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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 19, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CELESTE MALOY 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 11:50 a.m.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month and to celebrate the countless contributions the Latino community has given to the United States.

Whether you are an immigrant like me, a Hispanic American like many others, or have been in this country for generations, the Latino community is deeply interwoven within the fabric of America.

Many came to the United States and went through a long process in search of the American Dream and embodied the hopes and possibilities our Nation has to offer. America is a unique Nation where anyone, no matter their background, can climb as far as they can dream and achieve extraordinary things.

My story is just one example. When I was young, my family and I immigrated to the United States in search of our American Dream. We set up roots in southern Arizona and embraced the opportunities this amazing Nation has to offer. My parents taught me the value of hard work and perseverance, values that drove me all the way here to the United States Congress.

As the first naturalized citizen from Mexico elected to represent Arizona in any Federal office, it is my honor and privilege to work to give back to the community where my family and I are living our American Dream.

As co-chair of the Hispanic-Serving Institutions Caucus, I was proud to colead a resolution designating the week of September 9, 2024, as National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week.

This week also marks another special occasion, Citizenship Day. Madam Speaker, 18 years ago this week, I received the honor of a lifetime, becoming a United States citizen. I will never forget the pride I felt that day when I raised my right hand and recited the oath of citizenship.

This reminds me of a story where my dad talked to me right before I launched this effort, and he said: Son, where else in the world could we have our story? We come to this country, immerse in the culture, learn English, go through the long process of becoming U.S. citizens.

My dad said: I drive a bus my whole life, and now my son has the opportunity to be a United States Congressman. Where else in the world could we have this story?

Friends, the answer is simple: Only in America could we have that story.

CONGRATULATING UTTERBACK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my former middle school, Utterback Middle School in Tucson, Arizona.

Utterback Middle School recently made an incredible achievement. The Arizona State Board of Education graded them as a B school. Since 2018, this school has improved two whole letter grades, an outstanding achievement that reflects the unwavering dedication our teachers and educators have for our students.

During the August work period, I had the privilege of visiting Utterback Middle School and was extremely impressed with the school's program and staff, particularly the principal, Ms. Sanders.

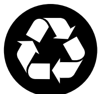
Rising to a B ranking is largely due to the efforts of Principal Sanders, who worked with staff and community partners to turn the school around. She even recently received the Stellar Principal Award for her incredible work.

Utterback offers nine different electives and two intervention classes that include drama, dance, Lego technology, and computer literacy to keep students engaged in a variety of ways.

They also provide a class called AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, a unique readiness program that gives the students the opportunity to prepare for life beyond the classroom.

Thanks to the outstanding work of Principal Sanders and her team, Utterback Middle School provides unique opportunities for students to engage in the classroom in a variety of ways. They should be an example for other schools around the country.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.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I thank Utterback Middle School for providing an incredible learning opportunity to the students in Tucson, and I thank Principal Sanders and her team for all their great work. Go Unicorns.

HONORING THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. CISCOMANI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of our Nation's founding document and to recognize Constitution Week, a time to celebrate the wisdom and foresight of our Founding Fathers and recommit ourselves to the values that define America.

I also recognize the Tombstone Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for all of their work promoting Constitution Week across southern Arizona.

This week, 247 years ago, our Constitution was ratified, giving birth to a nation conceived in the ideals of freedom and democracy, governed by the consent of we the people, not the whims of an overseas monarch.

It established the United States as a nation of laws, where institutions are respected and all citizens are afforded a presumption of innocence and the right to a fair and speedy trial. It gave us separation of power between branches of government, preventing the concentration and abuse of power by any single entity.

Our Constitution is our cornerstone and our roadmap. As Americans, we have a responsibility to uphold these values and ideals to ensure it continues guiding us for generations to come.

On this Constitution Week, let us reflect on the principles of liberty and democracy enshrined in the Constitution and recommit ourselves to the ideals that make America truly exceptional.

God bless the United States of America.

BIPARTISAN PATH IS ONLY WAY FORWARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, we are just 11 days away from a government shutdown, and let me be clear: A shutdown would be a disaster for the American people.

A shutdown would disrupt vital services, halt disaster relief, and put countless Federal employees out of work. We simply cannot afford to go down that path.

Speaker JOHNSON made the deliberate choice to tie the SAVE Act, which seeks to create burdensome barriers to voting, directly to the government spending bill. He is setting himself up to fail to push a voter suppression bill. This is just another attempt to make it harder for Americans to participate in democracy.

We already have processes in place to verify citizenship during registration. Only citizens can vote in U.S. Federal elections. Let me repeat that: Only citizens can vote in U.S. Federal elections.

Study after study shows that noncitizen voting is not affecting our elections. It is a Federal crime for noncitizens to vote in Federal elections, and noncitizens who violate the law and attempt to vote anyway face prison time and deportation.

Here is the plain truth: At Donald Trump's orders, extreme MAGA Republicans are holding government funding hostage unless they can impose some of the most radical pieces of Donald Trump's Project 2025 agenda.

Instead of wasting time with political games, Republicans must stop following the former President's orders and join Democrats in a bipartisan effort to pass a short-term funding extension free of poison pills so we can keep the government open and complete a bipartisan government funding process this year. We did it last year, and we can do it again.

Instead of focusing on the needs of the American people, extreme MAGA Republicans are more interested in playing puppet for Donald Trump.

Let's be clear: Donald Trump wants to shut down the Federal Government. Is this really the leadership the American people deserve or just a chaotic circus of partisan political games?

This is not how you govern. This is how you create chaos. Instead of collaborating for the good of the country, they are threatening a shutdown just to appease a former President. Are they representing their constituents or just following orders directly from Mar-a-Lago?

Let's not forget, a government shutdown doesn't impact politicians. It harms everyday Americans. For some Republicans, it is just another opportunity for partisan political theater.

The American people are tired of the Trump show. They want results. I came to Congress to get things done. We are on track to be the least productive Congress in our Nation's history because Trump Republicans continue to play partisan political games.

Let's put people over politics and come together to pass a clean continuing resolution that supports the needs of our constituents and keeps the government open for business. We owe it to the American people to prioritize their well-being and their best interests.

I will work with anyone and everyone to keep the government open, and a bipartisan path in a divided Congress is the only way forward. Let's stop wasting time and fund the government.

IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of agriculture education.

National Teach Ag Day is for anyone who wants to celebrate school-based agricultural education, share the story of agricultural education's importance and effectiveness in the United States, and encourage students to consider careers as agricultural educators.

This recognition of agriculture education is more important than ever. The average American farmer is around 57 years old, a statistic that underscores the urgent need for agriculture education.

Inspiring the next generation of agricultural leaders is critical for our food security, and this encouragement begins in the classroom. As chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, I had the privilege of meeting with agriculture educators and students in Pennsylvania and throughout the country. Programs like Future Farmers of America and the 4–H strongly advocate advancing agriculture education and exposing our youth to the agricultural industry.

In July, I met with the Pennsylvania FFA State officers here in our Nation's Capital. We discussed many career opportunities in the agricultural field and the vital needs of a robust agricultural industry.

We interact with agriculture at least three times a day, and students must have the opportunity to learn about the industry and its career opportunities.

Madam Speaker, each one of us can play a role in advocating for agriculture education. Now more than ever, we must recognize that food security is national security, and a nation that cannot feed itself is a nation in turmoil.

As I mentioned earlier, we are at a critical point in our agricultural history. With the average age of our farmers hovering around 57 years old, it is essential that we develop the next generation of farmers.

To support the next generation of farmers, I included provisions in the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 that bolster new and beginning farmers by increasing access to credit and crop insurance; supporting research, extension, and education activities; and improving program delivery at USDA.

As a senior member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, co-chair of the 4–H Caucus, and a proud member of the FFA Caucus, I am passionate about advancing agricultural education in our schools.

Teach Ag Day highlights the importance of agriculture education in our schools and communities. It is not just about learning how to farm. It is about understanding the science, technology, and business behind agriculture.

I thank all of our agricultural educators across the country and the Commonwealth and in the 15th Congressional District. Their dedication and hard work are the foundation of our agricultural future, and the guidance that they provide prepares the next

generation of farmers, producers, and ranchers.

□ 1015

I always enjoy my meetings with FFA and 4–H students, and our conversations give me great hope in the direction of our agriculture community.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to, once again, thank all those involved in agricultural education and empowering our next generation of farmers.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF PRISCILLA DUNN

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

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of former Alabama State Senator Priscilla Dunn, who passed away on Tuesday, September 17, at the age of 80.

A lifelong educator and trailblazing public servant, Senator Dunn dedicated her life to the betterment of her community and the State of Alabama.

In 1961 she graduated from Abrams High School in Bessemer where she served as cheer captain and the first Miss Abrams High. After receiving her bachelor's degree from the Alabama State University and her master's degree from the University of Montevallo, Senator Dunn's passion for education drove her to the Alabama School System where she served as a public schoolteacher for more than three decades.

Motivated by the pursuit of justice, Senator Dunn spent 24 years in the Alabama legislature, first in the house and then in the senate. She held numerous leadership positions in organizations throughout Jefferson County, Alabama, including 16 years as president of Concerned Citizens for Bessemer Cut-Off, and coordinator of the Jefferson County Democratic Conference.

Senator Dunn was a true public servant. As a schoolteacher as well as a Sunday schoolteacher, she was definitely guided by her abiding faith, and she always practiced what she preached.

On a personal note, I am blessed to have known Senator Dunn and her wonderful family. As Alabama's first Black Congresswoman, I stand on the shoulders of amazing leaders like Senator Dunn who opened the doors for me and many others. She was a grande dame whose footsteps we as Black women elected officials in Alabama are blessed to follow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life of former Alabama Senator Priscilla Dunn. May her legacy live on in the many lives that she impacted and touched.

COMMEMORATING THE 1–YEAR SINCE HAMAS' BARBARIC ATTACK ON ISRAEL

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

Mr. KUSTOFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the 1-year anniversary of Hamas's vicious and horrific attack on Israel.

As we all know, in the early morning of October 7, Hamas invaded and brutally attacked Israel and her people, murdering over 1,200 innocent men, women, and children, including 35 Americans. These terrorists violently took hostages, including Americans.

In the weeks after the attacks, I watched a 47-minute video taken on October 7. I watched it along with other Members of Congress. All of us who saw the images and heard the words and the language of that day were horrified. The savagery, the barbarism, the violence, and the pure hatred against Israel and the Jewish people is indescribable on that video, but yet we all know what happened.

Indeed, the world changed forever on that day.

Now, here we are 1 year later, and Hamas still has innocent hostages captive and we continue to see a rise in anti-Semitism across the globe and in our own Nation.

I am honored to serve as chairman of something called the House-Knesset Parliamentary Friendship Group. I am also proud that this group is bipartisan. In July, I traveled to Israel to meet with Speaker of the Knesset Amir Ohana and also Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

When I was there, I reiterated that the United States House of Representatives continues to stand with Israel. I told Israeli leadership that our Nation will ensure that Israel will have the resources that it needs to defend itself.

I also had the opportunity to visit Kfar Aza, which is a kibbutz in southern Israel, as well as the site of the Tribe of Nova music festival with the Israel Defense Forces.

Madam Speaker, I have to tell you it was deeply moving to stand where Hamas invaded and murdered and butchered so many innocent Israelis. When I was there, I met and I talked with family members and heard the real-life stories of those who survived, those who are being held captive, and those who were brutally and viciously mutilated and murdered.

Madam Speaker, I have to tell you that I am truly impressed by the resilience of the Israeli people, by their hope, and by their strong morale against the barbarism that tries to stifle the will of Israel.

The United States stands unequivocally with our greatest ally in the Middle East, that being Israel. Israel fights an enemy who not only seeks the elimination of Israel, but more broadly, the elimination of Western values like freedom, liberty, and democracy. Prime Minister Netanyahu told us as much when he spoke right here giving a joint address to a joint session of Congress back in July.

It is so important that we come together and ensure that Israel has the resources and support that it needs so that they can combat this evil.

We also continue to condemn the blatant and brazen forms of anti-Semitism that have arisen here in the United States and certainly around the world. Such hatred can't be tolerated. It can't be tolerated in the Halls of Congress or anywhere else in this country or in the world. It is really a matter of good versus evil and life versus death.

Israel and the U.S. are committed to defeating Hamas and ensuring that all the hostages are returned home, but we can't stop there. We have got to work together to wipe terrorism off of the face of the Earth, and we have got to make sure that Israel can live in peace with her neighbors.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, this Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to honor a powerful community mother in our district. She is an advocate. She has been a social worker for over 40 years. Our community mother, Mary Turner, serves with so much incredible commitment to community.

Mary's Catholic faith drove her to service. In southwest Detroit where there are 20 different ethnicities, you will find someone who has a story about Mary helping their family.

She brings so much heart and humanity to everything that she does, helping families navigate our broken, inhumane immigration system that too often works against them.

Her commitment to justice, equality, and compassion reminds us of the essential contributions that our Latino neighbors make every day in our Nation.

Mary doesn't just serve our community, she empowers us.

As we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and the more than 63 million Hispanic and Latino Americans in our country, let's honor people like Mary Turner and continue to fight for a future where every person, regardless of their background, has access to the opportunities they deserve.

I thank Mary Turner for her many years of service. She continues to inspire us all.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, this month I join Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL and Wayne County Executive Warren Evans for a townhall to discuss the impending radioactive waste shipments that are coming to Michigan from New York.

This waste, and thousands of other truckloads our residents never hear about, comes to our communities right into our backyard because Michigan

has become the country's hazardous waste dumping ground.

Wayne County, the largest county in Michigan, is home to six of Michigan's eight hazardous waste dumps. Our laws must change, Madam Speaker. We must protect our residents.

I don't know if folks know, but it costs about $13 to dispose of a ton of waste in a landfill in Wisconsin, but it only costs 36 cents in Michigan.

We have made ourselves the most attractive place in our Nation to dump hazardous waste while surrounded by 84 percent of our country's surface freshwater. It doesn't make sense.

The truth is our environmental protection laws aren't strong enough to protect our people. They certainly do not go far enough, again, to protect working families and communities of color.

I introduced the Cumulative Impacts Act that would require the EPA and EGLE to consider cumulative impacts of pollution on our communities when it considers permanent facilities like this one and reject those permits when they would put our health at risk.

We need to pass this bill and more. Our residents are getting sick every single day while we do nothing.

PALESTINIAN BABIES

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, we are witnessing the Israel Government carry out a genocide in Gaza.

Recently, the Gaza ministry of health released a 649-page document with the name, age, and ID number of 34,344 Palestinians killed in Gaza who have been identified.

Most of them are women, children, and the elderly. These are just the identified individuals; many public health experts believe the death toll will climb. Every single day higher numbers will come out due to disease and starvation.

There are thousands more who are dismembered, unrecognizable, or buried beneath the rubble. However, behind these numbers are real people who have had their futures stolen. Their lives are forever changed.

The first 14 pages alone are the names of babies—I wish my colleagues would look at—who were under the age of 1 when they were killed. There are 14 pages of babies' names. That is 710 babies that the Israeli Government has murdered. This is not self-defense. This is genocide.

How can anyone justify this?

Madam Speaker, I include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the link for the list of the children: https://d12t4t5x3vyizu.cloudfront.net/tlaib.house.gov/ uploads/2024/09/Palestinian-Ministry-of-Health-Casualty-List-31–Aug-24.pdf

We are living through one of, again, the most documented and horrific crimes against humanity in our history.

Again, these are children who did not live to see their first birthday. We cannot normalize this, Madam Speaker.

My colleagues continue to be silent. I wonder if it is because these babies are Palestinian. They are children. That is it. They are children. I can't believe I have to consistently remind my colleagues that Palestinians are also human beings.

Our tax dollars paid for this. U.S. weapons are being used to commit war crimes in violation of our own U.S. Leahy Laws and international laws, but many of my colleagues in the Biden-Harris administration continue to send bombs to kill children.

This is not working tirelessly for a cease-fire. If the Biden-Harris administration wants a cease-fire, then they should stop sending the bombs and the weapons. We must stop arming and funding genocide.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF BROCK

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a Tennessee hero who has dedicated his life to serving and protecting the members of his community: Van Buren County Sheriff Michael Brock.

Sheriff Brock has shown outstanding loyalty to and performed exemplary service for his community. He should be recognized for his selfless actions, which go beyond his duties as sheriff.

The people of Van Buren County, Tennessee, know their sheriff to be hardworking, compassionate, and sincere. Sheriff Brock does everything he can to protect his community under any and all conditions. For example, when Sheriff Brock learned that two of his townspeople were in danger due to knee-deep snow and subzero temperatures plaguing the Tennessee area of Van Buren County last January, he immediately set out to protect and assist them in any way possible.

The first was a gentleman with a medical condition who had wandered towards the woods away from his mother's home on the night of January 15.

He was reported missing on the 16th, and Sheriff Brock immediately organized a search from the residence, tracking footsteps and working late into the night, only calling off the search when it became too dangerous for the search team to continue their efforts.

Sheriff Brock demonstrated kindness and empathy as he personally updated the family through every effort, working closely with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency and the nearby State park officials.

Devastatingly, the missing gentleman who was rescued from falling off a 700-foot drop in the forest, later succumbed to his injuries. Even after the search, Sheriff Brock was the first to console the family, moving from protecting them physically to fortifying their hearts.

As the winter storm raged on, Sheriff Brock soon learned that a citizen on the outskirts of town needed critical medication. She had just undergone numerous back surgeries and spent over 1 month in the hospital.

However, icy roads near her home had stranded her nurse and prevented her from getting the needed medications. Sheriff Brock saw that she was taken care of, driving across multiple counties to retrieve the medication. The roads were so hazardous that the trip took four times the normal period to make that journey. Time was not a concern to Sheriff Brock, but her safety and health certainly were.

Sheriff Brock's actions and timely rescue meant she was safe from further medical complications and readmission to the hospital.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Brock is a blessing and a credit to his department, community, and people. His actions and tireless protections of his community have left people with a sincere sense of security knowing that they have him and his department watching out for them.

He expects no praise, no credit, and no notice of his tireless selflessness.

However, today I rise to recognize him. His leadership and heroism serve as an example to us all.

□ 1030

IN RECOGNITION OF KEVIN WOLVERTON, SR.

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroics of Kevin Wolverton, Sr., who recently stepped up in harrowing circumstances to rescue a 3-year-old girl who had fallen into a quarry full of water.

Mr. Wolverton, a Nashville native who works at a nearby auto dealership in Lebanon, Tennessee, found the little girl floating on her side when he pulled her onto the rocks nearby and performed CPR.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt he saved this young girl's life. She was later able to thank him for doing so after a full recovery just a few days later.

A grandfather himself, Kevin Wolverton, Sr., stepped up to save the day. We couldn't be prouder of his lifesaving actions.

Madam Speaker, I hope all Members will join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Wolverton for his tremendous display of bravery.

RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, it is not surprising, but I disagree with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle on a myriad of issues, but that is okay. At times, disagreement is important.

Only speaking with those who agree with us insulates us from ideas that may challenge our views, instead reaffirming our own biases and avoiding new ideas. A two-party system is important.

Hearing different perspectives and different stories is valuable, especially in a body tasked with making decisions for a diverse set of people. Despite our various policy or personal disagreements, we should agree on this: It is dangerous to repeat Kremlin talking points. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, we have only seen this disturbing trend grow.

An indictment filed this month alleges that Russian state media employees funneled $10 million to a Tennessee-based media company, Tenant, for Russian friendly content. Tenant's media influencers have a collective 7 million subscribers on YouTube and more than 7 million followers on X.

While we are no stranger to Russian misinformation campaigns, they are clearly adapting and evolving in their efforts. This month, intelligence officials said that Russia's activities are more sophisticated than in previous cycles. They are using authentic U.S. voices to launder Russian Government propaganda and spread socially divisive narratives through major social media.

Their goal is simple: to convince millions of people that Russia's war against Ukraine is justified and influence them to support politicians who agree. It is simple, and, in today's online obsessed world, it is dangerously effective.

Once this type of content takes off, it is impossible to reverse its course. Russia's ability to penetrate American minds goes beyond social media. Yes, we have seen it take hold in this very body. When some across the aisle vocally opposed aid to Ukraine, Russia celebrated. The host of a Kremlin-run show said: ''Well done, Republicans. That is good for us.''

Earlier this year, a prominent Republican in leadership acknowledged this trend saying: ''We see directly coming from Russia . . . communications that are anti-Ukraine and pro-Russia messages, some of which we even hear being uttered on the House floor.''

Another Republican admitted Russian propaganda has ''infected a good chunk'' of this party's base.

