School Tigerettes. This is the second consecutive state championship win for the team, who beat Eagleville by a score of 5 to 2 last year and by dominating Jo Byrns 11 to 1 this year.

Kailey Plumlee started the game with a home run and also struck out 12 batters in 6 innings as the starting pitcher. From there, the team continued to show up and show off, out-hitting their opponent 13-to-1. The Tigerettes wrapped up their run-rule victory with yet another home run from Callie Dillard.

Throughout the tournament, the girls outscored their opponents 47 to 2 and finished the year with 32 wins against only 5 losses. This great season is a result of hard work, dedication, bountiful talent, and a supportive community spirit. Legions of enthusiastic fans turned out for every game to cheer on their Gordonsville heroes, and on the way home the streets were lined with “Title Town” citizens celebrating the victory.

This is the second consecutive state championship win for the team, which beat Eagleville School by a score of 5-to-2 last year and Jo Byrns High School by a dominating 11-to-1 score this year. The Lady Tigers came to the field in the championship game with a can-do spirit and the goal of getting started early, and they sure did.

This is the third time the Tigerettes have made it to the state championship in recent years, with the first trip resulting in an agonizing 2 run loss. Afterward, Coach Jonathon Bush made it his mission to raise the expectations for the program and challenge the girls to reach new heights. The results speak for themselves—three state titles.

I would now like to recognize everyone who carried the team to victory. Players included: Callie Dillard, McKenzie Herron, Camri Johnson, Kelsey Haley, Bailey Stewart, Kailyn Roberts, Emma Crawford, Madison Askew, Lakin Roberts, Christina Ray, Abbi Brinkley, Kailey Plumlee, Addison Pope, Bailey Trusty, Kelcie Watts, Laura Thompson, and Adalyn Stafford. I’d also like to recognize Head Coach Jonathon Bush and Assistant Coaches Alton Fitts and Scott Pope for the win.

I am proud to represent Gordonsville, Tennessee, and take much pride in the success of the community, the families that live there, and its home team champion. Again, congratulations to the Gordonsville Tigerettes, the 2024 TSSAA State Softball Champions.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Kresge Foundation on the occasion of the centennial of its founding. The growth of the Kresge Foundation over the last 100 years and the contributions it has made to Southeastern Michigan and the Nation is worthy of commendation.

When Sebastian S. Kresge’s first company turned 25 in 1924, he established the Kresge Foundation in the City of Detroit. The foundation was created to promote the ideas of philanthropy and charity while advancing human progress. The Kresge Foundation’s first donation was to the Salvation Army of Detroit and was soon followed by grants to important institutions such as the Detroit YMCA and the Methodist Children’s Home.

The Kresge Foundation continues to uphold its stated values of creativity, partnership, equity, respect, opportunity, and stewardship, all of which have guided the foundation to continue its impactful work throughout the last 100 years. The foundation has produced 16,500 grants and disbursed more than \$5.1 billion dollars, \$1 billion of which have supported the Metro Detroit region. The Kresge Foundation has leveraged these grants to invest in our arts, education, environment, health, and community development. Additionally, The FUEL and Prolnspire programs offered by the foundation to grantees show that The Kresge Foundation is committed to fully equipping communities with the tools needed to make lasting change in their cities. By employing a socially and historically conscious strategy to their work, The Kresge Foundation has centered racial equality, diversity, and prosperity for all members of the community in its work over the past century. While the foundation has expanded nationally to Memphis, New Orleans, and Fresno, its continued dedication to its work in Detroit remains clear and impactful.

When Detroit became the largest U.S. city to file for bankruptcy protection in 2013, the Kresge Foundation contributed \$100 million to ensure the city met its pension, which then played a considerable role in allowing Detroit to exit bankruptcy quickly and successfully. In recent years, the foundation contributed \$17 million in grants and \$2 million in social investments to assist in relief from the COVID–19 pandemic. Other projects such as The School at Marymount and fellowships for local artists show a continual investment and commitment to Detroit and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Kresge Foundation for the contributions it has made to our communities over the last 100 years. We thank the foundation for its century of service, as well as the opportunities that it has made possible for the City of Detroit and beyond.

RECOGNIZING MR. EMILIO LENA

HON. JOHN JAMES

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, while we often recognize noteworthy and acclaimed personalities, we have many other great unsung heroes and amazing souls who do a ton of heavy lifting with little to no recognition. Yet, if truth be told, they serve as the glue, sturdiness, strength, and all that is good about America. They go about their jobs quietly, without having the expectation of recognition. In fact, they do what they do because it's God's work. It's the right thing to do.

I am privileged to be in a position where I can acknowledge one such unsung hero, and his service to our country during the Korean War, Mr. Emilio Lena. Mr. Lena was born in Cassino, Italy on September 10, 1925. He immigrated to the United States on February 1, 1947, not knowing any English but wanting a better life for himself in pursuit of the "American Dream."

He enlisted in the U.S. Army on October 23, 1952, to serve his new, beloved country and was trained as an artilleryman. He learned to read and write English in the Army and obtained his U.S. citizenship. He was honorably discharged as a Private First Class on October 4, 1954. While in service, he earned the National Defense Service Medal and the Army of Occupation Medal. He cherished his time in the military and was a proud veteran his entire life.

He settled back in the greater Detroit area upon his return from service where he married the love of his life, Elena, and raised five children. He never returned to Italy due to his allegiance to his U.S. citizenship.

We thank him for his service and contribution to his country.

CONGRATULATING ROCHESTER
FIRE CHIEF TOM BUTLER ON HIS
UPCOMING RETIREMENT**HON. RUDY YAKYM III**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate Fire Chief Tom Butler, who is retiring as Fire Chief of the Rochester Fire Department in Rochester, Indiana, at the end of this month.

Serving as Rochester Fire Chief since 2008, Tom's career in public safety spans back three decades when he started as a volunteer firefighter for the Department in 1994. Chief Butler's 16 and a half years in his current role means that when he retires on June 28, he will hold the title for the longest serving Fire Chief in Rochester history.

Chief Butler's career with the Rochester Fire Department is but one reflection of his lifelong passion for helping others. Since he was a young man, Chief Butler felt a calling to serve our Nation in uniform. That calling led Tom to enter military service, where he was a military medic for 24 years with stints in both the Army and the Indiana Army National Guard. Part of that service was spent on two tours in the

Middle East, including a deployment during Operation Desert Storm. Tom distinguished himself in service, and his military awards include a Bronze Star, expert field medical badge, and combat medical badge.

Because of his service as Fire Chief, the Rochester community and Fulton County are unquestionably better off and safer thanks to this good man who exemplifies what it means to be a true public servant who sacrifices for others.

Chief Butler's example and leadership are also reminders that first responders are on the frontlines of some of the most difficult situations our communities face. When there is a problem, first responders like Tom answer the call and willingly put themselves in danger's path to keep us safe. For that, all of us are extremely grateful.

I am proud to join so many Hoosiers throughout Indiana's Second District in expressing our appreciation to Chief Butler for his impressive career spent in service to others. I wish Tom and his family—including his wife Samantha and their two children Alison and Daniel—all the best going forward as Tom begins the next chapter of his life and a very well-deserved retirement. May God bless.

HONORING MARGARET COWLING

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Margaret Cowling of Lexington, Kentucky. She is an extraordinary educator and is retiring after a stellar career of 49 years. It is my honor to lift her up on this special occasion.

Miss Cowling grew up in Lexington, Kentucky and enrolled as a student at The Lexington School in 1957. Her love for the school and the lessons she learned there had a lasting impact. She attended Indiana University, where she earned degrees in both history and English. Miss Cowling earned a master's degree in history from State University of New York then went to New York City where she enrolled in the Stella Adler Studio of Acting. She returned to Lexington to accept a position teaching history at The Lexington School in 1975. Her intent was to teach for a year then return to New York City, but she fell in love with teaching, which kept her at The Lexington School for 49 years.

Miss Cowling's love for history was evident in the community as well as the classroom. She volunteered as a tour guide at Henry Clay's Ashland Estate, the Mary Todd Lincoln House, and Waveland. She wrote a book, *The Lexington School: Our First 50 Years*, to commemorate the school's 50-year history.

I am a great admirer of Miss Cowling as I was fortunate to be one of her many students. She instilled in me a strong passion for history. She taught me about Vikings, Egyptians, Ancient Greeks, Alexander the Great, medieval times, and so much more. Miss Cowling had high expectations for all her students. An excellent storyteller, she made history come alive. Miss Cowling exemplified a love of learning that has stayed with me over the years.

I have been impacted by many excellent teachers in my life, but Miss Cowling stands

out as my favorite. It is my honor to acknowledge my friend and my teacher for her educational excellence, her enthusiasm for learning, and the impact that she has had on me and thousands of other students over her 49-year career.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PER-
MIT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED
STATES TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-
STAFF IN THE EVENT OF THE
DEATH OF A MAYOR OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would make a small but respectful change to federal law by adding the Mayor of the District of Columbia to the list of named principals for whom the President shall order the U.S. flag be flown at half-staff. Current law states that the President shall make this order "upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory." Surely the D.C. Mayor should qualify as such a principal. My bill would add the D.C. Mayor, who has the same responsibilities as state and territory governors, to the current list of officials. This bill is part of a series of bills to ensure equal treatment for the nearly 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia. In the 116th Congress, the House Committee on the Judiciary passed this bill.

Congress has already acknowledged that D.C. is entitled to a place among the states for certain honors. For example, legislation we got enacted gave D.C. a coin after D.C. was omitted from legislation creating coins for the states and required the armed services to display the D.C. flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed. We got D.C.'s Frederick Douglass and Pierre L'Enfant statues placed in the Capitol, alongside the two statues from each state. We also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the states, and successfully worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags near Union Station.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO MADDOX OLATUNDE**HON. BETH VAN DUYN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Maddox Olatunde. As quarterback for L.D. Bell High School in Hurst, Maddox Olatunde helped lead the Blue Raiders to victory over their longtime rival, Euless Trinity, for the first time in 25 years. After completing 18 of 21 passes for 150 yards plus 135 rushing yards and a touchdown, Maddox was selected as the Dallas Morning News "Inside High School Sports" Player of the Week.

Beyond the football field, Maddox is the team captain of the Varsity Men's Soccer Team and the principal cellist of the L.D. Bell Philharmonic Orchestra. He recently received the 2024 HEB ISD Education Foundation Award of Excellence, which is given to 33 outstanding high school seniors who have worked hard, overcome adversity, found their passion, blossomed, and excelled above their cohorts.

I want to congratulate Maddox on his outstanding achievements, both on the field and off.