Despite our differences, the quoted Members and I clearly see how alarming this is. As public servants, it is our duty to obtain information from reliable sources and speak on behalf of our constituents, not the Russian Federation. When American leaders parrot Russian talking points, we give Putin the upper hand, we undermine our national security, and we fail the American people.

Now, as Russia's tactics evolve, we have to be more vigilant than ever. Despite what some might suggest, Vladimir Putin is a vicious tyrant, and American voices repeating his lies is an affront to our values as a nation and a threat to global democracy.

I encourage commonsense leaders, especially those across the aisle, to choose truth. We may not have control of the misinformation that appears online or the influencers who knowingly serve as Russia's ''useful idiots,'' but we do have control over our own words.

When Members are spouting blatant lies from the Kremlin, my colleagues have a responsibility to this country to place the truth above all else. Members have a responsibility to tell the American people why we support Ukraine and not Russia, and why democracy must win against autocracy. To those afraid of name-calling or condemnation, I say this: Criticism is a small price to pay for the preservation of truth. Years from now, my colleagues and our country will thank us for our courage to stand up for the truth in the face of tyranny.

DOD DEFENSE ROUNDTABLE

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

Mr. SELF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my direct concern over the United States Department of Defense's lack of agility when it comes to warfare.

Recently, my office hosted our annual defense roundtable with defense companies both in and out of my district. The theme of this year's defense roundtable was how to increase the readiness, engagement, agility, and delivery of lethality to the Department of Defense.

It was quite telling that these companies reaffirmed the troubling RAND Defense report, which explained that the U.S. defense industrial base is not prepared to engage in all-out warfare. The modern-day axis of evil, China, Russia, and Iran, continue to work around the clock to advance their military capabilities and cause further chaos in the world, while the U.S. is woefully lagging behind.

China continues to take steps that threaten the democracy of Taiwan, Russia continues its offensive in Ukraine, and Iran has sent hundreds of missiles toward Israel through its use of proxies throughout the region.

Make no mistake: if America does not take monumental steps to reform, modernize, and expand our defense capabilities and in a rapid manner, then we will be in a difficult position of choosing which allies we can help around the world.

During our defense roundtable discussions, it was made clear that, as the U.S. military stands today, we are not ready. We must immediately take significant steps to become ready. World circumstances demand that we do.

A major point of discussion that was emphasized multiple times by the industry was the red tape and bureaucracy surrounding every government-funded project. Congress must get rid of unnecessary regulations and allow our American engineers, scientists, and great thinkers to innovate and streamline our defense programs. A key issue in the discussion was the fact that the foreign military sales process must obtain 18 different approvals, whereas in other countries, such as Japan, it takes only one.

While extra oversight can, at times, be beneficial, given the state of the world, America must be willing to take on more levels of risk to keep pace with our adversaries.

It is well past time for Congress to take steps to eliminate these unnecessary provisions, encourage defense contractors to take on more risk, understanding that there may be failures along the way, and ultimately put ourselves in a strong position to combat the axis of evil that we face now and those we will face in the future.

In the words of former President Dwight Eisenhower: ''A vital element in keeping the peace is our military establishment. Our arms must be mighty, ready for instant action, so that no potential aggressor may be tempted to risk his own destruction. . . . American makers of plowshares could, with time and as required, make swords as well. But now we can no longer risk emergency improvisation of national defense; we have been compelled to create a permanent armaments industry of vast proportions. . . .''

I would add: not only of vast proportions, but also agile and innovative.

Eisenhower's words still ring true today. It is imperative that Congress steps up to the plate to reduce these unnecessary regulations at the Federal level so our defense industry can be lethal, agile, and ready once more to accept the challenges of this increasingly dangerous world.

IN MEMORY OF JESSICA ALANA SANCHEZ

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

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jessica Alana Sanchez, who was born and raised in my community of El Paso, Texas. Jessica sadly passed away in July at the age of 38 after a courageous battle with cancer.

She leaves behind a 4-year-old daughter, her husband, a sister, parents, and extended family, many of whom are my constituents.

I met Jessica as a young woman when she and I were volunteering on a local campaign. From the first time I met her, it was clear that she was a brilliant individual who was guided by a strong sense of responsibility toward social justice.

When Jessica was enrolled in Mesita Elementary School, she participated in a rally to protest a plan to build a nuclear waste facility on the outskirts of our community in El Paso. She was a brave and outspoken girl and wanted to voice her classmates' worries about the negative effects on the environment if the facility were to come to fruition. After months of protests, the site was never built, and the community prevailed.

She continued to advocate for people while at El Paso High School, and her advocacy transcended our borders. She was particularly concerned about drug cartel violence and the disappearance and murders of hundreds of women factory workers across the border from us in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. She petitioned city leaders on both sides of the border to take action to curb violence and to safeguard those vulnerable workers.

Her activism and community involvement were evident to others. She attended Stanford University for her undergraduate degree and Boston University Law School.

Incensed by our country's failed immigration policies and actions that gave rise to the separation of families, Jessica decided to return to California. She would go on to work on advocacy on behalf of migrants and refugees at the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in Los Angeles.

Jessica was also a mother to her daughter, Leila. She raised Leila to embody her core values of fairness, equality, and giving back to her community. She felt it was her obligation that Leila be raised to speak out as a woman in our society and be proud of her Latina heritage and family background.

It was not all about politics. Jessica and Leila also had fun singing and dancing and reading books. They enjoyed making arts and crafts together and decorating their annual Christmas tree with projects made throughout the year. They watched children's television shows, like ''Sesame Street'' and ''Bluey,'' and spent summer afternoons playing in their neighborhood park and feeding the ducks there.

Jessica was a woman of faith and believed strongly that we are all tasked with utilizing our God-given gifts and talents to journey in solidarity with those we encounter in life and contributing to the common good.

I close by sharing a reflection Jessica delivered as an intern with the Catholic community in June 2009 during a Sunday service at Stanford's Memorial Church. It captures her philosophy and her outlook on Christian discipleship that she practiced throughout her young life very well.

Jessica's reflection is as follows:

''I remember the first time I answered my call to service. My home parish in El Paso, Texas, sponsors a Thanksgiving dinner for homeless residents in our binational community. My family and I showed up at the church cafeteria and were assigned the task of serving guests plates of food. I was 8 years old and extremely intimidated by strangers.

''Anxiety grew in the pit of my stomach as I carried a meal to my first guest, an older woman in a Dallas Cowboys' jersey. As I placed the plate in front of her, she glanced up. She didn't speak, but there was a calm gratitude in her eyes. I felt connected to her. God opened my heart in that moment and enveloped me with peace.

''For the first time, I understood the gift of service. It has made an indelible impression upon me. My commitment to service played a huge role in my decision to accept the intern position with our Catholic community at Stanford. I was called to give back to a community that supported me in my time of need.''

Those were Jessica's beautiful words.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of El Paso, I extend my deepest condolences to Jessica's family. Jessica left us too soon, and I and everyone who knew her will cherish our memories with her. I am proud to honor the life of Jessica Alana Sanchez and ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her lifetime commitment to advocating for her community.

□ 1045

HONORING ACHIEVEMENTS OF DEMITRI AYALA AND SERGIO LERMA

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible achievements of two outstanding young men from the Rio Grande Valley.

Demitri Ayala, a McAllen resident and recent high school graduate, has made us all proud by winning first place at the International Powerlifting Federation Sub-Junior and Junior World Powerlifting championship in Malta. Demitri's dedication and discipline serves as an inspiration to all of us.

Madam Speaker, I also recognize Sergio Lerma from Donna, Texas, who earned second place in the same competition.

Both of these young athletes have showcased not only their physical strength but their perseverance and commitment to excellence. Their accomplishments represent the best of south Texas, and we are incredibly proud to have them as part of our community.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Demitri and Sergio on their remarkable achievements.

WELCOMING HOME CHIEF MICHAEL SANDOVAL

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, today, I have the distinct honor of welcoming home Chief Michael Sandoval of the United States Navy from his deployment in Djibouti, Africa.

Senior Chief Sandoval led the boat maintenance facility, overseeing 22 sailors and ensuring that all patrol boats were ready for critical missions in the area. His leadership and dedication were vital as his team launched and operated four patrol boats to safeguard Navy vessels, maintaining a strong security posture and a 360-degree perimeter until all vessels safely departed.

In addition to their vigilant patrols, Senior Chief Sandoval and his team played a crucial role in training local Djibouti forces, enhancing their defensive tactics and strengthening partnerships.

His service exemplifies the best of our military: strong leadership, a commitment to excellence, and dedication to the security of our great Nation.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of our community, we welcome him home and thank him and his team for their service. May God bless him.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BARBARA SUE REAVES

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Barbara Sue Reaves, a remarkable woman from Alice, Texas, who passed away on August 21, 2024, at the age of 73.

Barbara dedicated her life to public service, working first as a city planner and a grant writer for numerous cities, including her last role with the city of Alice. Her efforts played a crucial part in shaping and improving the communities she served, making her legacy one of lasting impact.

Barbara's love for her family and her dedication to her faith were central to her life. She is survived by her brother, Alan, and his family, who will carry on her memory with love and pride.

Barbara was also known for her passion for running and her devotion to her local church, where she was active and a cherished member.

Madam Speaker, her passing is a great loss to all those who knew her, but her contributions will never be forgotten. We send our deepest condolences to her family and loved ones. May her memory be a blessing and an inspiration to all of us.

CELEBRATING ROBERT T. SCOTT, PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Robert T. Scott as he is bestowed the prestigious title of president emeritus of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute in Buffalo, New York.

Mr. Scott began his career as a religion teacher at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, affectionately known as St. Joe's, in 1971. Over the years, he served as a social studies teacher, vice principal, principal, and president.

In 2001, Mr. Scott earned his letters of affiliation, the highest honor awarded by the Institute of Brothers of Christian Schools, the religious order that founded St. Joe's in 1861.

Mr. Scott retired in 2018 after an extraordinary 48-year career at the all-boys high school.

Throughout his career, Mr. Scott has exemplified the mission of St. Joe's: to transform the lives of students from diverse backgrounds through academic excellence and care, rooted in a Lasallian Catholic community, developing and cultivating each student's

unique talents in preparation for college and life.

The students that Mr. Scott impacted throughout his tenure have excelled in their personal and professional lives in large part due to his mentorship and dedication.

Today, he continues to inspire all who know him, sharing his compassion and dedication to his family, friends, colleagues, and community.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Scott as my former principal and now my friend. The lessons he imparted went beyond academics. They instilled in me the values of integrity, leadership, and perseverance. For that, I am forever grateful and continue to carry his influence with me each and every day.

In retirement, he has cherished the opportunity to spend more time with his beloved family—his wife, his children, his grandchildren, and his four brothers—creating lasting memories with those closest to him while still giving back to the institution he poured his life into.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Robert T. Scott on an inspiring career and the continuation of his commitment to education and the Lasallian tradition as president emeritus of St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute.

May St. John Baptist de la Salle pray for us. May Jesus live in our hearts forever. Go St. Joe's Marauders.

REMEMBERING DOMINIC ''NICK'' BONIFACIO, JR.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of former Buffalo Common Council Member Dominic ''Nick'' Bonifacio, Jr., who passed on August 2.

Nick was a hardworking and dedicated leader who made a lasting impact on Buffalo and everyone whose lives he touched.

With deep roots in the city, he was one of three children born to Dominic J. Bonifacio, Sr., and Ruth Boundy Bonifacio. After attending School 77, Nick graduated from Hutch-Tech High School in 1966, where he was a leader on the field and on the court, competing on the baseball team, the cross-country team, and the varsity basketball team.

In college, Nick became involved in mentoring and serving Buffalo youth. He was the director of the Butler Mitchell Boys and Girls Club and worked to create a place for young people to find camaraderie and receive mentorship.

Nick became a recreation instructor for the city of Buffalo in 1996, while also taking on the responsibilities of being the program director and an interim executive director for the Buffalo Police Athletic League.

In 1999, he became a member of the Buffalo Common Council. During his tenure, he fought to make Buffalo better, taking on projects like cracking down on absentee landlords and creating what is now Freedom Park along the Niagara River. Addressing health concerns, he led a project to install sidewalks and plant vegetation in Buffalo.

While chair of the council's police reorganization committee, and during his time as member of the Peace Bridge advisory panel, he protected residential neighborhoods from commercial expansion.

A baseball player at heart, he was a star pitcher and founded the Butler Mitchell baseball program in 1975. Four years later, he was coaching nine different teams. Nick even filled in when needed at a handful of Buffalo Bisons games. In 2010, as recognition for his love of and service through baseball, he was inducted in the Western New York Baseball Hall of Fame.

Nick leaves behind his brother, Joseph, many loving nieces and nephews, and many friends.

Madam Speaker, he will be missed. May my friend, Nick Bonifacio, rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING TOM DELL OF DELL BROTHERS

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Dell, who, with his retirement, will close Dell Brothers, a store in my hometown of Columbus, Indiana.

I am proud to say that Pence family members have been loyal customers for half a century.

Dell Brothers has been at the same location downtown since 1916, where it was originally opened by Tom's grandfather. It was passed down to his father and uncle and then to Tom and his late brother, Mike.

The store has been an institution throughout my life, and I am sorry to see it close. I thank Tom for his work and wish him the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING JEFF CARDWELL FOR HIS SERVICE TO INDIANA

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeff Cardwell, who has faithfully served our State for many years.

Jeff has become a dear friend of the Pence family, serving as a trusted adviser for my brother, Mike, when he was Governor of the State of Indiana and as I have been here in Congress.

A graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University, Jeff gave back to his community as a member of the Indianapolis City-County Council for 4 years and later served as chairman of the Indiana Republican Party.

Throughout everything, Jeff has shown his passion for helping others, making at least one mission trip to El Salvador every year for decades.

We are blessed to have Jeff in our lives.

RECOGNIZING GRACE NUHFER ON PARALYMPIC SILVER MEDAL

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greenwood native Grace Nuhfer, who recently won the silver medal for the 100-meter butterfly in the 2024 Summer Paralympics.

Grace has brittle cornea syndrome and swims under the S13 classification, the least severe vision impairment.

Grace represented the United States in the 2023 Parapan American Games in Chile, winning silver for the 50-meter freestyle. She is also a three-time State qualifier during her time at Greenwood High School, and she now attends University of Akron.

Madam Speaker, Grace has made her State and country proud, and it is an honor to recognize her massive achievements.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK THOMPSON

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Frank Thompson, who passed away in July at the age of 84.

Frank never met a stranger and was dedicated to his family, friends, and community. He prioritized economic development throughout his career, serving Franklin County, Batesville, Greensburg, and eventually serving on the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce.

However, his favorite job was as grand ambassador at the Horseshoe Indianapolis in Shelbyville, furthering community outreach and public relations.

We will miss his joy, dedication, and fun political facts, which he never forgot to share.

Madam Speaker, my thoughts and prayers are with his family—my friend, Senator Jean Leising, and their children, Sharon, Jill, Jennifer, and Jeffrey.

□ 1100

RECOGNIZING GOVERNOR ERIC HOLCOMB

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Governor Eric Holcomb, who has served as Governor of Indiana since 2017. An Indianapolis native and Hanover College graduate, Governor Holcomb is a lifelong Hoosier.

After serving in the U.S. Navy for 6 years, he turned to politics, working for Indiana on staff in the house and the senate and as well as for former Governor Mitch Daniels.

Over his two terms in office, Governor Holcomb has worked to strengthen our economy, infrastructure, education system, and public health.

Under his leadership, we finally completed I–69. This success came from the work of a generation of Hoosier leadership, and Governor Holcomb got it over the finish line.

Today, I am glad to recognize his legacy and thank him for his work in Indiana.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SUZANNE CROUCH

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch for a lifetime of service to Indiana.

A Purdue graduate, she began her political career as a Vanderburgh County

auditor and later was elected to the Vanderburgh County board of commissioners.

She moved into statewide politics, serving as an Indiana State representative, Indiana State auditor, and now as our Lieutenant Governor.

Lieutenant Governor Crouch has prioritized mental health throughout her tenure and is co-chair of the Indiana Mental Health Roundtable and chair of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force.

I am grateful for all Lieutenant Governor Crouch has done for the State of Indiana, and I am even more proud to call her our family friend.

HONORING ANN LURIE

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary philanthropist and humanitarian.

A few weeks ago, Chicago lost one of our city's most esteemed benefactors, Ann Lurie. Originally from Florida, Ann chose Chicago, and specifically the Seventh Congressional District, as her home in 1973.

For over 27 years, I have had the honor of representing the nearly 800,000 people in the Seventh District, one of the Nation's largest and most diverse.

Throughout this time, Ann Lurie and her husband, Robert, were steadfast supporters and catalysts for change within our community.

Chicago is a city where people are inclined to do things their way, and Ann was no exception. Her way meant making a profound difference, leaving nearly everything she touched better than she found it.

I had the privilege of knowing and working with Ann for over 40 years. I witnessed firsthand her unwavering dedication to healthcare, education, and social justice. Her impact extended far beyond Chicago, reaching communities around the world.

Ann funded countless initiatives in the Seventh District. Her philanthropic journey began with her roots as a pediatric nurse, which laid the foundation for her lifelong commitment to improving healthcare.

Her transformative $100 million donation to the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago made an indelible mark on our city, creating a beacon of hope and healing for countless children and families and establishing Chicago as a national center of medical innovation and excellence.

Ann profoundly impacted education through her support for institutions like the University of Michigan and Northwestern University by funding scholarships and research programs.

She opened doors for countless students, fostering the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers.

Ann's philanthropy was characterized by personal engagement. She was not a passive donor but a hands-on advocate, often traveling to see the projects she funded firsthand to ensure her contributions were making the intended impact.

The level of involvement spoke volumes about her character and the sincerity of her mission, making her a truly inspiring figure.

Through the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation, Ann championed global health initiatives from building rural schools in Ethiopia to supporting healthcare infrastructure in Kenya.

Her efforts in Human Rights Watch in the Horn of Africa underscored her commitment to advocating for the often voiceless, ensuring that fundamental human rights and dignities are upheld, even in the most challenging circumstances. Her compassion and humanitarianism were immense, and many of her local contributions had a global impact.

Mr. Speaker, Ann Lurie's philanthropy is a shining example of the profound difference one individual can make in the world.

Her work is a testament to the power of compassion, dedication, and unwavering belief in the potential for positive change.

Her passing is a tremendous loss, not just for the causes she championed but for the lives she touched. She showed us that authentic leadership is about more than what one achieves for oneself. It is also about what one does for others.

We extend our deepest condolences to her family and loved ones as we honor her life, her legacy, and her work.

RECOGNIZING CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Constitution Day, which we observed Monday, honoring the bravery and wisdom of the 39 men who signed the supreme law of the land on September 17, 1787, at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

This pivotal document has truly shaped our Nation's history. For over two centuries, the Constitution has guided us, reflecting the vision of our Founding Fathers. It creates a government that is accountable to the people and dedicated to protecting individual rights.

The Constitution lays the foundation for our liberty, ensuring that America remains the freest Nation in the world and secures the God-given rights that we cherish as Americans.

As we reflect on its enduring legacy, let us remember that it embodies the values we uphold as a Nation.

Let this Constitution Day remind us of our sacred obligation to uphold its principles. We are here to serve the American people and protect their liberties, ensuring their rights are preserved for generations to come.

CELEBRATING WFIR RADIO'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate WFIR radio in Roanoke, Virginia, on its 100th anniversary.

As the second oldest radio station in Virginia and one of the oldest commercial radio stations in our great Nation, WFIR has been a cornerstone of our community since its founding in 1924.

What began as the passionate hobby of Mr. Frank E. Maddox with his amateur station 3BIY evolved into a vital commercial station, thanks to the vision of the Richardson-Wayland Electrical Corporation.

They recognized the power of radio to connect communities and seized the opportunity to not just sell radios but to enhance the lives of those in our region.

Before WFIR, Roanokers had no reliable radio source during the day and only sporadic signals at night. WFIR changed that reality, delivering a consistent and dynamic voice to the people of Roanoke. Today, it is a trusted source of news, information, and entertainment for countless Virginians.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate WFIR Radio on reaching this remarkable milestone and wish them continued success in the years to come.

CELEBRATING VINTON FIRST AID JUNIOR CREW'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Vinton First Aid Junior Crew on its 50th anniversary.

Back in 1973, nine students from William Byrd High School showed interest in the Vinton First Aid Crew. After attending initial training to become CPR and American Red Cross advanced first aid certified, the Vinton First Aid Junior Crew was officially formed in 1974.

The original charter members, Kenneth Drewery, Gary Honaker, Perry Spangler, Terry Fuqua, Mike Huddleston, Chris Stull, Ralph Hargis, Ray Sloan, and Danny Wood showed us what it means to serve.

These dedicated individuals were recently honored at the 2023 installation and Christmas banquet by the Vinton First Aid Crew and the town of Vinton.