RECOGNIZING PETERSON
HEALTH'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peterson Health in their seventy-fifth year of serving the Texas Hill Country. The community is forever grateful to Hal and Charlie Peterson, two brothers who envisioned a full-service hospital in Kerrville, Texas. The Petersons' efforts began in 1944 by establishing the Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation with an initial donation of one hundred dollars. Three years later, the Foundation board green-lit construction of a hospital for "the benefit of the people of the Hill Country in general." The brothers started building on their land at Sidney Baker and Water Streets in Kerrville. Named for their father, the Sid Peterson Memorial Hospital opened its doors on July 3, 1949. I include in the RECORD an excerpt from the Petersons' opening ceremony speech that day:

"And so here it is; it's yours to use. If it will ease a little the sufferings of the sick and injured; if it will help a little to mend their broken bodies; if it will provide a place where the next generation—and the next—can enter this world with the best of care and attention, and if it can do these things at a minimum of expense to those who must be patients, then our purpose in building it and giving it to the Hill Country community has been well-served."

It was a world-class facility, the first in America to have a central air conditioning system. Another groundbreaking feature was the intercom system that connected each patient's bed to the nurse's station. In 1969, the hospital underwent extensive upgrades and increased bed capacity to eighty-six. A six-million-dollar expansion plan was completed in 1985, including a new Surgical Annex. The hospital became independent from the Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation five years later. At the turn of the millennium, medical air transport services were added to San Antonio and Austin.

In 2008, the hospital changed locations to the new Peterson Health campus, complete with a brand-new hospital building. It was the only hospital in Texas to be named a Top 20 Rural Community Hospital by the National Rural Health Association. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in 2022 for the Amanda and J. David Williams Surgery Center which will expand surgical capacity by 25% and procedure rooms by 50%. Congratulations to CEO Cory Edmondson and the entire staff on seventy-five years of service to the Hill Country. I applaud Peterson's stated mission of "maintaining their status as an independent, private, nonprofit health system."

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MR. XIAO GUANG (DON) SUN

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Xiaoguang (Don) Sun, who passed away on March 13, 2024, in San Jose, California, with his family by his side. Don was a distinguished citizen who dedicated his life to advocacy, including advocating on behalf of Asian Americans, and served a prominent role in American politics.

Mr. Sun was born on July 10, 1959, in Beijing, China. He obtained a bachelor's degree from Renmin University of China in Beijing in 1982. After graduation, Mr. Sun worked on the Economic Reform and Opening-up policies for six years, focusing on agrarian reform, privatization of land, and grassroots elections in rural China. This work ignited his passion to tirelessly serve the people and galvanized his commitment to the betterment of society. He also earned a master's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990 and worked as a research fellow at the Hoover Institute at Stanford from 1990 to 1993, specializing in the research of political and land reform in Taiwan.

Mr. Sun served as President to the Bay Area chapter of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association since 2009 and as a Cupertino Planning Commissioner from 2011–2019. He was also actively involved in the Cupertino Rotary Club for nearly two decades. Mr. Sun was vocal about the treatment of Asian Americans, leading advocacy efforts towards securing a formal apology from the U.S. House of Representatives for the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Mr. Sun will be forever remembered for his contributions to the Asian American community.

Mr. Sun is survived by his two sons. May his proud legacy continue to live on through all who had the honor of knowing him.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MONMOUTH COUNTY
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Monmouth County Historical Association. This milestone will be celebrated by its leadership, members, and the greater community at its 49th Annual Garden Party on June 7, 2024. I would also like to join the Monmouth County Historical Association in honoring the members of its newly formed Advisory Council: Robert Broege, Hope Jones, and Ross Millhiser.

Organized by a group of Monmouth County residents with the intention of preserving and celebrating the county's rich history, the Monmouth County Historical Association has grown immensely since 1898. In less than 25 years, the group had expanded to several hundred members and procured an extensive collection. Today, the Association boasts a

collection of over 30,000 artifacts, a headquarters, library, archives, and five historic houses.

The Association is a renowned historical organization that continues to fulfill its mission to discover, preserve, and promote the history, genealogy, and biography of Monmouth County. Through its work, the Association provides an anthology of our heritage for future generations. Its exhibitions explore various topics from the American Revolution to the County's resort towns. It has received Giles R. Wright Award twice for its recent work to share the stories and experiences of the enslaved in Monmouth County. In its 125th year, the Monmouth County Historical Association is led by Executive Director Shannon Eadon and a knowledgeable staff as well as its Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, and its new Advisory Council.

The Monmouth County Historical Association continues to play a vital role in the preservation and promotion of the County's rich history. As it marks its 125th anniversary, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the contributions and efforts of the Monmouth County Historical Association.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER SHAYNE
KOTARA

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Shayne Kotara's 22 years of service with the North Richland Hills Police Department. Officer Kotara began his career in the Patrol Division, where he soon became an invaluable asset to the Department because of his committed work ethic and love for serving his community.

Officer Kotara has served the police department in several capacities over the years. In 2006, Officer Kotara transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division where he was assigned to the DEA's Fort Worth Multi-Agency Task Force and later to the DEA's Drug Diversion Task Force. In 2017, Officer Kotara was transferred back to the Uniformed Services Division, and from there he was transferred to the Community Resources Division in 2019. For the last five years, he has served as a school resource officer in the North Richland Hills district. Officer Kotara has shown exceptional dedication and has made a positive impact on his community.

Throughout his distinguished career, Officer Kotara has received numerous awards and commendations, reflecting his exemplary service and dedication. He currently holds a Master Peace Officer License and was awarded one Lifesaving Award. In addition, he's received two Meritorious Service Awards and seven Certificates of Recognition due to his outstanding service in the City of North Richland Hills.