While their paths may have diverged over the years, with many pursuing profound careers in public service, they remain bonded by that shared commitment from their youth. Two members, Chris Stull and Danny Wood, achieved life-member status with the Vinton First Aid crew.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing this incredible milestone. Their dedication to service over 50 years ago set a standard that continues to inspire today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DANIEL E. KARNES

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Lieutenant Colonel Daniel "Dan" E. Karnes, a dedicated servant to our country and his community.

A proud native of Roanoke, Dan enlisted in the U.S. Army at just 17 years old, completing two tours in Vietnam.

After returning to southwest Virginia, he completed his education and devoted himself to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dan began his career as a clinical social worker and went on to manage a counseling center for combat veterans in Roanoke, ensuring our heroes received the support they needed.

He was a constant presence in the veteran community, taking on numerous volunteer and public service roles, always with humility and a profound commitment to his fellow veterans.

He served on essential boards like the State Board of Mental Health, the Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare.

Dan was also an active member of organizations such as the Rotary, Kiwanis, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, among others.

Dan is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Nancy Walters Karnes. His dear friend, Captain Gary Powers, once said that he was an individual who selflessly dedicated his life to helping others in need.

This is a true testament to a meaningful life well lived. Let us honor Dan's legacy by continuing to support our veterans and those in need in our communities.

CELEBRATING CAPTAIN LELAND TEETS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual from Virginia's Sixth District, Captain Leland Teets, and his service to our Nation.

Captain Teets embodies what it means to be a devoted American, and his birthday on June 25 marked 100 years of patriotism.

Throughout World War II, Leland Teets served with the United States Army. He stormed Utah Beach on D–day, surviving two gunshot wounds to the leg from a German soldier.

After his bravery on that fateful day, Captain Teets spent 153 days in England undergoing medical care before continuing to serve in the Battle of the Bulge.

However, Captain Teets' legacy goes far beyond his military service. Returning home, he dedicated 35 years as a security officer for the Mount Weather facility in Clarke County, Virginia, contributing to the safety of our community and our Nation.

I wish Captain Teets a belated happy birthday and extend our deepest gratitude and best wishes on behalf of Virginia's Sixth District.

CELEBRATING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., GREAT LAKES REGION CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible women of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Great Lakes Region.

This Saturday, the Great Lakes Region will celebrate its centennial anniversary. For 100 years, our region has risen to the call to serve all mankind in our communities across five States; Michigan, Ohio, western New York, western Pennsylvania, and western Virginia with 97 graduate and undergraduate chapters, all united in a common cause to serve our communities and to serve all mankind.

The Great Lakes Region is home to over 7,000 accomplished, intelligent, dedicated, and service-oriented members, including the members of my own chapter, Zeta Theta Omega.

I am honored to recognize the work this region has done and continues to do for the people of the Great Lakes Region each and every day, united in our sisterhood's mission.

We represent a variety of occupations and disciplines, but we come together because we are truly greater together.

We always dedicate our work to the things that are worthwhile, and we always do it with a smile. Together, we are making a real difference in our communities, and I am so proud to be a part of this powerful sisterhood.

Finally, I specifically recognize Gwendolyn Kirtley, the Great Lakes regional director, for her leadership, and the many regional directors of the past who have made the great Great Lakes Region soar and thrive.

We are thankful for their commitment to our sisterhood and to their service as we celebrate our last 100 years and prepare for 100 more.

Once again, congratulations to all of the members of the great Great Lakes Region as we celebrate our centennial.

HONORING JONES BOOTS

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Jones Boots of Vernon County, Missouri, as our Fourth Congressional District September Small Business of the Month.

From the humble beginnings of two employees and an inventory of just 500 pairs of boots, Jones Boots has expanded their selection over the years to more than 6,000 pairs. They have renovated their building, always focused on the customer.

Jones Boots has been in business since 1974, and they have operated in pretty much the same building they are in to this day.

Jones Boots has been in the Jones family for more than four generations and is now run by Kaleb and Kaden. We are proud to see their hard work, success, and dedication to quality customer service.

Congratulations, Jones Boots.

HONORING SHARLA HOWARD

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor our September Veteran of the Month, Mrs. Sharla Howard of Dallas County.

Sharla served in the U.S. Army and sustained an injury during training that led to her eventually being medically discharged.

It bothered Sharla that she could not deploy with her platoon in the military, so she searched for other ways to serve her country and our Nation's veterans.

She paid for and completed college alone as a single mother and in 2016 was inspired by her late husband to become a Disabled American Veterans life member at the chapter in Butler, Missouri.

Sharla volunteers her time as a chapter service officer where she assists veterans with completing paperwork to file for VA benefits. She also serves as the treasurer and bingo chairman for her chapter. Sharla has logged more than 2,000 volunteer hours since August of 2023.

Congratulations to our September Veteran of the Month. I thank Sharla for her service in the Army and for her unwavering commitment to veterans.

□ 1115

OSCEOLA CHEESE HONORED AS OCTOBER SMALL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Osceola Cheese, our October Small Business of the Month in the great Fourth Congressional District of Missouri.

Established in 1944, Osceola has provided cheese, beef jerky, various meat selections—I know you are getting hungry, Mr. Speaker—and also specialty sauces and mixes to Missouri and to the United States.

With the business growing, they acquired a new building in 1946, including 15 trucks. They were collecting milk from 1,000 dairy farms across our great State. When Truman Lake began to develop, the business relocated to 13 Highway and officially changed from Riverview Cheese to Osceola Cheese in St. Claire County.

Osceola has continued to expand with facility redesigns, new flavors, and new snacks. They have more than 275 varieties of cheese, from mild cheddar to chocolate cheese. That is right, I said chocolate cheese.

Congratulations to Osceola Cheese for 79 years of success. Mr. Speaker, say along with me, 79 years of great cheese. Say cheese.

GINNY FLETCHER NAMED OCTOBER VETERAN OF THE MONTH

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our October Veteran of the Month, Ginny Fletcher, of Webster County.

Ginny joined the Missouri Army National Guard in 2007 as a welder and deployed to Afghanistan from 2010 to 2011. She served with Missouri ADT IV Mission, an agribusiness development team that improved local agriculture and business infrastructure.

Ginny's fondest memories include her women's engagement team teaching Afghan children first aid and organizing activities. The team also empowered local women by teaching them to raise chickens, grow crops, and create sellable items.

After completing her service as an E–4 specialist in 2017, Ginny worked for

the State of Missouri. Right now she supervises benefit programs for the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. I thank Ginny so much for her dedication and service.

A'JA WILSON MAKES WNBA HISTORY

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

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the first woman in history to score 1,000 points in a single WNBA season, the Las Vegas Aces' very own A'ja Wilson.

I had the honor of witnessing A'ja make history last Sunday against the Connecticut Suns, where her signature fade-away mid-range jumper landed her in the history books once again.

A'ja and the rest of the back-to-back world championship Vegas Aces are well known for breaking records, but this one felt particularly special.

I thank A'ja and everyone in the Vegas Aces family for making their city proud. We look forward to cheering them all on as the Aces get one step closer to going back to back to back this year.

POE PINSON FEVER

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a monumental achievement for northeast Florida. I speak of none other than Fernandina Beach's own 19-year-old skating phenom, Poe Pinson, who made history skateboarding at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

From an early age, friends and parents alike at Main Beach Skate Park were impressed by her skills. Mr. Speaker, she started competing when she was only 6 years old. From her small-town roots to the international stage of the Olympics, her hard work and talent catapulted her to finishing fifth in the world, exemplifying the grit and passion of both our community and America.

Mr. Speaker, her hometown of Fernandina Beach went full Poe Pinson, had the fever of Poe Pinson. We had countless yard signs that said simply: ''Go Poe.'' There was a watch party for watching the women's skateboarding event. You had to get up before dawn to go attend the party, and it was packed, Mr. Speaker. Her hometown was all in on Poe Pinson.

Mr. Speaker, not long ago, skateboarding wasn't even an Olympic sport. Yet, here we are having witnessed Poe's debut in the women's street skateboarding event. Just last month, the Fernandina Beach City Commission honored Poe by naming the Main Beach Skate Park after her.

I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in recognizing this exceptional young woman. Poe's hometown and her country are extremely proud of her, and we cannot wait to see her shred at Poe Pinson Park again. We are very proud of her, Mr. Speaker.

OLD FORGE AND FELITTO NAMED SISTER CITIES

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a remarkable and historic milestone that unites two communities across the Atlantic Ocean.

It is with great pride and joy that I announce the official designation of Old Forge, Pennsylvania, and Felitto, Italy, as sister cities.

This designation not only honors our shared heritage but also strengthens the bond of friendship and cultural exchange between our two communities.

Old Forge, situated in the heart of northeastern Pennsylvania, has long been a beacon of Italian-American culture. Known affectionately as the pizza capital of the world, Old Forge boasts a rich history that is deeply intertwined with the Italian immigrant experience.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, waves of immigrants from Felitto, a picturesque town in the Campania region of southern Italy, made their way to Old Forge, then known as Mudtown. Their arrival marked the beginning of a new chapter in the community's history, bringing with them their traditions, values, and of course, their beloved culinary heritage.

Felitto, located in the province of Salerno, is renowned for its artisanal fusilli pasta and its vibrant annual celebration, the Fusillo Festival. This festival is a testament to Felitto's commitment to family, community, and the joy of food.

The town's dedication to preserving its cultural traditions and fostering a strong sense of community is mirrored in the town of Old Forge.

The Felittese Association of Old Forge, now in its 35th year, hosts the city's annual Felittese Italian Festival on the second weekend in September in commemoration of Our Lady of Constantinople, who has been venerated in the town of Felitto since 1790.

Much like Felitto's Fusillo Festival, this annual celebration stands as a proud homage to Old Forge's Italian roots by celebrating the rich tapestry of Italian culture through home-cooked food and music with family, friends, and neighbors. It is a cherished tradition that underscores the deep connections that bind our two communities.

The sister city designation between Old Forge and Felitto represents more than just a symbolic gesture. It is a recognition of the shared heritage and enduring ties that unite the two places. It honors the legacy of the Italian immigrants who contributed so profoundly to Old Forge, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America, and acknowledges the vibrant culture that continues to thrive today.

This partnership will strengthen economic ties and enhance the mutual understanding between our two communities. It is a celebration of our shared history and a commitment to continuing the traditions that have enriched our lives and nations.

As we commemorate this new chapter in the relationship between Old Forge and Felitto, let us honor the contributions of the Italian immigrants who helped shape our communities. Their legacy lives on in the vibrant celebrations, the delectable cuisine, and the strong sense of community that defines both Old Forge and Felitto.

As a Member of the U.S. House representing northeastern Pennsylvania, I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this historic announcement and achievement. May this sister city relationship continue to flourish and bring us ever closer.

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Village of Sleepy Hollow.

Nestled on the Hudson River just 20 miles north of New York City, the Village of Sleepy Hollow is 5.2 square miles of history and intrigue.

Sleepy Hollow was immortalized by Washington Irving's spooky tale of the Headless Horseman. The real Sleepy Hollow, however, isn't haunted or a place of nightmares but, rather, a community of men and women living their American Dream.

Some famous residents include former Vice President of the United States and Governor of New York, Nelson Rockefeller, Olympic Gold Medal-winning decathlete Caitlyn Jenner, and Pearl Harbor survivor and Bronze Star recipient Armando ''Chick'' Galella.

It is the home of Phelps Hospital, J.P. Doyle's, the Rockefeller State Park Preserve, the Sleepy Hollow Lighthouse, and Sleepy Hollow Country Club, and more. Yes, their Halloween parades and Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze are a frighteningly good time, too.

This past weekend, I was honored to join my Sleepy Hollow constituents to celebrate the historic village's incredible milestone. As I stood among friends, neighbors, and local leaders, I was filled with pride for what Sleepy Hollow represents: a rich heritage, strong community values, and a bright future ahead.

Today, we are joined by several of the Village board members, including Tom Andruss, Jared Rodriguez, James Husselbee, and Deputy Mayor Denise Scaglione. Unfortunately, Mayor Martin Rutyna and Trustees Patrick

Sheeran and Lauren Connell couldn't join us today.

On behalf of the residents of the Village of Sleepy Hollow and the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize our esteemed elected officials today and thank them for their dedicated service on behalf of the residents.

Over the years, Sleepy Hollow has not only embraced its storied past, but also evolved into a thriving village that continues to honor its traditions while welcoming new growth and innovation. It is places like this that make New York's 17th Congressional District so special.

I thank all the Sleepy Hollow residents and stakeholders who throughout the course of this year have made this celebration such a great success. Their passion, dedication, and love for this community are what make Sleepy Hollow such a unique and cherished place to call home.

IMMIGRANTS SERVE VITAL ROLE

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with immigrant communities across the country, the people who we call our friends, neighbors, and loved ones.

We know that immigrants serve a vital role in the fabric of our Nation. Unfortunately, Donald Trump and his allies have spent their time and energy spreading lies about them. The most recent lies about immigrants are as dangerous as they are false, and they are part of the same tired playbook that we have seen from extremist Republicans time and time again.

From Springfield, Ohio, to Hudson County, New Jersey, immigrants are being vilified, threatened, and harassed. Immigrants don't feel safe going to work, picking up their children from school, or even going to their places of worship. This is a direct result of the dangerous rhetoric coming from the very top of the Republican Party, and it is unacceptable. It is past time that we return to the level of political discourse that lifts immigrants up, not tears them down.

I am immensely proud to represent New Jersey's 8th Congressional District, a community that is over 40 percent foreign born. I, myself, am the grandson of Cuban immigrants. Their story and the stories of so many in New Jersey and across the country are what make America great.

Our district is proof that when we stand side by side with immigrant families, embracing different ideas, cultures, and backgrounds, we make our communities stronger.

In Congress, I strive for leadership rooted in respect, and I would hope that all those who have the privilege of serving in elected office would do the same. That is how we promise a future for this country rooted in respect, integrity, and inclusivity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the Office of President.

□ 1130

RECOGNIZING SAMANTHA STELP

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

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my daughter, Samantha Stelp. As many of you know, I will be leaving Congress at the end of my term this year, so I would be remiss if I didn't recognize people who are very important in my life.

First, I want to say happy birthday, Samantha, because today is her 39th birthday.

Samantha is our oldest child. For those of you who don't know, over 30 years ago, I left my abusive ex-husband, and my young daughter at the time and I struggled. There were times when we had no place to live and no money. Samantha and I have been through a lot.

Then, of course, I happily got remarried. My husband, Joe, raised our daughter, Samantha.

Now, she is a grown woman. She has four kids of her own, my four grandkids, and she is absolutely amazing. I am so proud of her. She not only works full time, but she takes care of four kids ranging from 2 years old to 13 years old. She finds time to go to football games and school activities and paints things and does projects. I don't even know where she gets these talents.

I just want to say that I am proud of her. I thank her for always supporting me and for always being there for me. I love her.

RECOGNIZING JARED LESKO

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my son, Jared Lesko. As you know, I will be retiring from Congress this year, so I want to make sure I talk about the people important to me, including my son, Jared Lesko.

Jared is my youngest child. He is 26 years old. My husband, Joe, and I are proud of him. He is working in the IT field, has a great job, is very successful, and is getting married next March to his high school or grade school sweetheart, who he has known since eighth grade.

I am so excited. We are going to be going on a cruise for his wedding, and I will see my youngest son get married then. He is getting married to his sweetheart, Audrey, and they are going to have a wonderful life. He bought a home last year, and I couldn't be prouder of him.

He has been there supporting me from day one. I remember, years ago, he would help me out in the Phoenix heat to register people to vote. We sat out at the Peoria Sports Complex, handed out water, and asked people if they were registered to vote. I don't know how I convinced them, but I convinced my entire family to come help me. He has always been there for me.

I wish my son, Jared, much success now and in the future.

HONORING THOMAS F. CARLIN

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a good friend of mine who was a U.S. Army veteran, in the Vietnam war, and a union leader in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Thomas F. Carlin. We called him Tom Carlin.

Tom was a great guy who sacrificed and worked so hard for the working men and women of the DFW area.

In addition to serving in Vietnam, Tom worked for American Airlines for 40 years, and he held various leadership positions throughout his union career, including vice president of the Texas AFL–CIO for nearly 35 years.

Later in life, Tom battled the effects of Parkinson's disease, which he picked up when he was in Vietnam as a result of his exposure to Agent Orange, which so many of our veterans have suffered from, from the 1960s during the Vietnam war.

Because of his work in labor, Tom was also honored with induction into both the Texas AFL–CIO and the Texas Labor Management Hall of Fame.

Tom has just been a great guy, a great friend, and a great supporter. I have known him and his wife, Peggy, very well.

Tom was so proud of his son, who is a pilot for Delta Airlines, Tommy. Tommy has been with Delta for a while now. I have never met Tommy in person, but because Tom was so proud of him and talked about his only child, I felt like I have known Tommy forever.

That is the kind of family that Tom and Peggy put together, just great people who not only cared about their own family but their union family, veterans, and all north Texans. That is what Tom worked hard for, creating a better way of life for everybody.

Mr. Speaker, I give my condolences to the Carlin family, all of his union brothers and sisters, and everybody in north Texas because people will miss Tom Carlin and his big Irish smile and friendliness that he always brought to the table.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GUEST) at noon.

PRAYER

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

O bless the Lord, with all our soul. May all that is within us bless Your holy name.

May this be a day where we keep our tongues from speaking evil of other people with opposing thoughts. May this be the day when we do not allow ourselves to speak deceitful words against those who have angered or frustrated us, but let all that is within us bless Your holy name.

May we commit ourselves to turn from evil and do good, even when the wrong seems easier or more expedient. May we dedicate ourselves not just to seek peace but to pursue it.

Let all that is within us bless Your holy name. May we lift up holy hands, faithful hearts, and righteous minds without anger or dissension in prayer to You, not only on this day but in all the days of our service to You and to Your people.

Let all that is within us bless Your name, the name in which we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

TELEHEALTH WEEK

(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 to recognize National Telehealth Awareness Week.

Throughout the COVID–19 pandemic and in recent years, telehealth services have added tremendous reach and value to communities across the country, especially in rural America.

As a former healthcare professional who spent nearly 30 years serving rural populations, I appreciate how telehealth has increased access to care across rural communities like those that I am proud to represent.

It is essential that we protect this vital resource as a viable option for patients.

During my time in Congress, I am proud to have led efforts to expand telehealth services for veterans and members of the armed services and their families.

To continue this progress, last year I introduced the bipartisan HEALTH Act to cut red tape and permanently allow community health centers and rural health clinics to provide telehealth services to their patients, including audio-only appointments for Americans who may not have access to broadband or the necessary technology to complete video appointments.

Mr. Speaker, telehealth is a crucial resource for providing care in underserved communities, and I will continue to advocate for the expansion of this essential resource.

CUTTING BACK ON WASTEFUL GOVERNMENT SPENDING

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

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passage of my bipartisan bill to cut back on wasteful government spending, the LIVE Beneficiaries Act.

My bill, with my colleague, Representative GUS BILIRAKIS, passed the House with unanimous bipartisan support this week. That level of support speaks to just how much sense this bill makes.

It requires Medicaid to check the death records each quarter, so they stop paying benefits to deceased enrollees sooner. Between 2009 and 2019, more than $249 million in these improper payments were made across 14 States, $3.7 million in my State of Minnesota.

It is a commonsense bill in a town where more common sense is needed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. VLADIMIR UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in our district in Parma, Ohio.

St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral was established in 1924 to fulfill the spiritual and social needs of the newly-arrived Ukrainians. After an increase in membership from World War II refugees, a new temple and parish center were built in Parma in 1958.

Parishioners established educational opportunities on religion, Ukrainian language, dance, music, and art that have benefited the local community to this day.

I commend St. Vladimir Cathedral for its role in producing upstanding citizens of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, and I wish them a very happy anniversary.

IMMIGRANTS BAIL OUT FEDERAL PROGRAMS

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

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the hypocrisy of the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act.

My Republican colleagues seem to have missed the irony of proposing this bill. Right now, this month, we honor the contributions of the Latin community to this Nation, knowing that immigrants contribute nearly $100 billion in Federal taxes every year.

Immigrants bail out Federal programs with their labor and taxes, but it is the Federal Government that has to stop the bailouts?

Mr. Speaker, you miss me with that.

Chicago and Illinois know immigrants contribute to the economic and social vibrancy of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, you have to ask yourself: Why else might Republicans propose a policy that would strip billions in Federal funds from States like New York, California, and Illinois?

Can you think of a reason, Mr. Speaker?

I can. It is a political stunt to take money away from diverse communities and Democratic cities.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, I will be voting ''no'' on H.R. 5717, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HATE HAS NO PLACE ON LONG ISLAND

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

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, hate has no place on Long Island.