I'd like to thank Officer Kotara for his outstanding service to our community during his career with the North Richland Hills Police Department.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA MORSANI COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a significant milestone in the field of education, health care and community enrichment—the 50th anniversary of the University of South Florida (USF) Health Morsani College of Medicine. For half a century, this respected institution has been a beacon of innovation, excellence and service, shaping the future of medicine and health care in our community and beyond.

Founded in 1971, the USF Morsani College of Medicine has consistently demonstrated a steadfast commitment to educate the next generation of physicians, advance medical knowledge through cutting-edge research, and provide compassionate, patient-centered care to individuals and communities in need. As we mark the 50th anniversary of the graduating charter class in 2024, we reflect on the school's remarkable journey. Over the past five decades, it has not only met but exceeded its ambitious objectives, leaving an enduring impact on medical education and practice. From pioneering research to improving patient care, the Morsani College of Medicine has made its mark in the Tampa Bay community, shaping the landscape of health care for generations to come.

The contributions made by the Morsani College of Medicine to the field of medicine and health care are far reaching. Through its comprehensive academic programs, cutting-edge research facilities and collaborations with valued health care institutions like Tampa General Hospital, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, and local VA hospitals, the College has produced generations of highly skilled and compassionate medical professionals who made invaluable contributions to their respective fields. Whether in primary care, specialty medicine, or research, graduates of the College of Medicine have consistently exemplified the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and excellence.

The Morsani College of Medicine plays a pivotal role in addressing the current doctor shortage crisis we are facing in Florida. After a population boom during the pandemic, the Tampa Bay area has a dire need for doctors. USF is meeting the moment by training high-caliber physicians, many of whom want to stay and practice in the state. Over the five decades since its inaugural graduating class, the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine has bestowed the prestigious medical degree upon nearly 5,100 graduates.

The impact of the Morsani College of Medicine extends far beyond the boundaries of its campus. Through its commitment to community engagement and service, the College has played a pivotal role in addressing the health care needs of my neighbors in Tampa Bay.

From providing essential health care services to vulnerable communities to spearheading groundbreaking research initiatives aimed at combating health disparities, the College of Medicine has remained committed in its dedication to improving the health and well-

being of all members of our community, regardless of their background or socioeconomic status.

As a proud co-founder and co-chair of the Academic Medicine Caucus, I am firmly dedicated to promoting and recognizing the important role that medical schools, teaching hospitals and faculty physicians play to improve the health of people everywhere. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Morsani College of Medicine, let us not only reflect on its great past but also look ahead to a future filled with infinite potential and possibility. I will continue to support and nurture the Morsani College of Medicine as it embarks on its next chapter of excellence, innovation and service to our Tampa Bay neighbors, and the residents of Florida and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending heartfelt congratulations to the University of South Florida Health Morsani School of Medicine on this momentous occasion. May the next 50 years be marked by even greater achievements, medical advancements, and the improvement of the lives of the residents of Florida and the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TOMMIE FRYE AND HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HIS COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Tommie Frye, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan and veteran of the Vietnam War, and to mourn his passing. His dedication to his country and local community over a long and exceptional life is worthy of commendation.

Tommie served honorably as a medic in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He met his wife, Sally Frye, at church while stationed at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. After finishing his service, he worked at Ford until his retirement.

Throughout his life, Tommie gave much of his time, energy, and resources to Parkridge Community Center in Ypsilanti. He worked tirelessly with the young people in his community as a beloved mentor, helping to keep them away from trouble and steering them towards successful futures. His unwavering support as a donor and fundraiser was also vital to Parkridge Community Center's ability to continue operating as a pillar of support for the young people of Ypsilanti.

Tommie's faith was a crucial part of him. He was a member of Mt. Olive Church of God in Christ in Ypsilanti, Michigan for his entire life. He was a pillar of the Mt. Olive community, serving as a deacon, usher, and trustee. He lived out his faith in every aspect of his life through his service, generosity, love, and compassion for everyone around him. His faith in God gave him strength in his final days as he went to claim his eternal reward.

Tommie is survived and remembered by his loving wife Sally, to whom he was married for 52 years, his four children, and his thirteen grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the life of Tommie Frye.

Tommie was an incredible representation of answering our nation's highest calling. He served his country with honor in Vietnam and afterward throughout his local community, bringing joy, enthusiasm, and love to everyone he met along the way. We mourn with his loved ones and thank them for sharing Tommie with us.

HONORING THE FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER-LEXINGTON

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Federal Medical Center, located in Lexington, Kentucky. David Paul serves as Warden and Keith Blanke is Associate Warden. They lead a large staff of dedicated individuals.

In 1935, the United States Narcotic Farm facility opened in the countryside outside of Lexington. Known as Narco, this facility's mission was to treat people struggling with addiction, using new and often experimental treatments. It was a combination prison and hospital with a research facility. Inmates worked on the farm that was located on the grounds. They also interacted with each other through playing music, taking painting classes, and participating in social activities. When it first opened, only men who were arrested for drug-related offenses were housed there; women were admitted in 1941.

In 1967, the farm portion of the operation closed, and the name of the facility was changed to the National Institute of Mental Health, Clinical Research Center. In 1974, the facility became a Federal prison and was named The Federal Medical Center, Lexington. Today, The Federal Medical Center, Lexington celebrates 50 years of service. The Center, operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, serves around 1500 inmates, who each require medical health care.

The Federal Medical Center serves an important role in our Nation's Department of Justice. I would like to offer my thanks and appreciation to each person employed by the Federal Medical Center.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO MICHELLE LOUIS

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Michelle Louis. Michelle Louis has spent the past 18 years smoothing the cancer journey for everyone who's walked through the doors of Cancer Support Community North Texas. As a clinical social worker, she joined the organization in 2006 providing comprehensive support to cancer patients free of charge. During her time working at the organization, she briefly served as Executive Director of Susan G. Komen for the Cure North Texas.