Recently, we Long Islanders witnessed a disturbing act of vandalism and hate targeting the BAPS Temple in Melville, a sacred place for countless peaceful, family, and faith-focused Hindus who proudly call Long Island home.

In response, I joined more than a dozen elected officials and religious and community leaders who stood together to send a clear message: Acts of

hate and intolerance will never be tolerated in our communities.

America's strength comes from our foundation of religious and political freedom, and when these core values are attacked, then we unite as one.

I am proud of the bipartisan and united effort shown in standing with the BAPS community of Long Island in this difficult moment.

Together we will always rise to defend the principles that bind us as Americans and reject hate in all its forms.

RECOGNIZING MEDICAL RESEARCH WEEK

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

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a resolution recognizing Medical Research Week from September 16 through September 20, 2024.

This bipartisan resolution recognizes the breakthroughs of medical research improving health outcomes, securing global competitiveness, boosting job creation, educating the next generation of scientists, and strengthening our economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Indiana's Seventh District which has become a healthcare and innovation hub in America. In my district alone, the NIH has contributed $264 million in grants to 9 different research sites in 2023. In Indiana the NIH has supported 5,300 jobs for Hoosiers and over $1.1 billion of economic activity.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE HEAVICAN

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Justice Mike Heavican of the State of Nebraska who has announced his retirement after almost two decades of exemplary service as the head of Nebraska's Supreme Court and its entire judicial branch.

Through the years, the chief justice has led Nebraska's judiciary with integrity. Before his time on the bench, he served as a deputy county attorney, a county attorney, the U.S. Attorney, and then the chief justice.

Throughout his career he has preserved the independence of our judiciary while collaborating with the State's leaders to strengthen its engagement with the public.

During my time as Speaker of the Unicameral, I had the great honor of working with Chief Justice Heavican to establish the first and now annual tradition of the State of the Judiciary address to our State's legislature.

On behalf of the people of the first district, I want to extend best wishes to Chief Justice Heavican and our sincere gratitude for his decades of remarkable public service.

CELEBRATING NASA'S HIDDEN FIGURES CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENTS

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with passion and pride as an Ohioan to celebrate yesterday's Congressional Gold Medal recipients: Dorothy Vaughan, Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson, and Dr. Christine Darden, and all of the brilliant women who powered NASA's success during the space race.

Katherine Johnson's calculation made the Moon landing possible. Dorothy Vaughan became NASA's first Black supervisor. Mary Jackson broke barriers as NASA's first Black female engineer, and Dr. Christine Darden revolutionized supersonic flight.

Known as hidden figures, they calculated rocket trajectories, Earth orbits, and solved complex problems. Their genius was hidden by the shadows of segregation. They were the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of Ohio astronaut and former U.S. Senator, John Glenn, into orbit.

Mr. Speaker, let us continue to honor their legacy in the days ahead.

CONGRATULATING LaMYAH N. BOONE

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the National Society of High School Scholars announced that LaMyah Boone has been selected to join the prestigious organization.

Boone is a sophomore at KIPP Gaston College Preparatory. She is a member of her school's yearbook committee and the Dance Girls in the Panthers Marching Band.

Boone is the daughter of Kennedy and LaToya Boone. LaMyah is now a member of an exclusive community of scholars, a community that represents the bright future of eastern North Carolina.

Congratulations to LaMyah.

We look forward to seeing what the future has for her next.

ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3724.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Ohio). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 3724.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1214

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3724) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation, with Mr. GUEST in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in the first section of House Resolution 1455 and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act. No woke week could possibly be complete without a robust debate regarding the state of free speech on college campuses. However, first I can't help but acknowledge the juxtaposition of this floor debate and debates in the university setting.

The Constitution's Speech and Debate Clause grants Members of Congress the absolute freedom of speech on the House floor. It is a privilege that has survived 248 years of nationhood.

Sadly, the privilege of the First Amendment and campus free speech has not. Therefore, I will use this time at this pulpit to make three conservative statements to express three truths that would otherwise be punishable offenses on today's college campuses.

Men and women are biologically different. This position held by swimmer Riley Gaines endangered her very life on a trip to San Francisco State University. Student activists assaulted Ms. Gaines during a speaking engagement, forcing police to lead her into a safe room.

DEI policies overlook qualified candidates. This sentiment expressed in a tweet by conservative-libertarian

Georgetown lecturer Ilya Shapiro led to a 122-day investigation and his eventual coerced resignation.

Finally, wear what you want on Halloween. This opinion, shared in an email by Professor Erika Christakis, sparked outrage at Yale. The unchecked student overreaction drove Professor Christakis to stop teaching classes.

Men and women are biologically different, DEI policies overlook qualified candidates, and wear what you want on Halloween—these three statements, as unobjectionable and inoffensive as they may seem, are widely censored on college campuses. That is because, for every example of retaliatory censorship, there are hundreds, if not thousands, of examples of self-censorship and social pressure to conform.

That is why I support H.R. 3724. Not only does H.R. 3724 aim to protect politically disfavored speech, but all speech. To achieve this goal, it would, among other things, mandate viewpoint neutrality in the college accreditation process, require robust free speech policies before public colleges access title IV funds, and prohibit universities from giving political litmus tests to students and faculty.

Mr. Chair, I thank Representative OWENS of Utah, Representative WILLIAMS of New York, Representative HOUCHIN of Indiana, Representative WALBERG of Michigan, Representative STEFANIK of New York, Representative CRENSHAW of Texas, Representative KILEY of California, and Representative MURPHY of North Carolina for their significant contributions to this bill.

With enough like-minded Members committed to the First Amendment, we can once again renew free expression as a pillar of post-secondary education.

Mr. Chair, I urge a ''yes'' vote on H.R. 3724, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose H.R. 3724, what my Republican colleagues call the End Woke Higher Education Act.

H.R. 3724 seeks to circumvent the First Amendment to establish a whole new scheme to regulate speech and association rights on campus outside of established precedents and practices.

The First Amendment protects some of our most deeply cherished rights as Americans. Any student currently who believes their First Amendment rights are being violated can bring a Federal case against their public college or university. In doing so, they have over 200 years of precedent and case law that carefully define and determine what those rights are under the First Amendment.

This includes precedents that specifically address the unique nature of colleges and universities as public entities that both must uphold constitutional rights and must provide students with safe learning environments.

With today's bill, the majority would have us throw out all of the centuries of case law and replace it with a hastily drafted substitute that claims to remove barriers that limit constitutional rights.

What the bill actually does is make public colleges and universities, who could be acting in good faith attempting to protect the safety and security of everyone present on their campus, subject to monetary judgments and possible loss of title IV student aid, counter to Supreme Court precedent.

In so doing, my colleagues, who purport to favor limited government, are micromanaging how colleges and universities must handle their internal governance processes.

Another one of the harmful, misguided policies contained in the bill creates a license for religious student organizations at public institutions to discriminate against LGBTQ+ and other students by allowing these organizations to avoid nondiscrimination requirements that apply to all other student clubs funded by student activity fees.

Student groups are an essential part of the college experience, but if this bill becomes law, minority students would be forced to subsidize student groups that discriminate against them.

In addition to micromanaging how college campuses dispute the First Amendment cases, this bill would undermine the legitimacy of the college accreditation process. For decades, federally recognized accreditors have served as one-third of the oversight triad of the U.S. higher education system, along with States and the Federal Government.

Accreditation is meant to be the gold standard for college quality and performance. After all, accreditation is the gateway to billions of dollars of Federal student aid each year. I recognize that the accreditation systems need improvement, but, unfortunately, H.R. 3724 does not make constructive reforms. Rather, it is a baseless attempt to inject culture wars into an ever-important accreditation process.

For example, the ''prohibition on litmus tests'' invites additional Federal oversight into the accreditation process. Under this bill, accreditors may not assess a school's ''commitment to any ideology, belief, or viewpoint.''

The majority complains that this will prevent a school from losing accreditation if they do not have a diversity, equity, and inclusion office. The reality is that there is no evidence that that is happening.

There are, conversely, several examples of State officials pressuring schools not to teach certain classes or hold subjects that they believe cross the line between academic pursuit and ideological beliefs. That is why the bill is so dangerous.

For example, under this bill, the Department of Education could potentially revoke an accreditor's recognition if that accreditor required science programs to teach evolution. If the accreditor said, no, if it is science, you have got to teach evolution, the Department could potentially revoke the accreditation, suggesting that such standards were an attempt to force a university to commit to a specific partisan, political, or ideological viewpoint or belief.

Well, I think if you are going to teach a science course, that the accreditors ought to have the option of requiring the fundamental basis be science.

H.R. 3724 represents a solution in search of a problem, fundamentally seeks to undermine students' First Amendment rights and their right to be able to join a student organization free of discrimination, and it undermines our accreditation system.

Mr. Chair, I oppose the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chairman, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. WILLIAMS), the bill's sponsor.

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Chair, I thank Congresswoman FOXX for her courageous leadership in these historic and important times.

Mr. Chair, I am proud to speak in support of H.R. 3724, which includes my bill, the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act.

This package ensures transparency both in the accreditation process and at the institutional level, protecting the right to free speech, the liberty of religious conscience, and the safeguards against discrimination.

Our Nation's colleges and universities are at the very best when they facilitate the free, open, and civil exchange of ideas among students and faculty alike, with robust disagreements serving to teach students how to think and how to engage with those who come to the table with different perspectives.

In the interest of protecting students' ability to learn and grow from these interactions, this legislation ensures the universities do not stray from the guiding principles of the First Amendment. Throughout history, we have witnessed dangerous extremists weaponize educational institutions to promote their ideology and to suppress dissent. The open forum is worth protecting.

In the not-too-distant future, everyone in this Chamber will pass the torch to a new generation of leaders, not just in government, but in business, journalism, and every other sector of life.

We owe it to them to make sure that the educational halls in which they learn are more than a one-way conduit through which ideologues seek to cram their own views of the world on captive students. Their formative educational years should be spent thinking critically and discussing freely the issues that they will grapple with in their adult lives.

The prosperity of our Nation depends on that next generation and the ability

to think independently and engage productively with those who have different perspectives. Those are valuable tools they will have to use throughout their lives.

College students should feel secure in the knowledge that their rights are protected on campus, that campuses follow the law and certify their practices and policies on free speech to prospective students and families. Especially now, as students are increasingly unsure how their school will react to the turbulent political issues of today, it is necessary that institutions of higher education act with transparency and moral clarity, to protect the open forum and, by extension, the students they have been entrusted with.

This legislation speaks to universities directly: If you do not protect the lawful and Supreme Court-tested First Amendment rights of your students, you will lose your funding.

Mr. Chair, I urge the House to do right by our Nation's students and pass this bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN).

□ 1230

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Chair, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise today to discuss the next installment of Republican hypocrisy in the 118th Congress. This one relates to anti-Semitism.

My Republican colleagues have spent months haranguing university presidents for failing to protect Jewish students on college campuses, and on this, I agree. Many university presidents have failed to show appropriate moral clarity and leadership, but let me ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Does the removal of a university president actually change the facts on the ground? Does it make Jewish students safer? The answer is unequivocally no, and certainly not in the near term.

I have spoken to Jewish students all around the country, and they remain scared and afraid as anti-Semitic encampments and protests have grown more threatening and even violent.

Despite all of their lipservice about combating anti-Semitism, this Republican bill makes it significantly more difficult for universities to keep Jewish students safe.

Under the guise of ending wokeness on college campuses, this bill would strip universities of their ability to enforce reasonable restrictions on campus protests. It limits time, place, and manner restrictions and allows for no-notice spontaneous protests, including anywhere on campus, such as Hillels.

That is right. The bill makes it easier for agitators and others to come onto college campuses and engage in anti-Semitic protests or encampments. Once again, all talk, no action from my Republican colleagues.

The most effective way for the Federal Government to combat anti-Semitism on campus is through the enforcement of the title VI antidiscrimination law by the Office for Civil Rights in the Department of Education, which requires universities to remedy any violations that make Jewish students or any other students unable to safely and securely get the education that they deserve.

Since October 7, OCR has opened more than 150 investigations into campus anti-Semitism, but they don't have anywhere near the resources to fully pursue those investigations—never mind that Donald Trump's Project 2025 wants to eliminate the Department of Education altogether, including the Office for Civil Rights.

If Republicans truly cared about Jewish students, as they say, they would support my Showing Up for Students Act, which would increase funding for OCR so that we can actually combat anti-Semitism on the ground at universities around the country. Yet, not a single Republican has cosponsored this bill—not one.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. PERRY). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Chair, instead, in the last budget, Republicans insisted on cutting funding for OCR, further hampering OCR's ability to fight anti-Semitism.

I, once again, ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stop using anti-Semitism as a political weapon and join us to actually solve the problem. If you care about anti-Semitism on college campuses, you must oppose H.R. 3724 and instead join my Showing Up for Students Act so Congress can be part of the solution, not the problem.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the End Woke Higher Education Act, which upholds Americans' constitutional liberties and supports academic freedom on college campuses.

Sadly, over the years, we have seen our Nation's college campuses diverge from being places of thoughtful debate to a breeding ground for illiberal thought. Shoutdowns, disciplinary action, and political litmus tests have become pervasive on college campuses.

This trend threatens both our constitutionally guaranteed rights and the value of a college education. If we are to remain a tolerant society accepting of a diversity of ideas, then colleges need to be an open arena for thoughtful debate, discussion, and, of course, faith.

To protect individuals' faith on campus, H.R. 3724 also includes text from the Equal Campus Access Act, my bill to ensure commonsense protections for religious student organizations.

Over the years, we have seen a concerning increase of incidents on college campuses where religious student organizations have lost rights, benefits, and privileges due to faith-based practices.

Across the country, student groups are formed and meet to discuss political, social, or religious ideas and beliefs. These groups enrich the student experience and campus life. These groups must apply to the university for recognition, which allows them to use university space and receive student activity funding available to other recognized groups. However, religious groups have often been blocked from this recognition, putting their organization at risk.

The Equal Campus Access Act would clarify that no funds shall be made available to a public institution that denies a religious student group any rights similarly afforded to other organizations because of the religious group's beliefs, practices, or leadership standards.

Notably, in my State of Michigan, a religious student organization that had been a recognized student group at Wayne State University since 1956 was derecognized simply because it required its leaders to agree with its religious beliefs. The students had to sue their university in order to receive recognition, where a judge found the university had, in fact, violated the students' rights.

Students should not have to give up their First Amendment rights of speech, religion, and association to attend a public college.

I thank the chairwoman for including my bill in this package and Representatives BURGESS OWENS and BRANDON WILLIAMS for their leadership.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, we have received a letter from the American Council on Education, which says, in part, rather than respecting the First Amendment and what has been done to apply its principles across a wide range of higher education institutions, the provisions of title II of H.R. 3724 would undermine campus efforts to foster free speech and ensure student safety.

We are particularly concerned with the impact this legislation would have on campuses' ability to prevent discrimination and hateful incidents at a time of widespread national attention.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD a letter from the American Council on Education.

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,
September 17, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington DC.
Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, we write regarding H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act, which will be considered by the U.S. House of Representatives

this week. Title II of H.R. 3724 incorporates the provisions of H.R. 7683, the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act. We opposed the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act during its consideration by the Committee on Education and the Workforce. We now ask you to remove Title II from H.R. 3724 as it would undermine efforts to protect free speech on campus and provide safe learning environments free from discrimination. If Title II is not removed from the underlying bill, we would urge you and your members to oppose the bill if it is considered on the floor.

Colleges and universities are strongly committed to fostering open, intellectually engaging debate enriched by a diverse set of voices and perspectives. Freedom of speech, free inquiry, and academic freedom are fundamental to the quest for knowledge and to the educational mission of higher education institutions. Institutions take seriously their obligations to uphold the laws protecting these freedoms, which, for public institutions, include the First Amendment. Consistent with these obligations, institutions must also provide safe learning environments that are free from discrimination and harassment and in compliance with applicable federal and state laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Any proposed federal legislation in this area must reflect these twin institutional obligations.

Despite Title II's purported aims of ensuring that public institutions uphold First Amendment protections and provide clarity regarding campus speech policies, Title II would instead create new counterproductive federal mandates, undermining the goals it seeks to advance. Title II would impose a rigid, highly prescriptive, and costly regulatory and enforcement framework on nearly 1,900 public colleges and universities. Already subject to the protections afforded by the First Amendment, public institutions would have to implement a new campus-wide compliance scheme on top of existing policies and practices. As an example of the difficult and costly mandates that the legislation would impose, it would require institutions to develop ''objective, content- and view-point neutral and exhaustive standards'' in allocating funds to student organizations, which are extraordinarily varied. This could create a regulatory quagmire.

Under Title II's enforcement provisions, failure to comply with even minor reporting or disclosure requirements could result in loss of Title IV funding for an entire award year and often significantly longer. Penalizing students with a loss of financial aid does nothing to further the goals of this legislation and is disproportional to the underlying violation. While the bill exempts private institutions from some of its most onerous requirements, the legislation would nonetheless create a dangerous precedent that encourages further governmental intrusions into matters of academic freedom and institutional autonomy, which would undoubtedly have a chilling effect on private institutions as well.

In addition to the needlessly harsh penalty of loss of Title IV aid, the legislation would also spawn costly and time-consuming litigation by creating a new federal cause of action allowing individuals to sue a public institution for damages for any violation of Title II's requirements. Adding this new cause of action on top of existing legal remedies is unnecessary, duplicative, and would harmfully drain institutional resources away from efforts to protect students and campus free speech. Further, the bill would take the unprecedented and troubling step of waiving a public institution's sovereign immunity rights under the 11th Amendment based on its receipt of Title IV funding.

Given the recent focus of the Education and the Workforce Committee and other House Committees on incidents of antisemitism and the need for campuses to provide safe, discrimination-free environments for all students, we are mystified by Title II's inclusion of provisions that would tie the hands of campus administrators to address these issues, likely making campuses less safe. For example, the bill would mandate that any publicly accessible area of the campus be designated as a ''public forum,'' open to anyone—even if they are not a student, staff, or faculty member—making it more difficult for institutions to secure their campuses against outside agitators like the kind seen in some recent protests over the Israel-Hamas war. Further, Title II would prohibit institutions from factoring in potential student and public reactions when determining security fees for events, limiting their ability to safely manage controversial speakers and events which necessarily entail far greater security costs.

Rather than respecting the First Amendment and what has been done to apply its principles across a wide range of higher education institutions, the provisions in Title II of H.R. 3724 would undermine campus efforts to foster free speech and ensure student safety. We are particularly concerned with the impact this legislation would have on campuses' ability to prevent discrimination and hateful incidents at a time of widespread national tension. We urge the House to remove Title II from H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act, or vote against the broader bill if it reaches the floor with Title II included.

Sincerely,

TED MITCHELL,
President.

On behalf of:
American Association of Community Colleges,
American Association of State Colleges and Universities,
American Council on Education,
Association of American Universities,
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities,
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS), the bill's sponsor.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairwoman FOXX for her remarkable vision and leadership.

Mr. Chair, I will speak to the ACE Act, which is a part of the End Woke Higher Education Act.

Our Nation's education system is built on the fundamental values of free speech, freedom of religion, and the guaranteed rights of hearty and healthy debates. These core principles are so inherent to America that we often take them for granted. We, over time, assume that these freedoms will always be safe, without any effort on our part to protect them. Unfortunately, this is not the case.

A glance at our university system reveals a troubling trend: Ideological conformity and intolerance when not compliant is undermining academic freedom.

There is a systemic acceptance of a new litmus test in the accreditation world. Institutions of higher learning are facing immense pressure from accreditors to conform to the anti-American Marxist doctrine of DEI and critical race theory or risk losing access to Federal funding. This is not the education our Founders envisioned in their quest for America to continue to be a more perfect Union.

My dad was a college professor for 40 years at Florida A&M. Being raised in Tallahassee, Florida, in the shadows of FAMU and Florida State, I remember distinctly the era when our Nation's colleges and universities prided themselves on merit and competition. It was in that era within the classrooms that value of free speech, free exchange of ideas, and high standards were proudly taught.

Fast-forward to 2024, and throughout our Nation, religious institutions and conservative colleges that seek to teach their own values, the same values that students are signing up for and paying for, risk losing Federal funding by doing this process, by teaching this process.

The ACE Act brings this attack on the foundation of our American culture to an end. It allows every educational institution in our country to return to its original mission, which is to educate students in the American tradition of free and open debate, to allow for the training of critical thinking skills, and to prepare them to enter and succeed in America's innovative and diverse workforce.

The ACE Act reinforces the autonomy of every school to develop their own curriculums and policies without undue pressure to conform to the Marxist agenda pushed by politicized accrediting bodies. Most importantly, this upholds our constitutional right of free speech, which is fundamental to preserving the legacy of freedom for all future generations.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to join me in defending the basic American rights afforded to us by the Constitution and support the ACE Act, H.R. 3724.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the so-called End Woke Higher Education Act.

There is a lot we could be doing in Congress to improve higher education, and this is not it. This bill combines two extreme bills into one, attacking intellectual freedom and diversity on college campuses while fanning the flames of culture war rhetoric to score political points.

This so-called End Woke Higher Education Act would allow institutions of higher education to eliminate policies and programs that protect students and staff from discrimination because of who they are, where they come from, what they believe, or who they love.

By forbidding accreditors from considering diversity and inclusion efforts and allowing schools to require all applicants and employees to abide by a

statement of faith, colleges and universities would be free to remove curricula that highlight the historical experience of marginalized groups. They could reject students from attending federally funded institutions based on the student's religious beliefs.

Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia on college campuses is a pervasive problem, yet this bill would open the door for more schools to discriminate against Jewish or Muslim students solely because of their faith.

Is it woke to believe that Jewish and Muslim students should be able to attend the schools they choose and join the clubs that fit their interests? Is it woke to ask schools not to subsidize speakers that make certain groups of students feel unsafe on campus?

Though it is not typical to have a term in a bill that is undefined, there is no definition of ''woke'' in this bill. What is it? Do they believe it when they see it, or do they define it when they want to?

Instead of limiting access to inclusive, accurate curricula, we should be focused on vigorous enforcement of our civil rights laws that protect all students and provide equal opportunities.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment would increase funding for the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Education. That is important because the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, OCR, enforces a number of civil rights laws that apply to colleges and universities receiving Federal funding. The Office for Civil Rights has the crucial responsibility to uphold and enforce core nondiscrimination statutes that protect students on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age.

Despite the massive increase in complaints received over the past several years, this office has only half the staff it had when it was established 45 years ago. In fact, House Republicans on the Appropriations Committee recently proposed a $10 million cut to the Office for Civil Rights. That is right. They proposed a $10 million cut to the Office for Civil Rights.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Oregon.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, if they are seriously concerned about religious discrimination on college campuses, why diminish the Federal enforcement agency's power to prevent cases of discrimination and, importantly, take enforcement action when these cases occur?

□ 1245

Federal anti-discrimination laws are critical tools, especially in today's political climate, to protect the civil rights of all students.

I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit and opposing H.R. 3724 because we don't need the End Woke Higher Education Act.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Ms. Bonamici of Oregon moves to recommit the bill H.R. 3724 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following:

SEC. ___. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education $280,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the End Woke Higher Education Act, a bill that will refocus college accreditation on academic excellence—there is a concept—and correct the First Amendment rights of college students.

The Federal Government pays billions in hardworking taxpayer dollars each year to colleges and universities assuming that accredited schools are preparing students to think academically and to earn a good job after graduation. It is increasingly clear that many students aren't prepared for life after college.

Today, $1.6 trillion of taxpayer dollars are missing from the Treasury because graduates aren't paying back their student loans.

Of course, Democrats think that is wonderful because they think it is the government's job to provide free college education for everyone.

Sadly, many college students leave their university with little to show for it besides crushing debt, bleak job prospects in the Biden-Harris economy, and too often, liberal brainwashing from what they were taught.

Students are suffering under the misguided priorities of our institutions, and accreditors are contributing to the problem.

Instead of working with colleges to ensure that academic progress will lead to student success, accreditors are determined to impose their diversity, equity, and inclusion standards on institutions.

This bill simply prohibits accreditors from forcing colleges to adopt DEI standards in order to receive accreditation.

In addition, this bill protects the fundamental rights of free speech and free association on college campuses.

That means religious clubs on college campuses can have the same access to resources that are available to any other student group.

Unfortunately, here in 2024, it is still common for faith-based organizations to be discriminated against on college campuses, which makes this legislation necessary and important.

Restricting First Amendment rights and empowering divisive ideology on our college campuses is not serving our students well. This legislation will help stop those harmful practices.

I thank my friend, Mr. OWENS, for leading on this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we received a letter from the Association of Public & Land Grant Universities, which says, in part, the bill's ''purported solutions would radically undermine First Amendment jurisprudence, threatening the ability of public universities to ensure State property can be used for its intended educational purposes, and represents an astonishing level of Federal intrusion in matters traditionally respected as the purview of States and State entities.''

We received another letter from the ACLU, which says, in part, ''H.R. 3724 purportedly prohibits: partisan, political, ideological, social, cultural, or political viewpoints and beliefs; the disparate treatment of any individual or group of individuals on the basis of any protected class under Federal civil rights law; and violation of any right protected by the U.S. Constitution. In reality, H.R. 3724 would encourage these unlawful actions by permitting postsecondary institutions to eliminate curricula that covers historical contributions and lived experiences of some racial and ethnic groups while continuing such curriculum of other groups.''

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD letters from the Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities and the American Civil Liberties Union.

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC & LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES,
Washington, DC, September 16, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.
Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: As president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), a membership association of more than 230 public research universities and systems, I write to express APLU's strong opposition to Title II of H.R. 3724, the ''End Woke Higher Education Act,'' which is expected to be considered on the House Floor this week. Title II contains the text of the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act, provisions of which are predominantly aimed at state entities given the application of the First Amendment to public institutions.

While APLU appreciates goals of the legislation to ensure public colleges and universities are upholding their obligations under the First Amendment and fostering learning environments in which students are exposed to a variety of perspectives, its purported solutions would radically undermine First Amendment jurisprudence, threatening the ability of public universities to ensure state property can be used for its intended educational purposes, and represents an astonishing level of federal intrusion in matters

traditionally respected as the purview of states and state entities.

Further, the timing of the legislation is particularly perplexing given the enormous challenges public universities faced in the spring and continue to face as targets from outside organizations seeking to sow campus unrest to generate global attention. The legislation would be a major boon to such organizations by making it substantially more difficult for public universities to preserve its property for intended educational uses while protecting the rights of the vast majority of campus communities simply seeking to receive an education, further scientific advancement, and fully enjoy the enriching experiences afforded on public university campuses. The legislation would also raise the need for institutions to direct substantial resources to administration rather than in support of students, including exposing state institutions to new threats from unscrupulous lawyers seeking paydays from state coffers through the legislation's waiver of state sovereign immunity and creation of new private rights of action.

The First Amendment combined with case law provides deep protections for free speech and association on campuses of public universities, while enabling institutions to put in place reasonable, viewpoint neutral restrictions to protect public safety and speakers while enabling their higher education mission. While some aspects of the legislation related to designated public forums reinforce precedent within some circuits, not all circuit courts have adopted such standards. As such, the bill would treat all public university outdoor property as if it was traditional public fora like a town square or the quintessential public university ''quad.'' However, public institutions own and maintain an incredible diversity of property including hospitals, bus stations, agricultural field stations, athletics fields, sewage plants, parking lots, residence halls, forests, nature preserves, museums, etc. We find it highly unusual that Congress would insert itself into the designation of state property in ways it would likely never consider for other non-federal public lands.

APLU is also concerned with the manner in which the legislation will drive up legal expenses of institutions, diverting resources that could otherwise be devoted in furtherance of public universities' education, research, and community engagement missions. For example, creating new private rights of action and conditioning participation in Title IV federal student aid programs on waiving state sovereign immunity are deeply concerning. Additionally, the legislation contains incredibly harsh penalties of loss of Title IV eligibility for what could be unintentional infractions due to ambiguities with the bill's extremely prescriptive standards. APLU questions the need for such penalties, waivers of sovereign immunity, and creation of private rights of action as the First Amendment provides adequate protections for free speech on campus and judicial remedies for institutional noncompliance.

As public institutions, campuses have obligations to ensure students and campus communities more broadly have exposure to an array of speakers and events that further an educational mission, including the arts and sciences. Public universities receive countless requests for use of their facilities, including from outside organizations, speakers, and candidates for public office. As part of allowing public university campus property to be used by outside organizations, institutions must assess fees to recover costs, including security fees. The legislation would preclude an institution from taking into consideration ''an anticipated reaction by students or the public'' as part of determining a security fee. This provision is particularly dangerous. Public universities can reasonably anticipate a greater security need in hosting a controversial public figure or provocative fringe organization than say a mundane scientific conference of physicians. With this provision and especially combined with provisions creating new legal exposures, public universities would be faced with an impossible choice of providing inadequate security creating threats to public safety or having events bankrupt public university budgets. As like other provisions of the legislation, this would make public university campuses even greater targets of outside provocateurs who under the bill can pass along the financial costs of their events to state taxpayers.

Lastly, APLU is concerned by numerous provisions of the legislation that micromanage state university policies at the federal level, needlessly overriding the judgments of states and institutional leaders. For example, prescriptive standards in the legislation regarding governance of student organization policies override the discretion of campus administrators who are best positioned to know the needs of their communities.

APLU urges members of Congress to oppose the legislation and instead work with the public university community on legislation that better addresses policymaker concerns without such deeply troublesome unintended consequences. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

MARK BECKER,
President, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Re Vote ''NO'' on H.R. 3724, the Accreditation for College Excellence Act of 2023; Vote ''NO'' on H.R. 7683, the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act; Vote ''NO'' on H.R. 4790, the Guiding Uniform and Responsible Disclosure Requirements and Information Limits Act of 2023; Vote ''NO'' on H.R. 5339, the Roll back ESG to Increase Retirement Earnings Act

ACLU, NATIONAL POLITICAL ADVOCACY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, DC, September 18 2024.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: The American Civil Liberties Union strongly urges you to vote ''NO'' on H.R. 3724, the Accreditation for College Excellence Act of 2023; H.R. 7683, the Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act; H.R. 4790, the Guiding Uniform and Responsible Disclosure Requirements and Information Limits Act of 2023; and H.R. 5339, the Roll back ESG to Increase Retirement Earnings Act. These bills collectively and individually aim to undermine and dismantle policies and programs that both ensure compliance with non-discrimination laws and create welcoming and inclusive environments for students or employees. The ACLU will score these votes.

H.R. 3724, ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023

H.R. 3724 would prohibit accrediting agencies from requiring or encouraging public higher education institutions to consider inclusion and diversity efforts when assessing curricula and campus climates for students, faculty, and staff. Current accreditation standards concerning inclusion and diversity further non-discrimination and equal opportunity policies; foster diversity within curricula, the student body, and faculty; create a welcoming climate of respect and inclusiveness; encourage civic engagement; and measure achievement gaps between students. These programs and policies adopted by colleges and universities impact a vast population of students and staff, including women of all races and ethnicities, racial and religious minorities, veterans, people with disabilities, persons from low socioeconomic backgrounds, those who live in rural or urban geographic locations, and immigrants.

The bill would also permit educational institutions that are controlled by religious organizations to require applicants, students, employees, and independent contractors to provide or adhere to a statement of faith; adhere to a code of conduct consistent with one religious mission or certain religious tenets; and swear to a loyalty oath to vaguely ''uphold the U.S. Constitution.''

H.R. 3724 purportedly prohibits: (1) partisan, political, ideological, social, cultural, or political viewpoints and beliefs; (2) the disparate treatment of any individual or group of individuals on the basis of any protected class under Federal civil rights law; and (3) violation of any right protected by the U.S. Constitution. But, in reality, H.R. 3724 would encourage these unlawful actions by permitting post-secondary institutions to eliminate curricula that covers the historical contributions and lived experiences of some racial and ethnic groups, while continuing such curricula for other groups. In addition, H.R. 3724 would permit institutions to dismantle programs and policies that ensure compliance with non-discrimination protections for students, faculty, and staff; exclude students who practice certain religions from federally funded institutions; and mandate unconstitutionally vague loyalty oaths. The ACLU strongly urges you to vote ''NO'' on H.R. 3724.

H.R. 7683, THE RESPECTING THE FIRST AMENDMENT ON CAMPUS ACT

H.R. 7683 would wrongly prohibit consideration of lawful statements used to assess prospective applicants and faculty on their experiences, actions, and planned contributions. These prohibitions would undermine universities' efforts to consider the lived experiences of applicants and develop a well-rounded study body and faculty. For example, H.R. 7683 would preclude a public higher education institution from requiring, requesting, or considering a statement from a student applicant explaining how a social construct, such as race, ethnicity, gender roles or identity, socioeconomic status, religion, or nationality, has impacted their life or their ability to contribute to the institution.

However, this very type of statement was explicitly upheld by the Supreme Court. In Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College, the Supreme Court noted that higher education institutions may consider ''an applicant's discussion of how race affected the applicant's life, so long as that discussion is concretely tied to a quality of character or unique ability that the particular applicant can contribute'' to the institution.

In addition, this bill prohibits public higher education institutions from requiring, requesting, or considering a statement from a prospective or current faculty member explaining how their teaching, research or service has or would promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the institution. Yet, such statements are clearly relevant to a faculty member's professional experiences and scholarship, and therefore it is understandable and appropriate to ask about them. Ultimately, the ''political litmus tests'' defined in this legislation will serve only to reduce diversity amongst students and faculty and would not protect speech. The ACLU strongly urges you to vote ''NO'' on H.R. 7683.

H.R. 4790, GUIDING UNIFORM AND RESPONSIBLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION LIMITS ACT OF 2023 AND H.R. 5339, ROLL BACK ESG TO INCREASE RETIREMENT EARNINGS ACT

H.R. 4790 and H.R. 5339 aim to prohibit investors, including financial services companies investing pension and other retirement funds, from making investment decisions based on a company's commitment to environmental protections, public health and labor safety standards for the community at large, the social impact of diversity and inclusivity, and the general governance of organizations including shareholder rights. Not only do these bills disregard the desires and concerns of workers and investors across the country for nondiscriminatory and supportive workplaces, but they would have the perverse effect of disallowing the consideration of workplace diversity and environmental factors that contribute to the financial success of a business. Furthermore, a series of amendments offered by minority members of the Financial Services Committee that would have protected the will and economic interests of investors in investing in businesses that succeed by valuing and protecting their employees were all rejected. The ACLU strongly urges you to vote ''NO'' on H.R. 4790 and H.R. 5339.

The ACLU greatly appreciates your attention to this request, as we ask you to protect nondiscriminatory, inclusive and supportive workplaces and classrooms by voting ''NO'' on final passage of H.R. 3724, H.R. 7683, H.R. 4790, and H.R. 5339.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER ANDERS,
Director, Democracy & Technology.
KIMBERLY CONWAY,
Senior Policy Counsel.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Chair, one of the most important things that has happened in this Congress is the exposure of the alarming state of affairs at American universities.

Our institutions of higher learning have been gripped by retrograde prejudices and abhorrent ideologies that are in many ways abandoning the values of the enlightenment itself.

Fortunately, we are finally seeing accountability and a new course. Following testimony before the Education and the Workforce Committee that highlighted the true state of affairs on their campus, the presidents of several leading universities have resigned, including the presidents of Harvard, Penn, Columbia, and Rutgers.

What is more, several of these universities are reversing misguided policies like forced faculty diversity statements and are renewing their commitment to institutional neutrality.

Even the entire California public university system, the UCs and the CSUs, recently came out and said they are going to ban these disgraceful tent encampments that have produced chaos on their campuses.

This is a moment of reckoning for American higher education. A very important part of that is restoring the place of free speech on campus, which is why I am very happy that included in today's bill, H.R. 3724, is a measure that I introduced, the Free Speech on Campus Act.

This measure seeks to assure that free speech is not only protected as a legal right but is restored as a foundational principle in American higher education.

Now, my colleague on the other side of the aisle from New York stressed the importance of bipartisanship in these matters, and I could not agree more.

As a matter of fact, I developed this measure alongside one of the leading liberal scholars in California, the dean of UC Berkeley, Erwin Chemerinsky, someone who I don't agree with on much, but we were able to come together on a principle that transcends political differences.

The best way to resolve differences, to learn to find common ground, is the free and open exchange of ideas.

Unfortunately, many universities have lost sight of this and have become the most repressive institutions in American life.

They have stifled disfavored viewpoints and created an environment where students are afraid to speak their mind and participate in the marketplace of ideas.

We have seen universities adopt unconstitutional speech codes or designate only certain areas on campus as open to speech or allow a heckler's veto to shut down speakers or force faculty members to espouse certain points of view in order to get hired or built up entire bureaucracies devoted to censorship.

All the more pervasively, this last year, the very same universities allowed the banner of free speech to then falsely be used to justify not speech but illegal actions such as building tent encampments, occupying buildings, or setting up checkpoints to exclude students based on their identity.

As one example, Harvard University, which became the poster child for abhorrent, horrifying anti-Semitism on campus, was also ranked as the university with the worst protections for free speech. In fact, they got the worst ranking in the history of the survey.

These two things are not unrelated, by the way, because the biggest threat to hate, ignorance, and prejudice is reasoned argument.

Institutions that systematically shut down reasoned argument and debate allow retrograde ideas to flourish because they don't have the needed opposition.

This bill seeks to reverse this troubling trend and to restore First Amendment freedoms at the place where they are most vital, our institutions of higher learning.

My legislation ensures that our universities inform students of their First Amendment rights as soon as they step on campus.

As a condition of receiving Federal funds, universities will be required to provide new students with a written statement at orientation.

It will outline their First Amendment rights, affirm the institution's commitment to free expression, and guarantee that neither students nor invited speakers will have those rights violated.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. KILEY. Too often, students arrive on campus without an understanding of why free speech is important or how it has been such an important force for progress throughout our Nation's history.

This legislation will make sure the First Amendment itself is a key part of their college education so they grasp its vital role in safeguarding freedom and democracy.

Mr. Chair, we may often disagree, sometimes fiercely, on a range of ideas, but we should all be able to agree on the importance of ideas themselves.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we received another letter from the Association of American Universities which says, in part, ''On behalf of America's leading research universities, I urge you to oppose H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act. Title II ('Respecting the First Amendment on Campus') of this misguided legislation would dangerously undermine public universities' ability to implement crucial time, place, and manner policies for campus expression, jeopardizing their ability to protect student safety—particularly for vulnerable groups such as Jewish students—and disrupting the educational environment.''

Mr. Chairman, I include in the RECORD a letter from the Association of American Universities.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES,
Washington, DC, September 16, 2024.

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

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
House Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of America's leading research universities, I urge you to oppose H.R. 3724, the ''End Woke Higher Education Act.'' Title II (''Respecting the First Amendment on Campus'') of this misguided legislation would dangerously undermine public universities' ability to implement crucial time, place, and manner policies for campus expression, jeopardizing their ability to protect student safety—particularly for vulnerable groups such as Jewish students—and disrupting the educational environment.

It is puzzling that, at a time when the House has been focused on what colleges and universities are doing to protect students from hateful, intimidating, or harassing actions which impede an atmosphere conducive to effective learning, this legislation would actually remove critical tools that campuses use to protect students and reduce the likelihood of such outcomes.

Time, place, and manner policies are not abstract concepts; they are vital tools that have been repeatedly upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court for use by federal, state, and local governments, as well as university campuses. These content-neutral regulations govern when, where, and how speech activities occur on campus, balancing free expression with safety and educational needs. For example:

Time restrictions limit noisy demonstrations during class hours

Place restrictions designate appropriate areas for large gatherings

Manner restrictions regulate sound amplification use or require advance notice for major events

The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently recognized the constitutionality of these policies, holding that such restrictions are valid if they are content-neutral, narrowly tailored to serve a significant governmental interest, and leave open ample alternative channels for communication.

This Act seeks to broaden the requirements of that legal standard by simultaneously 1) reclassifying all generally accessible areas of campus at public institutions as traditional public forums and 2) weakening public universities' ability to regulate the time, place, and manner of campus protests by requiring them to allow a right of no-notice spontaneous assembly to any member of the public who wants to protest. The Act would also allow demonstrators a right to physically approach students on campus to distribute literature.

These added requirements will jeopardize this established legal framework within which universities consider a variety of factors, including free expression, campus safety, disruption of educational mission, and protection of students from the type of discrimination and harassment that creates an environment that impedes their ability to participate in their education.

By changing the requirements these policies, the Act would:

Endanger Jewish students and other vulnerable groups: Without the ability to manage the location and timing of demonstrations, colleges would struggle to prevent hostile groups from gathering near religious or cultural centers, potentially subjecting students to harassment or intimidation.

Disrupt the learning environment: Unrestricted protests could interfere with classes, exams, or even important events like Holocaust remembrance ceremonies, impeding the core educational mission of universities.

Create logistical nightmares: Colleges would be unable to effectively allocate resources for security or manage competing demands for limited campus spaces, potentially leading to chaos and increased safety risks.

Conflict with other legal obligations: The Act could make it nearly impossible for colleges to meet their responsibilities under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act to protect students from discrimination while still allowing free expression.