With 3 clubhouses located in Dallas, Tarrant, and Collin counties, Cancer Support

Community North Texas offers patients a sense of hope through support groups, counseling services, resources, and activities free of charge. In 2016, Mirchelle took on the role of CEO for the organization providing thoughtful, structured psychological and emotional support for patients. Five years later, she became a grateful client of the organization she's spearheaded for almost two decades after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis. Even while undergoing four rounds of one type of chemotherapy, 15 weekly treatments of another, and daily radiation for over six weeks, Mirchelle chose to focus on the positives and used what she was dealing with on a personal level to better connect with clients.

I'd like to thank Mirchelle for the incredible work she's done to support and inspire North Texas cancer patients—even through her own cancer journey.

HONORING PASO—WEST SUBURBAN ACTION PROJECT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of P.A.S.O.—West Suburban Action Project (Proyecto de Acción de los Suburbios del Oeste), a community-based social justice organization in Chicago whose mission is to build stronger communities where residents can live dignified lives regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or immigration status.

Since its founding in 2009, P.A.S.O. has become one of the leading immigrant rights or-

ganizations through grassroots organizing and coalition building working in collaboration with partners to create systemic, social change that leads to more equitable and just communities for people of all backgrounds.

Over the past fifteen years, P.A.S.O. has been a pillar of our community and a beacon of hope for so many. From supporting immigrants and refugees training them to defend their rights, to providing health education to seniors and parents, to championing workers rights, and providing free educational opportunities in Spanish, P.A.S.O. supports communities in the quest for change.

I am honored to commemorate P.A.S.O. on their 15th Anniversary. Congratulations (¡Felicidades!).

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4005–S4023

Measures Introduced: Twenty-nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4487–4515, and S. Res. 727–728. **Pages S4018–19**

Measures Passed:

Maternal and Child Health Stillbirth Prevention Act: Senate passed H.R. 4581, to amend title V of the Social Security Act to support stillbirth prevention and research. **Page S4023**

ALS Awareness Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 713, designating May 2024 as “ALS Awareness Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S4023**

Great Outdoors Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 727, designating June 2024 as “Great Outdoors Month”. **Page S4023**

University of South Alabama 60th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 728, commending the University of South Alabama on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and its years of service to the State of Alabama and the United States. **Page S4023**

Rosner Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. **Pages S4005–16**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 67 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. EX. 191), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S4015–16**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, June 12, 2024; that the cloture time be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture has been invoked on the nomination of Lindsay S. See, of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m. **Page S4023**

Messages from the House: **Page S4018**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4019–21**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S4021–23**

Additional Statements: **Pages S4017–18**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4023**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4023**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—191) **Page S4016**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 6:50 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S4023.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025.

MIDDLE EAST

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on policy developments and dynamics in the Middle East from Brett McGurk, Deputy Assistant to the President and Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa, and Amos J. Hochstein, Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor for Energy and Investment, both of the White House.

COAST GUARD OVERSIGHT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Coast

Guard, focusing on sexual assault and harassment, after receiving testimony from Admiral Linda L. Fagan, Commandant, Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 8675–8701; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 110–117; and H. Res. 1286–1290, were introduced. **Pages H3724–25**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3726–28**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 7988, to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–547);

H.R. 5074, to amend the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 to delay implementation of the inclusion of oral-only ESRD-related drugs in the Medicare ESRD prospective payment system, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–548, Part 1);

H.R. 7512, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure implementation of real-time benefit tools under part D of the Medicare program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–549, Part 1);

H.R. 7980, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude vehicles the batteries of which contain materials sourced from prohibited foreign entities from the clean vehicle credit, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–550); and

H. Res. 1287, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8070) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year; relating to the consideration of House Report 118–527 and an accompanying resolution; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–551). **Page H3724**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Rose to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H3683**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H3688, H3710**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:44 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H3688**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 3:30 p.m. **Page H3689**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform Act of 2024: H.R. 7988, to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to new small business entrants in the scorecard program; **Pages H3689–90**

ThinkDIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act: H.R. 7989, to provide for a memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the National Council on Disability to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities; **Pages H3690–92**

Rural Small Business Resilience Act: H.R. 7984, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve access to disaster assistance for individuals located in rural areas; **Pages H3692–93**

Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act: H.R. 8014, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations; **Pages H3693–95**

Forgotten Heroes of the Holocaust Congressional Gold Medal Act: H.R. 537, amended, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust; **Pages H3695–97**

Calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban: H. Res. 965, calling for the immediate release of Ryan Corbett, a United States citizen, who was wrongfully detained by the Taliban on August 10, 2022, and condemning the wrongful detention of Americans by the Taliban; **Pages H3697–99**

Condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia: H. Con. Res. 27, amended, condemning Russia's unjust and arbitrary detention of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza who has stood up in defense of democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections in Russia;

Pages H3699–H3701

No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act: H.R. 6543, to prohibit unfair and deceptive advertising of prices for hotel rooms and other places of short-term lodging, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 384 yeas to 25 nays, Roll No. 248; and

Pages H3704–07, H3709

Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act: H.R. 2964, amended, to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have “Do Not Flush” labeling, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 351 yeas to 56 nays, Roll No. 249;

Pages H3707–09, H3709–10

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To require certain products to be labeled with ‘Do Not Flush’ labeling, and for other purposes.”. Page H3710

Recess: The House recessed at 5:36 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Page H3709

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act: S. 138, to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

Pages H3701–04

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, June 12th. Page H3710

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two ye-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3709 and H3709–10.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a markup on the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2025. The Sub-

committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2025 was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

SERVICEMEMBER QUALITY OF LIFE IMPROVEMENT AND NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025; LEGISLATION ON THE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY THE RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK B. GARLAND IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY; LEGISLATION ON THE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY THE RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL MERRICK B. GARLAND IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 8070, the “Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025”; legislation on House Report 118–527, report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary; and legislation on House Report 118–533, report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on Oversight and Accountability. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 8070, the “Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025”, House Report 118–527, report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on the Judiciary, and House Report 118–533, report to accompany the Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives Find United States Attorney General

Merrick B. Garland in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on Oversight and Accountability. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8070, the “Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their respective designees. The rule provides that in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–36, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is as considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 3. The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that if House Report 118–527 is called up by direction of the Committee on the Judiciary, all points of order against the report shall be waived and the report shall be considered as read. The rule further provides for consideration of the resolution accompanying House Report 118–527 under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the resolution accompanying House Report 118–527. The rule provides that the resolution accompanying

House Report 118–527 shall be considered as read. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. Finally, the rule provides that upon adoption of the resolution accompanying House Report 118–527, the resolution accompanying House Report 118–533 is hereby adopted. Testimony was heard from Chairman Rogers of Alabama, Chairman Comer, and Representatives Smith of Washington, Raskin, Hageman, Nadler, Carter of Georgia, Grothman, Wenstrup, Owens, McCormick, Moylan, Stauber, Kaptur, Green of Texas, Foster, and Mfume.

THE VA BENEFICIARY TRAVEL SELF-SERVICE SYSTEM: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “The VA Beneficiary Travel Self-Service System: Mission Accomplished?”. Testimony was heard from Ryan Heiman, Deputy Executive Director for Member Services, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 8512, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. H.R. 8512 was ordered reported, as amended.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 9:30 a.m., SR–232A.

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, closed business meeting to markup those provisions

which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10 a.m., SR-232A.

Subcommittee on Personnel, business meeting to mark-up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Seapower, business meeting to mark-up those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10:45 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 11:15 a.m., SR-232A.

Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Semi-Annual Report to Congress, 9:45 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine making Wall Street pay its fair share, focusing on raising revenue and strengthening our economy, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 4207, to reauthorize the spectrum auction authority of the Federal Communications Commission, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 2156, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to authorize additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and the Bolts Ditch Headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado, S. 3123, to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, S. 3148, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to finalize and implement certain travel management plans in the State of Utah, S. 3322, to allow holders of certain grazing permits to make minor range improvements and to require that the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior respond to requests for range improvements within 30 days, S. 3346, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain streams in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and Smith River system in the State of Montana as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 3593, to provide for economic development and conservation in Washoe County, Nevada, S. 3596, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite, S. 3617, to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, S. 3790, to make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, S. 3870, to amend the In-

frastructure Investment and Jobs Act to expand eligibility for certain financial assistance for the acquisition of slip-on tanker units for wildland firefighting, S. 3985, to amend the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 to add certain land to the Sarvis Creek Wilderness, S. 4310, to exchange non-Federal land held by the Chugach Alaska Corporation for certain Federal Land in the Chugach Region, S. 4424, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and expand the use of prescribed fire on land managed by the Department of the interior or the Forest Service, with an emphasis on units of the National Forest System in the western United States, to acknowledge and support the longstanding use of cultural burning by Tribes and Indigenous practitioners, S. 4431, to reinstate the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 4432, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 4449, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments in the State of Oregon as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 4451, to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land, S. 4454, to provide for the establishment of an Operational Flexibility Grazing Management Program on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, S. 4456, to amend the Granger-Thye Act to modify the maximum term for certain special use permits for housing, and S. 4457, to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine youth residential treatment facilities, focusing on failures and evaluating solutions, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, focusing on supporting efforts to meet the needs of youth, workers, and employers, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, to hold hearings to examine building our critical minerals workforce, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine S. 2908, to assist Tribal governments in the management of buffalo and buffalo habitat and the reestablishment of buffalo on Indian land, S. 3263, to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, S. 4000, to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and S. 4442, to amend the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010 to make improvements to that Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine combatting the youth vaping epidemic by enhancing enforcement against illegal e-cigarettes, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold hearings to examine

abortion bans and interstate travel for care after *Dobbs*, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2025; and the Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, FY 2025, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled “NLRB Overreach: Trampling on Workers’ Rights and Fostering Unfairness”, 9:45 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 6020, the “Honor Our Living Donors Act”; H.R. 455, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to fix a technical error in the definitions; H.R. 4534, the “Women and Lung Cancer Research and Preventive Services Act of 2023”; H.R. 5012, the “Stillbirth Health Improvement and Education for Autumn Act of 2023”; H.R. 7213, the “Autism Collaboration, Accountability, Research, Education, and Support Act of 2024”; H.R. 8084, the “LIVE Beneficiaries Act”; H.R. 8089, the “Medicare and Medicaid Fraud Prevention Act of 2024”; H.R. 8111, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure the reliability of address information provided under the Medicaid program; H.R. 8112, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to further require certain additional provider screening under the Medicaid program; H.R. 4758, the “Accelerating Kids’ Access to Care Act”; H.R. 5526, the “Seniors’ Access to Critical Medications Act”; H.R. 6033, the “Supporting Patient Education And Knowledge Act of 2023”; and H.R. 7858, the “Telehealth Enhancement for Mental Health Act of 2024”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the FDIC’s Failed Leadership and Toxic Workplace Culture”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Great Power Competition in the Western Hemisphere”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4574, the “Cooperation on Combatting Human Smuggling and Trafficking Act”; H.R. 6229, the “DHS Special Events Program and Support Act”; H.R. 7311, the “Combatting International Drug Trafficking and Human Smuggling Partnership Act of 2024”; H.R. 8150, a bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities; H.R. 8631, the “Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act of 2024”; H.R. 8645, the “Improved Screening for Veterans and Passengers with Disabilities Act”; H.R. 8655, the “Federal Air Marshal Enhancing Airport Security Act of 2024”; H.R. 8654, the “Streamlining Law Enforcement Information Sharing Act”; H.R. 8658, the “Emerg-