Instead of this deeply flawed legislation, AAU strongly urges Congress to:

Protect colleges' ability to implement reasonable, content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions as already established by judicial precedent.

Support initiatives that balance free expression with campus safety.

Encourage collaborative policy-making involving administrators, students, and faculty to address each campus's unique needs.

While the provisions relating to campus speech are our primary focus, AAU has additional concerns with other provisions in the Act relating to security fees and single-sex associations, some of which affect both public and private universities.

Despite its ''Respecting the First Amendment'' name, Title II of this legislation would not enhance free speech. Instead, it would create a potentially dangerous environment that could silence vulnerable voices and undermine the very purpose of higher education. I implore you to stand against this misguided legislation and protect the delicate balance of rights and responsibilities that our universities currently navigate.

Sincerely,

BARBARA R. SNYDER,
President.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, it is astounding to me that associations of higher education in this country are opposing this bill, absolutely astounding. That should send a message to the American people about what the status of higher education is right now.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act.

As a former member of a board of trustees in a college, I am deeply concerned about the erosion of free speech on college campuses and political activism by administrators and college presidents as well as professors.

Institutions of higher education are chartered to foster academic excellence and prepare students for meaningful careers. Instead, they have become incubators of political activism and extreme progressive ideology.

One only has to look at recent FIRE reports and recent FIRE ratings to see the meteoric rise in self-censorship, which is happening on college campuses.

In one school, which I love dearly, 41 percent of students feel it is okay to shout down somebody who is coming to speak just because they disagree with them.

In some cases, even the most prestigious universities in our Nation have descended into hotbeds of anti-American and anti-Semitic hatred. We saw an American flag burned at Columbia University.

Thankfully, we have now seen several university presidents resign because of the ideological push that they are having on their campuses.

I believe that this is a symptom of extreme ideological influence that universities have allowed, permitted, and promoted to permeate its classrooms. They teach what to think, not how to think.

Sadly, this indoctrination is now going into the Nation's medical schools where we see this in the admissions process, fealty oaths, curriculum, promotion of faculty, and teaching what to think, not how to think.

I am proud that my bills, H. Res. 282, as well as the Campus Free Speech Restoration Act, were included in this legislation.

Academic freedom is central to vigorous debate and the exploration of ideas. Academic freedom means listening to more than one side. We must celebrate differences in thought, not censorship with those we disagree with.

Let's restore sanity on our college campuses across the country by seizing this opportunity to protect academic freedom.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3724, the End Woke Higher Education Act.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I received another letter from the American Federation of Teachers which says, in part, ''Academic freedom and the right to peacefully protest on our college campuses are hallmarks of a functioning democracy and a thriving economy. Unfortunately, the bill before you today does not respect the vital and dynamic role that higher education plays in promoting knowledge, pluralism, and democracy. The bill would limit the ability of campuses to stand up against hate and bigotry, which runs counter to the very core of higher education's fundamental purpose.''

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, we have groups that are supporting this bill, strong support. Over the years, we have worked with experts in the field to craft these policies.

Let me read just some of the praise. The James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal states: This legislation is an essential step in restoring the fundamental purpose of higher education to foster free inquiry and equip students to think critically and independently.

Too many institutions have prioritized ideological conformity over academic excellence. Accreditation bodies and universities have increasingly promoted DEI initiatives that risk undermining intellectual diversity and free expression.

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I won't read all of these, but Young America's Foundation has given strong support, as has the Defense of Freedom Institute. The American Council of Trustees and Alumni stated: ''The respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act is a step in the right direction toward protecting freedom of speech, association, and religion on college and university campuses across the country.''

''. . . Congress is listening to major public concerns as the battle for the soul of American education continues to play out in the form of hegemonic diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, the heckler's veto, disinvitations, and deplatforming.''

In addition, we have the National Panhellenic Conference, the North American Interfraternity Conference, the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, the Defense of Freedom Institute, Foundation for Individual Rights

and Expression, and Young America's Foundation supporting this bill.

Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. BOST). The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 6½ minutes remaining.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, could you advise how much time remains on this side?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Chairman, we also received a letter from the Americans United for Separation of Church and State and Interfaith Alliance that says, in part, that "we oppose the provision on 'political litmus tests' in accreditation, because it is unnecessary and unwise.

"The provision seems aimed, in part, to allow religious colleges to ignore accreditation standards and still maintain accreditation. Current law and regulations, though, already require accreditors to give significant deference to religious schools."

"This bill seeks to go further, though, by requiring accrediting agencies to permit religious schools to discriminate against all students and employees. The bill would allow religious schools to require adherence to a statement of faith or religious code of conduct, which could be written so broadly as to allow religious schools to discriminate against people because of sex, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Every single student, employee, and contractor, including janitors, IT administrators, nurses, and more, could face discrimination—and for students, perhaps even on the basis of their parents' relationship or frequency of church attendance.

"Moreover, this goes beyond what title VII allows religious colleges to do in employment. Religious employers may favor religion—and only religion—in their employment practices. Title VII 'does not confer upon religious organizations a license to make those [employment] decisions' on the basis of race, national origin, or sex. Decades of case law makes clear that religious employers do not get a license to discriminate on other grounds, even when such discrimination is motivated by religion or carried out under a 'code of conduct.'"

Mr. Chairman, what we have heard today from the other side are attempts to micromanage and insert themselves into the colleges and universities under the thin guise of protecting students.

In reality, this bill is one of many culture war bills that would strip America's educational institutions of their freedoms to explore the subjects that make up a comprehensive and rigorous academic experience.

For a coalition that claims to support limited government, they are using valuable title IV funds as a weapon to beat colleges and universities into submission. This stops us from having the necessary discussions on difficult issues about race, gender, and inequity that would help us improve our higher education system.

Mr. Chairman, for these reasons, we must reject the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Chair, I indicate to my friends and colleagues that we have an opportunity in the bill before us today to make a strong stand for free speech.

This bill does not mandate any political viewpoint or ideology. It simply demands, from the accreditation process down to the classroom, that all levels of postsecondary education respect the free speech rights of students.

Postsecondary education should empower students to discover truth and think critically. American universities risk losing sight of this core mission by refusing to engage with certain viewpoints.

The End Woke Higher Education Act will restore the essential freedoms that make our universities the global leaders of open debate and intellectual growth, ensuring that the next generation of Americans can think for themselves and engage in the pursuit of truth.

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

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute, consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–49, shall be considered as adopted.

The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3724

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "End Woke Higher Education Act".

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE

Sec. 101. Short title.
Sec. 102. Prohibition on political litmus tests in accreditation of institutions of higher education.
Sec. 103. Rule of construction.

TITLE II—RESPECTING THE FIRST AMENDMENT ON CAMPUS

Sec. 201. Short title.
Sec. 202. Sense of Congress.
Sec. 203. Disclosure of free speech policies.
Sec. 204. Freedom of association and religion.
Sec. 205. Free speech on campus.
Sec. 206. Enforcement.

TITLE I—ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Accreditation for College Excellence Act of 2024".

SEC. 102. PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL LITMUS TESTS IN ACCREDITATION OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(a) OPERATING PROCEDURES REQUIRED.—Section 496(c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099b(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking "and" at the end of paragraph (8);

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(10) confirms that the standards for accreditation of the agency or association do not—

"(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B)—

"(i) require, encourage, or coerce any institution to—

"(I) support, oppose, or commit to supporting or opposing—

"(aa) a specific partisan, political, or ideological viewpoint or belief or set of such viewpoints or beliefs; or

"(bb) a a specific viewpoint or belief or set of viewpoints or beliefs on social, cultural, or political issues; or

"(II) support or commit to supporting the disparate treatment of any individual or group of individuals on the basis of any protected class under Federal civil rights law, except as required by Federal law or a court order; or

"(ii) assess an institution's or program of study's commitment to any ideology, belief, or viewpoint;

"(B) prohibit an institution—

"(i) from having a religious mission, operating as a religious institution, or being controlled by a religious organization (in a manner described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6) of section 106.12(c) of title 34, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this paragraph)), or from requiring an applicant, student, employee, or independent contractor (such as an adjunct professor) of such an institution to—

"(I) provide or adhere to a statement of faith; or

"(II) adhere to a code of conduct consistent with the stated religious mission of such institution or the religious tenets of such organization; or

"(ii) from requiring an applicant, student, employee, or contractor to take an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States; or

"(C) require, encourage, or coerce an institution of higher education to violate any right protected by the Constitution.".

(b) LIMITATION ON SCOPE OF CRITERIA.—Section 496(g) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099b(g)) is amended to read as follows:

"(g) LIMITATION ON SCOPE OF CRITERIA.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not establish criteria for accrediting agencies or associations that are not required by this section.

"(2) INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY.—An institution of higher education shall be eligible for participation in programs under this title if the institution is in compliance with the standards of its accrediting agency or association that assess the institution in accordance with subsection (a)(5), regardless of any additional standards adopted by the agency or association for purposes unrelated to participation in programs under this title.".

SEC. 103. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this title prevents religious accreditors from holding and enforcing religious standards on institutions they choose to accredit.

TITLE II—RESPECTING THE FIRST AMENDMENT ON CAMPUS

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Respecting the First Amendment on Campus Act''.

SEC. 202. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 112 the following new section:

''SEC. 112A. SENSE OF CONGRESS; CONSTRUCTION; DEFINITION.

''(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—

''(1) ADOPTION OF CHICAGO PRINCIPLES.—The Congress—

''(A) recognizes that free expression, open inquiry, and the honest exchange of ideas are fundamental to higher education;

''(B) acknowledges the profound contribution of the Chicago Principles to the freedom of speech and expression; and

''(C) calls on nonsectarian institutions of higher education to adopt the Chicago Principles or substantially similar principles with respect to institutional mission that emphasizes a commitment to freedom of speech and expression on university campuses and to develop and consistently implement policies accordingly.

''(2) POLITICAL LITMUS TESTS.—The Congress—

''(A) condemns public institutions of higher education for conditioning admission to any student applicant, or the hiring, reappointment, or promotion of any faculty member, on the applicant or faculty member pledging allegiance to or making a statement of personal support for or opposition to any political ideology or movement, including a pledge or statement regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion, or related topics; and

''(B) discourages any institution from requesting or requiring any such pledge or statement from an applicant or faculty member, as such actions are antithetical to the freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution.

''(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in sections 112B through 112E shall be construed to infringe upon, or otherwise impact, the protections provided to individuals under titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.).

''(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of sections 112C, 112D, and 112E, the term 'covered public institution' means an institution of higher education that is—

''(1) a public institution; and

''(2) participating in a program authorized under title IV.''.

SEC. 203. DISCLOSURE OF FREE SPEECH POLICIES.

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), as amended by section 202 of this title, is further amended by inserting after section 112A the following new section:

''SEC. 112B. DISCLOSURE OF POLICIES RELATED TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH, ASSOCIATION, AND RELIGION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—No institution of higher education shall be eligible to participate in any program under title IV unless the institution certifies to the Secretary that the institution has annually disclosed to current and prospective students and faculty—

''(1) any policies held by the institutions related to—

''(A) speech on campus, including policies limiting—

''(i) the time when such speech may occur;

''(ii) the place where such speech may occur; or

''(iii) the manner in which such speech may occur;

''(B) freedom of association, if applicable; and

''(C) freedom of religion, if applicable; and

''(2) the right to a cause of action under section 112E, if the institution is a public institution.

''(b) INTENDED BENEFICIARIES.—The certification specified in subsection (a) shall include an acknowledgment from the institution that the students and faculty are the intended beneficiaries of the policies disclosed in the certification.''.

SEC. 204. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND RELIGION.

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), as amended by section 203 of this title, is further amended by inserting after section 112B the following new section:

''SEC. 112C. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND RELIGION.

''(a) STUDENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS TO FURTHER PROTECT SPEECH AND ASSOCIATION.—

''(1) PROTECTED RIGHTS.—A covered public institution shall comply with the following requirements:

''(A) RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.—A covered public institution that has recognized student organizations shall comply with the following requirements:

''(i) FACULTY ADVISORS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution may not deny recognition to a student organization because the organization is unable to obtain a faculty advisor or sponsor, if the organization meets each of the other content- and viewpoint-neutral institutional requirements for such recognition.

''(II) ALTERNATIVE.—An institution described in subclause (I) shall ensure that any policy or practice related to the recognition of a student organization—

''(aa) in the case of an organization that meets each of the other content- and viewpoint-neutral institutional requirements for such recognition but is unable to obtain a faculty advisor or sponsor, provides for an alternative to any requirement that a faculty or staff member serve as the faculty advisor or sponsor as a condition for recognition of the student organization, which alternative may include—

''(AA) waiver of such requirement; or

''(BB) the institution assigning a faculty or staff member to such organization; and

''(bb) does not require a faculty or staff member of the institution assigned to serve as faculty advisor pursuant to item (aa)(BB) to participate in, or support, the organization other than by performing the purely administrative functions required of a faculty advisor.

''(ii) APPEAL OPTIONS FOR RECOGNITION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution shall provide an appeals process by which a student organization that has been denied recognition by the institution may appeal to an institutional appellate entity for reconsideration.

''(II) REQUIREMENTS.—The appeal process shall—

''(aa) require the covered public institution to provide a written explanation for the basis for the denial of recognition in a timely manner, which shall include a copy of all policies relied upon by the institution as a basis for the denial;

''(bb) require the covered public institution to provide written notice to the students seeking recognition of the appeal process and the timeline for hearing and resolving the appeal;

''(cc) allow the students seeking recognition to obtain outside counsel to represent them during the appeal; and

''(dd) ensure that such appellate entity did not participate in any prior proceeding related to the denial of recognition to the student organization.

''(B) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS.—A covered public institution that collects a mandatory fee from students for the costs of student activities or events (or both), and provides funds generated from such student fees to one or more recognized student organizations of the institution, shall—

''(i) establish and make publicly available clear, objective, content- and viewpoint-neutral, and exhaustive standards to be used by the institution to determine—

''(I) the total amount of funds made available for allocations to the recognized student organizations; and

''(II) the allocations of such total amount to individual recognized student organizations;

''(ii) ensure that allocations are made to the recognized student organizations in accordance with the standards established pursuant to clause (i);

''(iii) upon the request of a recognized student organization that has been denied all or a portion of an allocation described in clause (ii), provide to the organization, in writing (which may include electronic communication) and in a timely manner, the specific reasons for such denial, copies of all policies relied upon by the institution as basis for the denial, and information of the appeals process described in clause (iv); and

''(iv) provide an appeals process by which a recognized student organization that has been denied all or a portion of an allocation described in clause (ii) may appeal to an institutional appellate entity for reconsideration, which appeals process—

''(I) shall require the covered public institution to provide written notice to the students seeking an allocation through the appeal process and the timeline for hearing and resolving the appeal;

''(II) allow the students seeking an allocation to obtain outside counsel to represent them during the appeal; and

''(III) require the institution to ensure that such appellate entity did not participate in any prior proceeding related to such allocation.

''(C) ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY FEES FOR EVENTS.—A covered public institution shall establish and make publicly available clear, objective, content- and viewpoint-neutral, and exhaustive standards to be used by the institution to—

''(i) determine the amount of any security fee for an event or activity organized by a student or student organization; and

''(ii) ensure that a determination of such an amount may not be based, in whole or in part, on—

''(I) the content of expression or viewpoint of the student or student organization;

''(II) the content of expression of the event or activity organized by the student or student organization;

''(III) the content of expression or viewpoint of an invited guest of the student or student organization; or

''(IV) an anticipated reaction by students or the public to the event.

''(D) PROTECTIONS FOR INVITED GUESTS AND SPEAKERS.—A covered public institution shall establish and make publicly available clear, objective, content- and viewpoint-neutral, and exhaustive standards to be used by the institution related to the safety and protection of speakers and guests who are invited to the institution by a student or student organization.

''(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'recognized student organization' means a student organization that has been determined by a covered public institution to meet institutional requirements to qualify for certain privileges granted by the institution, such as use of institutional venues, resources, and funding.

''(B) SECURITY FEE.—The term 'security fee' means a fee charged to a student or student organization for an event or activity organized by the student or student organization on the campus of the institution that is intended to cover some or all of the costs incurred by the institution for additional security measures needed to ensure the security of the institution, students, faculty, staff, or surrounding community as a result of such event or activity.

''(b) EQUAL CAMPUS ACCESS.—A covered public institution shall not deny to a religious student organization any right, benefit, or privilege

that is otherwise afforded to other student organizations at the institution (including full access to the facilities of the institution and official recognition of the organization by the institution) because of the religious beliefs, practices, speech, leadership standards, or standards of conduct of the religious student organization.

''(c) FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION.—

''(1) UPHOLDING FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION PROTECTIONS.—Any student (or group of students) enrolled in an institution of higher education that receives funds under this Act, including through an institution's participation in any program under title IV, shall—

''(A) subject to paragraph (3)(A), be able to form a single-sex social organization, whether recognized by the institution or not; and

''(B) be able to apply to join any single-sex social organization; and

''(C) if selected for membership by any single-sex social organization, be able to join, and participate in, such single-sex organization, subject to its standards for regulating its own membership, as provided under paragraph (3)(C).

''(2) NONRETALIATION AGAINST STUDENTS OF SINGLE-SEX SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An institution of higher education that receives funds under this Act, including through an institution's participation in any program under title IV, shall not—

''(A) take any action to require or coerce a student or prospective student who is a member or prospective member of a single-sex social organization to waive the protections provided under paragraph (1), including as a condition of enrolling in the institution;

''(B) take any adverse action against a single-sex social organization, or a student who is a member or a prospective member of a single-sex social organization, based on the membership practice of such organization limiting membership only to individuals of one sex; or

''(C) impose a recruitment restriction (including a recruitment restriction relating to the schedule for membership recruitment) on a single-sex social organization recognized by the institution, which is not imposed upon other student organizations by the institution, unless the organization (or a council of similar organizations) and the institution have entered into a mutually agreed upon written agreement that allows the institution to impose such restriction.

''(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall—

''(A) require an institution of higher education to officially recognize a single-sex social organization;

''(B) prohibit an institution of higher education from taking an adverse action against a student who organizes, leads, or joins a single-sex social organization—

''(i) due to academic or nonacademic misconduct; or

''(ii)(I) for public institutions, because the organization's purpose is directed to inciting or producing imminent lawless action and likely to incite or produce such action; or

''(II) for private institutions, because the organization's purpose is incompatible with the religious mission of the institution, so long as that adverse action is not based on the membership practice of the organization of limiting membership only to individuals of one sex;

''(C) prevent a single-sex social organization from regulating its own membership;

''(D) inhibit the ability of the faculty of an institution of higher education to express an opinion (either individually or collectively) about membership in a single-sex social organization, or otherwise inhibit the academic freedom of such faculty to research, write, or publish material about membership in such an organization; or

''(E) create enforceable rights against a single-sex social organization or against an institution of higher education due to the decision of the organization to deny membership to an individual student.

''(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) ADVERSE ACTION.—The term 'adverse action' includes the following actions taken by an institution of higher education with respect to a single-sex social organization or a member or prospective member of a single-sex social organization:

''(i) Expulsion, suspension, probation, censure, condemnation, formal reprimand, or any other disciplinary action, coercive action, or sanction taken by an institution of higher education or administrative unit of such institution.

''(ii) An oral or written warning with respect to an action described in clause (i) made by an official of an institution of higher education acting in their official capacity.

''(iii) An action to deny participation in any education program or activity, including the withholding of any rights, privileges, or opportunities afforded other students on campus.

''(iv) An action to withhold, in whole or in part, any financial assistance (including scholarships and on-campus employment), or denying the opportunity to apply for financial assistance, a scholarship, a graduate fellowship, or on-campus employment.

''(v) An action to deny or restrict access to on-campus housing.

''(vi) An act to deny any certification, endorsement, or letter of recommendation that may be required by a student's current or future employer, a government agency, a licensing board, an institution of higher education, a scholarship program, or a graduate fellowship to which the student applies or seeks to apply.

''(vii) An action to deny participation in any sports team, club, or other student organization, including a denial of any leadership position in any sports team, club, or other student organization.

''(viii) An action to withdraw the institution's official recognition of such organization.

''(ix) An action to require any student to certify that such student is not a member of a single-sex social organization or to disclose the student's membership in a single-sex social organization.

''(x) An action to interject an institution's own criteria into the membership practices of the organization in any manner that conflicts with the rights of such organization under title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) or this subsection.

''(xi) An action to impose additional requirements on advisors serving a single-sex social organization that are not imposed on all other student organizations.