ing Digital Identity Ecosystem Report Act of 2024”; H.R. 8663, the “Detection Equipment and Technology Evaluation to Counter the Threat of Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024” or the “DETECT Fentanyl and Xylazine Act of 2024”; H.R. 8664, the “DHS Intelligence and Analysis Oversight and Transparency Act”; H.R. 8671, the “DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program and Law Enforcement Support Act”; legislation on the Repair of the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System Act of 2024; and H.R. 8662, the “TSA Commuting Fairness Act”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, hearing entitled “Climate Control: Decarbonization Collusion in Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Investing”, 10:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled “The U.S. Intellectual Property System and the Impact of Litigation Financed by Third-Party Investors and Foreign Entities”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1395, the “Delaware River Basin Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2023”; H.R. 1437, the “Black Vulture Relief Act of 2023”; H.R. 1647, the “Salem Maritime National Historical Park Redesignation and Boundary Study Act”; H.R. 3119, to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp; H.R. 5441, the “Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Reauthorization Act of 2023”; H.R. 6395, the “Recognizing the Importance of Critical Minerals in Healthcare Act of 2023”; H.R. 7776, the “Help Hoover Dam Act”; H.R. 7872, the “Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act”; H.R. 8446, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes; and H.R. 8450, the “Phosphate and Potash Protection Act of 2024”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled “Addressing Oversight and Safety Concerns in the Department of Defense’s V-22 Osprey Program”, 10:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, business meeting on an updated Committee roster, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Recapitalization of the United States Coast Guard”, 10:15 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled “Amtrak and Intercity Passenger Rail Oversight: Promoting Performance, Safety, and Accountability”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled “Does a Total Disability Rating Based on Individual Unemployability (TDIU) Properly Compensate Today’s Veterans?”, 10:15 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 226, the “Veterans Collaboration Act”; H.R. 7543, the “Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2024”;

H.R. 7896, the “VETS Opportunity Act of 2024”; H.R. 7920, “Agriculture Grants for Veterans Education and Training Services Act”; H.R. 8529, “Warriors to Workforce Act”; H.R. 8661, the “Reforming Education for Veterans Act”; H.R. 8646, “Modernizing the Veterans On-Campus Experience Act”; H.R. 8647, the “VA Home Loan Reform Act”; H.R. 8514, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an annual increase in stipend for books, supplies, equipment, and other educational costs under Post9/11 Educational Assistance Program of Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 8560, the “End Veteran Homelessness Act of 2024”; H.R. 8627, the “Student Veteran Debt Relief Act of 2024”; and H.R. 8607, to amend title 38 United States Code, to make certain legatees of certain eligible veterans eligible for housing loans guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, 2 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Looking Beyond 2025 for Trade with Sub-Saharan Africa, Haiti, and Others”, 1:15 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the boom in U.S. manufacturing investment, 3 p.m., SD-G50.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 12 through June 14, 2024

Senate Chamber

On *Wednesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of David Rosner, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Lindsay S. See, of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lindsay S. See, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Judy W. Chang, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: June 12, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for

the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency, 10 a.m., SVC-217.

June 13, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 10 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: June 12, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 9:30 a.m., SR-232A.

June 12, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10 a.m., SR-232A.

June 12, Subcommittee on Personnel, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

June 12, Subcommittee on Seapower, business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 10:45 a.m., SH-216.

June 12, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee’s jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 11:15 a.m., SR-232A.

June 12, Full Committee, closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

June 13, Full Committee, closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 8:30 a.m., SR-222.

June 14, Full Committee, closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025, 9:30 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 12, to hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s Semi-Annual Report to Congress, 9:45 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: June 12, to hold hearings to examine making Wall Street pay its fair share, focusing on raising revenue and strengthening our economy, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: June 12, business meeting to consider S. 4207, to reauthorize the spectrum auction authority of the Federal Communications Commission, 10 a.m., SR-253.

June 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine FAA oversight of aviation manufacturing, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: June 12, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 2156, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act

to authorize additional entities to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and the Bolts Ditch Headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado, S. 3123, to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, S. 3148, to prohibit the use of funds by the Secretary of the Interior to finalize and implement certain travel management plans in the State of Utah, S. 3322, to allow holders of certain grazing permits to make minor range improvements and to require that the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior respond to requests for range improvements within 30 days, S. 3346, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain streams in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and Smith River system in the State of Montana as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 3593, to provide for economic development and conservation in Washoe County, Nevada, S. 3596, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite, S. 3617, to provide equitable treatment for the people of the Village Corporation established for the Native Village of Saxman, Alaska, S. 3790, to make additional Federal public land available for selection under the Alaska Native Vietnam era veterans land allotment program, S. 3870, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to expand eligibility for certain financial assistance for the acquisition of slip-on tanker units for wildland firefighting, S. 3985, to amend the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993 to add certain land to the Sarvis Creek Wilderness, S. 4310, to exchange non-Federal land held by the Chugach Alaska Corporation for certain Federal Land in the Chugach Region, S. 4424, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and expand the use of prescribed fire on land managed by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service, with an emphasis on units of the National Forest System in the western United States, to acknowledge and support the longstanding use of cultural burning by Tribes and Indigenous practitioners, S. 4431, to reinstate the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 4432, to allow certain Federal minerals to be mined consistent with the Bull Mountains Mining Plan Modification, S. 4449, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments in the State of Oregon as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 4451, to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land, S. 4454, to provide for the establishment of an Operational Flexibility Grazing Management Program on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, S. 4456, to amend the Granger-Thye Act to modify the maximum term for certain special use permits for housing, and S. 4457, to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

June 13, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Bureau of Land Management, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: June 12, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: June 12, to hold hearings to examine youth residential treatment facilities, focusing on failures and evaluating solutions, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

June 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of James R. Ives, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of the Treasury, and Rose E. Jenkins, of the District of Columbia, Adam B. Landy, of South Carolina, and Kashi Way, of Maryland, each to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court, 9:45 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 13, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jennifer D. Gavito, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the State of Libya, Joshua M. Harris, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Peter W. Lord, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Juan Carlos Iturregui, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, and Tracey Ann Jacobson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 12, to hold hearings to examine the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, focusing on supporting efforts to meet the needs of youth, workers, and employers, 10 a.m., SD-562.

June 12, Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, to hold hearings to examine building our critical minerals workforce, 2:30 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: June 12, to hold hearings to examine S. 2908, to assist Tribal governments in the management of buffalo and buffalo habitat and the reestablishment of buffalo on Indian land, S. 3263, to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, S. 4000, to reaffirm the applicability of the Indian Reorganization Act to the Lytton Rancheria of California, and S. 4442, to amend the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010 to make improvements to that Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 12, to hold hearings to examine combatting the youth vaping epidemic by enhancing enforcement against illegal e-cigarettes, 10 a.m., SD-106.

June 12, Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold hearings to examine abortion bans and interstate travel for care after *Dobbs.*, 2 p.m., SD-226.

June 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1306, to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, S. 4199, to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judgeships, and the nominations of Michelle Williams Court, Anne Hwang, and Cynthia Valenzuela Dixon, each to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Sarah Netburn, to be United States District

Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Stacey D. Neumann, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 12, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, June 13, Full Committee, markup on the Defense Appropriations Bill, FY 2025; the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill, FY 2025; and the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill, FY 2025, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Medicare and Social Security: Examining Solvency and Impacts to the Federal Budget”, 11:15 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, June 13, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 618, the “Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act”; H.R. 8606, the “Never Again Education Reauthorization and Study Act of 2024”; H.R. 8648, the “Civil Rights Protection Act of 2024”; H.J. Res. 165, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance”; H.R. 6816, the “Promoting Responsible Oversight to Eliminate Communist Teachings for Our Kids Act”; H.R. 5567, the “Combating the Lies of Authoritarians in School Systems Act”; H.R. 8649, the “Transparency in Reporting of Adversarial Contributions to Education Act”; H.R. 7227, the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act of 2024”; and H.R. 8534, the “Protecting Student Athletes’ Economic Freedom Act”, 10:45 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, June 13, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Checking-In on CMMI: Assessing the Transition to Value-Based Care”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

June 13, Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials, hearing entitled “Securing America’s Critical Materials Supply Chains and Economic Leadership”, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Semi-Annual Report of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 13, Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability, hearing entitled “The Plight of Americans Detained Abroad”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Cascade of Security Failures: Assessing Microsoft Corporation’s Cybersecurity Shortfalls and the Implications for Homeland Security”, 1:15 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Hearing on the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, June 13, Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing entitled “Examining GAO’s Findings to Address Data Gaps and Improve Data Collection in the Territories”, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

June 13, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Destroying America’s Best Idea: Biden’s Border Crisis, Desecrating National Park Lands and Damaging Communities”, 11 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, June 13, Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Federal Workforce, hearing entitled “What We Have Here . . . is a Failure to Collaborate: Review of GAO’s Annual Duplication Report”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, June 13, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8613, the “NSF and USDA Interagency Research Act”; H.R. 8665, the “Supercritical Geothermal Research and Development Act”; H.R. 8673, the “Expanding Partnerships for Innovation and Competitiveness Act”; and H.R. 8674, the “Milestones for Advanced Nuclear Fuel Act”, 11 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

June 13, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled “Environmentalism Off the Rails: How CARB will Cripple the National Rail Network”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 13, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Revenue, Ridership, and Post-Pandemic Lessons in Public Transit”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Call to Action: Meeting the Needs of the Spinal Cord Injury Disorders (SCI/D) Veteran Community”, 10:30 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Crisis on Campus: Antisemitism, Radical Faculty, and the Failure of University Leadership”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Joint Economic Committee: June 12, to hold hearings to examine the boom in U.S. manufacturing investment, 3 p.m., SD–G50.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: June 13, to hold hearings to examine silenced dissent, focusing on the plight of political prisoners and search for accountability, 3 p.m., 2212–RHOB.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, June 12

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, June 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of David Rosner, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of David Rosner, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Lindsay S. See, of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lindsay S. See, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Judy W. Chang, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Lindsay S. See until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Begin consideration of H.R. 8070—Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Subject to a Rule).

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