''(B) SINGLE-SEX SOCIAL ORGANIZATION.—The term 'single-sex social organization' means—

''(i) a social fraternity or sorority described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code, or an organization that has been historically single-sex, the active membership of which consists primarily of students or alumni of an institution of higher education; or

''(ii) a single-sex private social club (including an independent organization located off-campus) that consists primarily of students or alumni of an institution of higher education.

''(d) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an institution of higher education from taking any adverse action (such as denying or revoking recognition, funding, use of institutional venues or resources, or other privileges granted by the institution) against a student organization based on the student organization having knowingly provided material support or resources to an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).''.

SEC. 205. FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS.

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), as amended by section 204 of this title, is further amended by inserting after section 112C the following new section:

''SEC. 112D. FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution shall—

''(1) at each orientation for new and transfer students, provide students attending the orientation—

''(A) a written statement that—

''(i) explains the rights of students under the First Amendment to the Constitution;

''(ii) affirms the importance of, and the commitment of the institution to, freedom of expression;

''(iii) explains students' protections under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.) and the procedures for filing a discrimination claim with the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education; and

''(iv) includes assurances that students, and individuals invited by students to speak at the institution, will not be treated in a manner that violates the freedom of expression of such students or individuals; and

''(B) educational programming (including online resources) that describes their free speech rights and responsibilities under the First Amendment to the Constitution; and

''(2) post on the publicly accessible website of the institution the statement described in paragraph (1)(A).

''(b) CAMPUS FREE SPEECH AND RESTORATION.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES.—In this subsection, the term 'expressive activity'—

''(A) includes—

''(i) peacefully assembling, protesting, speaking, or listening;

''(ii) distributing literature;

''(iii) carrying a sign;

''(iv) circulating a petition; or

''(v) other expressive activities guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution;

''(B) applies equally to religious expression as it does to nonreligious expression; and

''(C) does not include unprotected speech (as defined by the precedents of the Supreme Court of the United States).

''(2) EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES AT AN INSTITUTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution may not prohibit, subject to subparagraph (B), a person from freely engaging in noncommercial expressive activity in a generally accessible area on the institution's campus if the person's conduct is lawful. The publicly accessible outdoor areas of campuses of public institutions of higher education shall be regulated pursuant to rules applicable to traditional public forums.

''(B) RESTRICTIONS.—A covered public institution may not maintain or enforce time, place, or manner restrictions on an expressive activity in a generally accessible area of the institution's campus unless the restriction—

''(i) is narrowly tailored in furtherance of a significant governmental interest;

''(ii) is based on published, content-neutral, and viewpoint-neutral criteria;

''(iii) leaves open ample alternative channels for communication; and

''(iv) provides for spontaneous assembly and distribution of literature.

''(C) APPLICATION.—The protections provided under subparagraph (A) do not apply to expressive activity in an area on an institution's campus that is not a generally accessible area.

''(D) NONAPPLICATION TO SERVICE ACADEMIES.—This subsection shall not apply to an institution of higher education whose primary purpose is the education of individuals for the military services of the United States, or the merchant marine.

''(c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF POLITICAL TESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution may not consider, require, or discriminate on the basis of a political test in the admission, appointment, hiring, employment, or promotion of

any covered individual, or in the granting of tenure to any covered individual.

''(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed—

''(A) to prohibit an institution of higher education whose primary purpose is the education of individuals for the military services of the United States, or the merchant marine, from requiring an applicant, student, or employee to take an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States;

''(B) to prohibit an institution of higher education from requiring a student, faculty member, or employee to comply with Federal or State antidiscrimination laws or from taking action against a student, faculty member, or employee for violations of Federal or State anti-discrimination laws, as applicable;

''(C) to prohibit an institution of higher education from evaluating a prospective student, an employee, or a prospective employee based on their knowingly providing material support or resources to an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

''(D) to prohibit an institution of higher education from considering the subject-matter competency including the research and creative works, of any candidate for a faculty position or faculty member considered for promotion when the subject matter is germane to their given field of scholarship; or

''(E) to apply to activities of registered student organizations.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'covered individual' means, with respect to an institution of higher education that is a public institution—

''(i) a prospective student who has submitted an application to attend such institution;

''(ii) a student who attends such institution;

''(iii) a prospective employee who has submitted an application to work at such institution;

''(iv) an employee who works at such institution;

''(v) a prospective faculty member who has submitted an application to work at such institution; and

''(vi) a faculty member who works at such institution.

''(B) MATERIAL SUPPORT OR RESOURCES.—The term 'material support or resources' has the meaning given that term in section 2339A of title 18, United States Code (including the definitions of 'training' and 'expert advice or assistance' in that section).

''(C) POLITICAL TEST.—The term 'political test' means a method of compelling or soliciting an applicant for enrollment or employment, student, or employee of an institution of higher education to identify commitment to or make a statement of personal belief in support of any ideology or movement that—

''(i) supports or opposes a specific partisan or political set of beliefs;

''(ii) supports or opposes a particular viewpoint on a social or political issue; or

''(iii) promotes the disparate treatment of any individual or group of individuals on the basis of race, color, or national origin, including—

''(I) any initiative or formulation of diversity, equity, and inclusion beyond upholding existing Federal law; or

''(II) any theory or practice that holds that systems or institutions upholding existing Federal law are racist, oppressive, or otherwise unjust.''.

SEC. 206. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.—Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(30)(A) The institution will comply with all the requirements of sections 112B.

''(B) An institution that fails to comply with section 112B shall—

''(i) be ineligible to participate in the programs authorized by this title for a period of not less than 1 award year; and

''(ii) in order to regain eligibility to participate in such programs, demonstrate compliance with all requirements of such section for not less than one award year after the award year in which such institution became ineligible.''.

(b) CAUSE OF ACTION.—The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), as amended by section 205 of this title, is further amended by inserting after section 112D the following new section:

''SEC. 112E. ENFORCEMENT.

''(a) CAUSE OF ACTION.—

''(1) CIVIL ACTION.—After exhaustion of any available appeals under section 112C(a), an aggrieved individual who, or an aggrieved organization that, is harmed by the maintenance of a policy or practice by a covered public institution that is in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D may bring a civil action in a Federal court for appropriate relief.

''(2) APPROPRIATE RELIEF.—For the purposes of this subsection, appropriate relief includes—

''(A) a temporary or permanent injunction; and

''(B) awarding a prevailing plaintiff—

''(i) compensatory damages;

''(ii) reasonable court costs; and

''(iii) reasonable attorney's fees.

''(3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—A civil action under this subsection may not be commenced later than 2 years after the cause of action accrues. For purposes of calculating the two-year limitation period, each day that the violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D persists, and each day that a policy in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D remains in effect, shall constitute a new day that the cause of action has accrued.

''(b) NONDEFAULT, FINAL JUDGMENT.—In the case of a court's nondefault, final judgment in a civil action brought under subsection (a) that a covered public institution is in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D, such covered public institution shall—

''(1) not later than 7 days after the date on which the court makes such a nondefault, final judgment, notify the Secretary of such judgment and submit to the Secretary a copy of the nondefault, final judgment; and

''(2) not later than 30 days after the date on which the court makes such a nondefault, final judgment, submit to the Secretary a report that—

''(A) certifies that the standard, policy, practice, or procedure that is in violation of the requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D is no longer in use; and

''(B) provides evidence to support such certification.

''(c) REVOCATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—In the case of a covered public institution that does not notify the Secretary as required under subsection (b)(1) or submit the report required under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall revoke the eligibility of such institution to participate in a program authorized under title IV for each award year following the conclusion of the award year in which a court made a nondefault, final judgment in a civil action brought under subsection (a) that the institution is in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D.

''(d) RESTORATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A covered public institution that loses eligibility under subsection (c) to participate in a program authorized under title IV may seek to restore such eligibility by submitting to the Secretary the report described in subsection (b)(2).

''(2) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.—Not later than 90 days after a covered public institution submits a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall review such report and make a determination with respect to whether such report contained sufficient evidence to demonstrate that such institution is no longer in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D.

''(3) RESTORATION.—If the Secretary makes a determination under paragraph (2) that the covered public institution is no longer in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D, the Secretary shall restore the eligibility of such institution to participate in a program authorized under title IV for each award year following the conclusion of the award year in which such determination is made.

''(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and on an annual basis thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions a report that includes—

''(1) a compilation of—

''(A) the notifications of violation received by the Secretary under subsection (b)(1) in the year for which such report is being submitted; and

''(B) the reports submitted to the Secretary under subsection (b)(2) for such year; and

''(2) any action taken by the Secretary to revoke or restore eligibility under subsections (c) and (d) for such year.

''(f) VOLUNTARY WAIVER OF STATE AND LOCAL SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY AS CONDITION OF RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDING.—The receipt, on or after the date of enactment of this section, of any Federal funding under title IV of this Act by a State or political subdivision of a State (including any municipal or county government) is deemed to constitute a clear and unequivocal expression of, and agreement to, waiving sovereign immunity under the 11th Amendment to the Constitution or otherwise, to a civil action for injunctive relief, compensatory damages, court costs, and attorney's fees under this section.

''(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'nondefault, final judgment' means a final judgment by a court for a civil action brought under subsection (a) that a covered public institution is in violation of a requirement described in section 112B, 112C, or 112D that the covered public institution chooses not to appeal or that is not subject to further appeal.''.

The Acting CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part A of House Report 118–685. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, and shall be considered 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part A of House Report 118–685.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 31, line 5, insert ''religion,'' after ''color,''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chairman, for our entire history as a nation, our colleges and universities have been the example for other countries. Why? Because historically this Nation has ensured that colleges and institutions of higher learning have been places where we have embraced and encouraged critical thought.

We have embraced and accepted differences in thought, and we have tried to ensure that the individual rights enshrined in the Constitution inherent to each of us are protected in these places of higher learning.

Yet, over the course of the last year and a half, we have seen a consistent effort to attempt to silence one set of views. In fact, having traveled all across the State of New York for most of my adult life, I can tell you the SUNY college system has been a model of great institutions meant to bring people from different backgrounds and different experiences together not to be indoctrinated in a school of thought but, rather, to engage in critical thought.

Yet, over the last year and a half, we have seen consistently one set of thoughts, one set of beliefs being silenced in order to embrace another ideology or agenda. It isn't what our colleges and universities were about.

The End Woke Higher Education Act, importantly, seeks to uphold Americans' constitutional rights and restore diversity of thought and viewpoints at colleges without forcing a single perspective.

Part of the bill prohibits public colleges from asking or encouraging faculty and students to make a statement of personal belief in support of an ideology or movement that promotes the wrongful treatment of individuals. Imagine in 2024 having to even state that, yet here we are.

My amendment adds to this prohibition by taking it one step further. This says that public colleges cannot promote the wrongful treatment of individuals on the basis of religion.

Of course, this should be common sense; and, by the way, every institution should seek to protect individual students and faculty's freedom to express their faith as they see fit. Yet, unfortunately, over the past year we have seen far too many ugly events on college campuses incited and emboldened both by faculty and students allowed to impose their will and their beliefs in an intolerant and hostile way on others.

Just this week at Cornell University in my own district, a member of the faculty who spoke favorably about the October 7 terrorist attacks by Hamas on Israel was recently taken off leave. This individual recently taken off leave was brought back to full employment in the classroom.

I have met with college students, Jewish students, who simply want a safe place to learn, yet they feel marginalized because of the imposition of someone else's will in an intolerant and inexcusable way.

How are Jewish students supposed to feel when a professor who openly supports a terrorist attack against, in fact, some of their own family? How are they supposed to feel?

Colleges are to be the place where students are safe to learn and grow, to flourish in their own beliefs and even, I would offer, challenge their beliefs. When colleges don't provide this protection, yes, it is important that we remind folks that they all must uphold and protect the constitutional right to freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression.

My amendment simply seeks to strengthen the bill in chief by ensuring one's religious beliefs are not held against them nor is one's religious beliefs imposed on someone else as a doctrine or a statement that is necessary for employment or joining as a student.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues' support of the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment and yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York seeks to add religion to the definition of political tests, which already includes COVID categories of race, color, or national origin.

I fear this may cause confusion. As drafted, the language in the underlying bill's definition conforms with classes protected under title VI of the Civil Rights Act which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin in educational programs receiving Federal financial assistance.

There were a lot of debates when the law was written as to whether or not to include religion, and just like as it is now, it was not covered in the underlying bill. I think we are going to confuse the matter by trying to stick it in now.

Further, while religion is included in title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which covers employment discrimination, title VII protects discrimination also on the basis of sex. Notably, ''sex'' is not included in either definition of the political tests in the bill or by the amendment, which suggests supporters of the bill do not feel that the political tests that discriminate on the basis of sex need to be outlawed.

Mr. Chair, I just think that the inclusion of religion here would just confuse the matter of title VI or title VII. You would have another provision here with a cause of action where religion is in some, not in others, and for no apparent good reason other than a last-minute thought.

Mr. Chair, I would hope we would not accept the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chairman, my colleague knows I respect him greatly. I know that he and I appreciate the expression of our faith in the way that we choose to do so. I don't think there is any confusion here at all. The beauty of this body is that when confronted with new challenges that face Americans, we are to debate them, consider them, and then apply reason as to establishing new policy.

I will address one comment. This is not some unnecessary last-minute thought. We have seen over the last 2 years hatred in the most vile form: intimidation, intolerance, violence committed against Jewish students, Jewish faculty. In my own district, threats of death against Jewish students, Jewish students locked in buildings, not being able to exercise not only their faith or participate in their education process overall.

This isn't last minute, and it certainly isn't unnecessary. It is timely, it is necessary, and it is appropriate. It also, by the way—perhaps to weaken my argument only slightly—goes both ways. This is an effort to ensure that nobody can impose a standard on one or the other. I ask for support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

The amendment was agreed to.

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AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part A of House Report 118–685.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end of title II the following new section:

SEC. 207. SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS.

It is the sense of Congress that acts of violence committed on the campus of an institution of higher education are not protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, my amendment adds a sense of Congress that acts of violence committed on the campus of an institution of higher education are not protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

We cherish free speech in America. It is the foundation of our democracy, a beacon of liberty, and an essential right for every citizen.

We must remember that the First Amendment draws a clear line. It protects peaceful expression, not violent acts.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, even though I am not opposed to it.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for his amendment, which restates what most of us think is present law, that violence is not protected by the First Amendment. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I thank my colleague for his comments.

What we have seen is an alarming rise in incidents where protests on college campuses turn violent against Jewish students.

This is not free speech. It is an assault on free speech, and it has no place in America, let alone in the institutions tasked with shaping the minds of the next generation.

Since the horrific October 7 terrorist attack on Israel, we have seen an explosion of anti-Semitism on college campuses. Across the country, Jewish students have been harassed, assaulted, intimidated, and subjected to the hostile and sometimes violent environments of their campuses.

Every Jewish student deserves the right to learn, to speak, and to participate in campus life without fear of being targeted.

In the wake of anti-Semitic incidents on college campuses across our country, violence against Jews has even gotten worse. Since October 7, fewer than half of Jewish students feel physically safe on campus.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I think any implication that the right to protest is an act of violence in and of itself would fly in the face of hundreds of years of First Amendment precedent. Those protests which, in fact, are violent are not protected. I am not sure that the amendment is necessary, but I am obviously not opposed to it.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, again, I thank my colleague for his comments.

I think in light of the October 7 attack, in light of the violence we have seen on college campuses, and the very fact that Jewish students say they don't feel safe, it is important to restate what is law. It is important to restate that they have a right to be free, to be safe, and to learn.

Sometimes it is important that we state the obvious. Sometimes it is important that we stand and say what needs to be said, that anti-Semitism can't be tolerated. It can't be tolerated. It can't be tolerated.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in part A of House Report 118–685.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 17, beginning on line 1, after ''leadership standards'', insert '', including standards regarding religious identity, belief, or practice,''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, this amendment simply inserts or adds a clarifying clause.

While religious student groups are free to select people who aren't members of their religion to lead them, most people agree that it is reasonable for a Muslim student group to want its leaders to be, well, Muslim or a Catholic student group to want its leaders to be practicing Catholics.

Unfortunately, administrators of some of our universities keep showing that they disagree. Many believe that if a religious group requires that its leaders are of their religion that it is somehow unfair discrimination.

It is only common sense that a religious group should be able to require its leaders to agree with its religious message and mission. Because student leaders may lead the group's Scripture, prayer, or worship, they should have a familiarity and agree with the group's religious beliefs.

In 2018, the University of Iowa threatened to derecognize almost every religious group on campus: Christian, Jewish, and Muslim. It was a deliberate effort to force religious student groups to abandon their religious leadership requirements.

In 2021, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals held that the university administrators were personally liable for violating the religious groups' First Amendment rights, but that required 3 years of litigation.

In 2022, at the State University of New York at Cortland, a student organization was told that its selection process in which it asked potential leaders about their religious beliefs, as well as its requirements that its leaders demonstrate knowledge of and uphold the organization's religious teachings, was unacceptable.

Whether you understand the beliefs of an organization could obviously be relevant to your ability to lead it. The university changed course only after legal counsel sent a letter explaining the law.

In 2006, the University of Wisconsin-Madison derecognized a Catholic student organization because of its religious leadership and member requirements. The university eventually lost its case before the Seventh Circuit Court but not until 2011, long enough for an entire class of students to enroll and graduate without access to a recognized Catholic campus ministry.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, we received a letter, that I read from previously, from the Americans United for Separation of Church and State and Interfaith Alliance, which says, in part, relevant to this provision: ''We oppose the 'Equal Campus Access' provision of the bill because it would sanction discrimination by religious student groups at public colleges and universities.''

I would say that the amendment doesn't really cure the problem of the provision in the underlying bill, as I am speaking both against the underlying bill as well as the amendment.

''To ensure that all students can participate, colleges and universities often have nondiscrimination policies, frequently called 'accept-all-comers' policies, that require officially recognized student groups to allow any student to join, participate in, and seek leadership in those groups. These policies are important because they prevent student groups from discriminating. And because funding for student groups often comes from mandatory student-activity fees, accept-all-comers' policies also ensure that universities don't subsidize discrimination and guarantee that all students aren't forced to fund a group that would reject them as members.

''The Equal Campus Access provision, however, would prohibit public colleges and universities from enforcing accept-all-comers' policies.''

''Critically, this provision is not required by the First Amendment. Any student club can become a recognized group and access funds if it adheres to its school's nondiscrimination policy. And if a club decides it wants to impose requirements for membership and leadership that conflict with the school policy, it will not be silenced or driven off campus; instead, it, like any other club, simply will not be eligible for official recognition.''

I would hope that, Mr. Chair, that we would reject the amendment and the underlying bill on this provision because it would allow discrimination in violation of the policies, the accept-all-comers' policies, that many colleges elect to have.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I will go back to the Eighth Circuit where it determined at the University of Iowa, that

the student groups, the religious groups, had the right to choose their leadership. You can go back to the University of Wisconsin-Madison where the same type of ruling came down.

That being said, in 2022, the law school at Madison decided to reject the initial application of a Christian Legal Society chapter because the group requires that its leader is Christian, which administrators claim was different than requiring believing Christian beliefs. They only relented after being challenged on the legality of their actions.

The underlying bill already establishes that public universities cannot discriminate against religious groups for their leadership standards, but we all know that sometimes, like my previous amendment, you need to state the obvious.

When we find an issue that public universities will persist in fighting, even after losing in court, it is important to spell things out clearly. My amendment does just that. It inserts the statement: '' . . . regarding religious identity, belief, or practice.'' It clarifies their right to choose their leadership based off of their beliefs.

I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NUNN of Iowa) having assumed the chair, Mr. BOST, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3724) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation, and, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House with sundry further amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Bonamici of Oregon moves to recommit the bill H.R. 3724 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

GUIDING UNIFORM AND RESPONSIBLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION LIMITS ACT OF 2023

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, I call up the bill (H.R. 4790) to amend the Federal securities laws with respect to the materiality of disclosure requirements, to establish the Public Company Advisory Committee, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–48, modified by the amendment printed in part B of House Report 118–685, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 4790

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

DIVISION A—GUARDRAIL ACT OF 2023

Sec. 1001. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MANDATORY MATERIALITY REQUIREMENT

Sec. 1101. Limitation on disclosure requirements.

TITLE II—SEC JUSTIFICATION OF NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE MANDATES

Sec. 1201. SEC justification of non-material disclosure mandates.

TITLE III—PUBLIC COMPANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 1301. Public Company Advisory Committee.

TITLE IV—PROTECTING U.S. BUSINESS SOVEREIGNTY

Sec. 1401. Study on detrimental impact of the Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence and Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.

DIVISION B—BUSINESSES OVER ACTIVISTS ACT

Sec. 2001. Short title.

Sec. 2002. Limitation with respect to compelling the inclusion or discussion of shareholder proposals.

DIVISION C—PROTECTING AMERICANS' RETIREMENT SAVINGS FROM POLITICS ACT

Sec. 3001. Short title; Table of contents.

TITLE I—PERFORMANCE OVER POLITICS

Sec. 3101. Exclusion of certain substantially similar shareholder proposals.

TITLE II—NO EXPENSIVE, STIFLING GOVERNANCE

Sec. 3201. Exclusion of certain shareholder proposals.

TITLE III—EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ESG SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

Sec. 3301. Exclusion of certain ESG shareholder proposals.

TITLE IV—EXCLUSIONS AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL POLICY ISSUE

Sec. 3401. Exclusions available regardless of significant social policy issue.

TITLE V—CORPORATE GOVERNANCE EXAMINATION

Sec. 3501. Study of certain issues with respect to shareholder proposals, proxy advisory firms, and the proxy process.

TITLE VI—REGISTRATION OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS

Sec. 3601. Registration of proxy advisory firms.

TITLE VII—LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN FAILURES TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL INFORMATION OR MAKING OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENTS

Sec. 3701. Liability for certain failures to disclose material information or making of material misstatements.

TITLE VIII—DUTIES OF INVESTMENT ADVISORS, ASSET MANAGERS, AND PENSION FUNDS

Sec. 3801. Duties of investment advisors, asset managers, and pension funds.

TITLE IX—PROTECTING AMERICANS' SAVINGS

Sec. 3901. Requirements related to proxy voting.

TITLE X—EMPOWERING SHAREHOLDERS

Sec. 3911. Proxy voting of passively managed funds.

TITLE XI—PROTECTING RETAIL INVESTORS' SAVINGS

Sec. 3921. Best interest based on pecuniary factors.

Sec. 3922. Study on climate change and other environmental disclosures in municipal bond market.

Sec. 3923. Study on solicitation of municipal securities business.

DIVISION D—AMERICAN FIRST ACT OF 2023

Sec. 4001. Short title; Table of contents.

TITLE I—STOP EXECUTIVE CAPTURE OF BANKING REGULATORS

Sec. 4101. Report on the implementation of recommendations from the FSOC Chairperson and Executive Orders.

TITLE II—ENSURING U.S. AUTHORITY OVER U.S. BANKING REGULATIONS

Sec. 4201. Requirements in connection with rulemakings implementing policies of non-governmental international organizations.

Sec. 4202. Report on certain climate-related interactions with covered international organizations.

TITLE III—BANKING REGULATOR INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

Sec. 4301. Reporting on interactions with non-governmental international organizations.

TITLE IV—SUPERVISION REFORM

Sec. 4401. Removal of the Vice Chairman for Supervision designation.

DIVISION E—LIMITATION ON SEC RESERVE FUND

DIVISION A—GUARDRAIL ACT OF 2023

SECTION 1001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''Guiding Uniform and Responsible Disclosure Requirements and Information Limits Act of 2023'' or the ''GUARDRAIL Act of 2023''.

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

Sec. 1001. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MANDATORY MATERIALITY REQUIREMENT

Sec. 1101. Limitation on disclosure requirements.

TITLE II—SEC JUSTIFICATION OF NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE MANDATES

Sec. 1201. SEC justification of non-material disclosure mandates.

TITLE III—PUBLIC COMPANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 1301. Public Company Advisory Committee.

TITLE IV—PROTECTING U.S. BUSINESS SOVEREIGNTY

Sec. 1401. Study on detrimental impact of the Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence and Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.

TITLE I—MANDATORY MATERIALITY REQUIREMENT

SEC. 1101. LIMITATION ON DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) SECURITIES ACT OF 1933.—Section 2(b) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77b(b)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''; LIMITATION ON DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS'' after ''FORMATION'';

(2) by striking ''Whenever'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever pursuant to this title the Commission is engaged in rulemaking regarding disclosure obligations of issuers, the Commission shall expressly provide that an issuer is only required to disclose information in response to such disclosure obligations to the extent the issuer has determined that such information is material with respect to a voting or investment decision regarding the securities of such issuer.

''(B) APPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to the removal of any disclosure requirement with respect to an issuer.

''(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For the purposes of this paragraph, information is considered material with respect to a voting or investment decision regarding the securities of an issuer if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would view the failure to disclose that information as having significantly altered the total mix of information made available to the investor.''.

(b) SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.—Section 3(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(f)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''; LIMITATION ON DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS'' after ''FORMATION'';

(2) by striking ''Whenever'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) LIMITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever pursuant to this title the Commission is engaged in rulemaking regarding disclosure obligations of issuers, the Commission shall expressly provide that an issuer is only required to disclose information in response to such disclosure obligations to the extent the issuer has determined that such information is material with respect to a voting or investment decision regarding the securities of such issuer.

''(B) APPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to the removal of any disclosure requirement with respect to an issuer.

''(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For the purposes of this paragraph, information is considered material with respect to a voting or investment decision regarding the securities of an issuer if there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable investor would view the failure to disclose that information as having significantly altered the total mix of information made available to the investor.''.

TITLE II—SEC JUSTIFICATION OF NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE MANDATES

SEC. 1201. SEC JUSTIFICATION OF NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE MANDATES.

Section 23 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78w) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE MANDATES.—

''(1) DISCLOSURE.—The Commission shall maintain a list on the website of the Commission that contains—

''(A) each mandate under the Federal securities laws and regulations that requires the disclosure of non-material information; and

''(B) for each such disclosure mandate, an explanation of why the mandate is required.

''(2) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Commission shall, every 5 years, issue a report to the Congress justifying each disclosure contained on the list required under paragraph (1).

''(3) NO PRIVATE LIABILITY FOR FAILING TO MAKE A NON-MATERIAL DISCLOSURE.—A person who fails to disclose non-material information required to be disclosed under the Federal securities laws or regulations shall not be liable for such failure in any private action.''.

TITLE III—PUBLIC COMPANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SEC. 1301. PUBLIC COMPANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is amended by inserting after section 40 (15 U.S.C. 78qq) the following:

''SEC. 40A. PUBLIC COMPANY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Commission the Public Company Advisory Committee (referred to in this section as the 'Committee').

''(2) PURPOSE.—The Committee shall—

''(A) provide the Commission with advice on its rules, regulations, and policies with regard to its mission of protecting investors, maintaining fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and facilitating capital formation, as they relate to—

''(i) existing and emerging regulatory priorities of the Commission;

''(ii) issues relating to the public reporting and corporate governance of public companies;

''(iii) issues relating to the proxy process for shareholder meetings held by public companies;

''(iv) issues relating to trading in the securities of public companies; and

''(v) issues relating to capital formation; and

''(B) submit to the Commission such findings and recommendations as the Committee determines are appropriate, including recommendations for proposed regulatory and legislative changes.

''(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The membership of the Committee shall be not fewer than 10, and not more than 20, members appointed by the Commission from among individuals who—

''(A) are officers, directors, or senior officials of public companies registered with the Commission under the Securities Act or 1933 and this Act, except for those public companies that own asset management, fixed income, investment advisory, broker-dealer, or proxy services businesses;

''(B) are executives or other individuals with senior managerial responsibility in business, professional, trade, and industry associations that represent the interests of such public companies; or

''(C) are professional advisers and service providers to such public companies (including attorneys, accountants, investment bankers, and financial advisers).

''(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—At least 50 percent of the Committee membership shall be drawn from individuals who would qualify for membership under paragraph (1)(A).

''(3) TERM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (1) shall serve for a term of 4 years.

''(B) VACANCIES.—Vacancies among the members, whether caused by the resignation, death, removal, expiration of a term, or otherwise, will be filled consistent with the Commission's procedures then in effect.

''(C) STAGGERED TERMS.—The members of the Committee shall serve staggered terms, with one-third of the initial members of the Committee each serving for 1, 2, or 3 years.

''(4) MEMBERS NOT ON OTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—Public companies and other organizations that are currently represented on any other Commission Advisory Committee are not eligible to have representatives also serve on the Public Company Advisory Committee.

''(5) MEMBERS NOT COMMISSION EMPLOYEES.—Members appointed under paragraph (1) shall not be considered to be employees or agents of the Commission solely because of membership on the Committee.

''(c) CHAIR; VICE CHAIR; SECRETARY; ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Committee shall elect, from among the members of the Committee—

''(A) a Chair;

''(B) a Vice Chair;

''(C) a Secretary; and

''(D) an Assistant Secretary.

''(2) TERM.—Each member elected under paragraph (1) shall serve for a term of two years in the capacity the member was elected under paragraph (1).

''(3) SUBCOMMITTEES.—The Chair may create subcommittees that hold public or non-public meetings and provide recommendations to the full Committee.

''(d) MEETINGS.—

''(1) FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet—

''(A) not less frequently than twice annually, at the call of the Chair of the Committee; and

''(B) from time to time, at the call of the Commission.

''(2) NOTICE.—The Chair of the Committee shall give the members of the Committee written notice of each meeting, not later than two weeks before the date of the meeting.

''(e) COMPENSATION AND TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Committee who is not a full-time employee of the United States shall—

''(1) be entitled to receive compensation at a rate not to exceed the daily equivalent of the

annual rate of basic pay in effect for a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which the members is engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Committee; and

''(2) while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of services for the Committee, be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703(b) of title 5, United States Code.

''(f) STAFF.—The Commission shall make available to the Committee such staff as the Chair of the Committee determines are necessary to carry out this section.

''(g) REVIEW BY COMMISSION.—The Commission shall—

''(1) review the findings and recommendations of the Committee; and

''(2) each time the Committee submits a finding or recommendation to the Commission, promptly issue a public statement—

''(A) assessing the finding or recommendation of the Committee; and

''(B) disclosing the action, if any, the Commission intends to take with respect to the finding or recommendation.

''(h) COMMITTEE FINDINGS.—Nothing in this section shall require the Commission to agree to or act upon any finding or recommendation of the Committee.

''(i) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—Chapter 10 of part I of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the Committee and its activities.''.

TITLE IV—PROTECTING U.S. BUSINESS SOVEREIGNTY

SEC. 1401. STUDY ON DETRIMENTAL IMPACT OF THE DIRECTIVE ON CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY DUE DILIGENCE AND CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING DIRECTIVE.

(a) STUDY.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall conduct a study to examine and evaluate—

(1) the detrimental impact and potential detrimental impact of each of the Directives on—

(A) United States companies, consumers, and investors; and

(B) the economy of the United States;

(2) the extent to which each of the Directives aligns with international conventions and declarations on human rights and environmental obligations; and

(3) the legal basis for the extraterritorial reach of each of the Directives.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the United States Trade Representative a report that includes—

(1) the results of the study conducted under this section; and

(2) recommendations for policymakers and relevant stakeholders on potential mitigating measures, alternative approaches, or modifications to each of the Directives that would address any concerns identified in the study.

(c) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The Securities and Exchange Commission may request from private entities such relevant data and information as the Securities and Exchange Commission determines necessary to carry out the study required under this section and such private entities shall provide such requested data and information to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(d) DIRECTIVES DEFINED.—In this section the term ''Directives'' means—

(1) the proposed directive entitled ''Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence'' adopted by the European Commission on February 23, 2022; and

(2) the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive of the European Commission effective January 5, 2023.

DIVISION B—BUSINESSES OVER ACTIVISTS ACT

SEC. 2001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the ''Businesses Over Activists Act''.

SEC. 2002. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO COMPELLING THE INCLUSION OR DISCUSSION OF SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.

Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78n(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO COMPELLING INCLUSION OR DISCUSSION OF SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Commission may not compel an issuer to include in a proxy statement of the issuer—

''(A) any shareholder proposal; or

''(B) any discussion (either from the issuer or otherwise) related to a shareholder proposal contained in the proxy statement.

''(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION RELATING TO STATE AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act or any other securities law shall be construed to provide the Commission the authority to preempt the State regulation of shareholder proposals or proxy or consent solicitation materials.''.

DIVISION C—PROTECTING AMERICANS' RETIREMENT SAVINGS FROM POLITICS ACT

SEC. 3001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''Protecting Americans' Retirement Savings from Politics Act''.

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

Sec. 3001. Short title; Table of contents.

TITLE I—PERFORMANCE OVER POLITICS

Sec. 3101. Exclusion of certain substantially similar shareholder proposals.

TITLE II—NO EXPENSIVE, STIFLING GOVERNANCE

Sec. 3201. Exclusion of certain shareholder proposals.

TITLE III—EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ESG SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

Sec. 3301. Exclusion of certain ESG shareholder proposals.

TITLE IV—EXCLUSIONS AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL POLICY ISSUE

Sec. 3401. Exclusions available regardless of significant social policy issue.

TITLE V—CORPORATE GOVERNANCE EXAMINATION

Sec. 3501. Study of certain issues with respect to shareholder proposals, proxy advisory firms, and the proxy process.

TITLE VI—REGISTRATION OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS

Sec. 3601. Registration of proxy advisory firms.

TITLE VII—LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN FAILURES TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL INFORMATION OR MAKING OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENTS

Sec. 3701. Liability for certain failures to disclose material information or making of material misstatements.

TITLE VIII—DUTIES OF INVESTMENT ADVISORS, ASSET MANAGERS, AND PENSION FUNDS

Sec. 3801. Duties of investment advisors, asset managers, and pension funds.

TITLE IX—PROTECTING AMERICANS' SAVINGS

Sec. 3901. Requirements related to proxy voting.

TITLE X—EMPOWERING SHAREHOLDERS

Sec. 3911. Proxy voting of passively managed funds.

TITLE XI—PROTECTING RETAIL INVESTORS' SAVINGS

Sec. 3921. Best interest based on pecuniary factors.

Sec. 3922. Study on climate change and other environmental disclosures in municipal bond market.

Sec. 3923. Study on solicitation of municipal securities business.

TITLE I—PERFORMANCE OVER POLITICS

SEC. 3101. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.

The Securities and Exchange Commission shall revise the resubmission requirements in section 240.14a-8(i)(12) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, to provide that a shareholder proposal may be excluded by an issuer from its proxy or consent solicitation material for a meeting of the shareholders of such issuer if the shareholder proposal addresses substantially the same subject matter as a proposal, or proposals, previously included in the proxy or consent solicitation material for a meeting of the shareholders of such issuer—

(1) for a meeting of the shareholders conducted in the preceding 5 calendar years; and

(2) if the most recent vote—

(A) occurred in the preceding 3 calendar years; and

(B)(i) if voted on once during such 5-year period, received less than 10 percent of the votes cast;

(ii) if voted on twice during such 5-year period, received less than 20 percent of the votes cast; or

(iii) if voted on three or more times during such 5-year period, received less than 40 percent of the votes cast.

TITLE II—NO EXPENSIVE, STIFLING GOVERNANCE

SEC. 3201. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.

(a) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.—A shareholder proposal submitted to an issuer pursuant to section 240.14a-8 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, may be excluded by an issuer from its proxy or consent solicitation material for a meeting of the shareholders of such issuer if the shareholder proposal—

(1) has been substantially implemented by the issuer by implementing policies, practices, or procedures that compare favorably with the guidelines of the proposal and address the proposal's underlying concerns; or

(2) substantially duplicates by having the same principal thrust or principal focus as another proposal previously submitted to the issuer by another proponent that will be included in such material.

(b) NULLIFICATION OF PROPOSED RULE.—The Securities and Exchange Commission may not finalize or apply the positions contained in the proposed rule entitled ''Substantial Implementation, Duplication, and Resubmission of Shareholder Proposals under Exchange Act Rule 14a-8'' (87 Fed. Reg. 45052), issue any substantially similar rule, or apply any substantially similar rule, including with respect to a no-action or other interpretive request.

TITLE III—EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ESG SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

SEC. 3301. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN ESG SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS.

A shareholder proposal submitted to an issuer pursuant to section 240.14a-8 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, may be excluded by an issuer from its proxy or consent solicitation material for a meeting of the shareholders of such issuer if the subject matter of the shareholder proposal is environmental, social, or political (or a similar subject matter).

TITLE IV—EXCLUSIONS AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL POLICY ISSUE

SEC. 3401. EXCLUSIONS AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL POLICY ISSUE.

An issuer may exclude a shareholder proposal pursuant to section 240.14a-8(i) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to whether such shareholder proposal relates to a significant social policy issue.

TITLE V—CORPORATE GOVERNANCE EXAMINATION

SEC. 3501. STUDY OF CERTAIN ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS, PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS, AND THE PROXY PROCESS.

Section 4(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d(j)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(10) STUDY OF CERTAIN ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS, PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS, AND THE PROXY PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, and every 5 years thereafter, the Commission shall conduct a comprehensive study on shareholder proposals, proxy advisory firms, and the proxy process.

''(B) SCOPE OF STUDY.—The studies required under subparagraph (A) shall cover—

''(i) the previous 10 years, with respect to the initial study; and

''(ii) the previous 5 years, with respect to each other study.

''(C) CONTENTS.—Each study required under subparagraph (A) shall address the following issues:

''(i) The financial and other incentives and obligations of all groups involved in the proxy process.

''(ii) A consideration of whether financial and other incentives have created a process that no longer serves the economic interests of long-term retail investors.

''(iii) An analysis of whether regulations and financial incentives have created and protected the outsized influence of proxy advisors or a duopoly in proxy advice, and if so, what are the benefits and costs of that outsized influence or duopoly.

''(iv) The costs incurred by issuers in responding to politically-, environmentally-, or socially-motivated shareholder proposals.

''(v) An assessment, including a cost-benefit analysis, of the adequacy of the current submission thresholds in Rule 14a-8 (17 CFR 240.14a-8) to ensure that shareholder proponents have demonstrated a meaningful economic stake in a company, which is appropriate to effectively serve markets and shareholders at large.

''(vi) An examination of the extent to which the politicization of the shareholder proposal process is increasing the operating costs of public companies.

''(vii) An analysis of the impact that shareholder proposals have on discouraging private companies from going public.

''(viii) An evaluation of the risk that shareholder proposals may contribute to the balkanization of the U.S. economy over time.

''(ix) A thorough assessment of the economic analysis, if any, conducted by proxy advisory firms and institutional shareholders when recommending or voting in favor of shareholder proposals.

''(x) A review of the extent to which institutional investors, who owe fiduciary duties, rely on proxy advisory firm recommendations.

''(xi) An assessment of whether, in light of their significant influence on corporate actions and vote outcomes, proxy advisors are subject to sufficient and effective regulation to ensure that their policies and recommendations are accurate, free of conflicts, and benefit the economic best interest of shareholders at large.

''(D) REPORT.—At the completion of each study required under subparagraph (A) the Commission shall issue a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives that includes the results of the study.''.

TITLE VI—REGISTRATION OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS

SEC. 3601. REGISTRATION OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 15G the following new section:

''SEC. 15H. REGISTRATION OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS.

''(a) CONDUCT PROHIBITED.—It shall be unlawful for a proxy advisory firm to make use of the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce to provide proxy voting advice, research, analysis, ratings or recommendations to any client, unless such proxy advisory firm is registered under this section.

''(b) REGISTRATION PROCEDURES.—

''(1) APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A proxy advisory firm shall file with the Commission an application for registration, in such form as the Commission shall require, by rule, and containing the information described in subparagraph (B).

''(B) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—An application for registration under this section shall contain—

''(i) a certification that the applicant is able to consistently provide proxy advice based on accurate information;

''(ii) with respect to clients of the applicant that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders, a certification that the applicant—

''(I) will provide proxy voting advice only in the best economic interest of those shareholders; and

''(II) has the requisite expertise to ensure that voting recommendations are in the best economic interest of those shareholders;

''(iii) information on the procedures and methodologies that the applicant uses to ensure that proxy voting recommendations are in the best economic interest of the ultimate shareholders;

''(iv) information on the organizational structure of the applicant;

''(v) an explanation of whether or not the applicant has in effect a code of ethics, and if not, the reasons therefor;

''(vi) a description of any potential or actual conflict of interest relating to the provision of proxy advisory services, including those arising out of or resulting from the ownership structure of the applicant or the provision of other services by the applicant or any person associated with the applicant;

''(vii) the policies and procedures in place to publicly disclose and manage conflicts of interest under subsection (f);

''(viii) information related to the professional and academic qualifications of staff tasked with providing proxy advisory services; and

''(ix) any other information and documents concerning the applicant and any person associated with such applicant as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

''(2) REVIEW OF APPLICATION.—

''(A) INITIAL DETERMINATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the application for registration is filed with the Commission under paragraph (1) (or within such longer period as to which the applicant consents) the Commission shall—

''(i) by order, grant registration; or

''(ii) institute proceedings to determine whether registration should be denied.

''(B) CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS.—

''(i) CONTENT.—Proceedings referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) shall—

''(I) include notice of the grounds for denial under consideration and an opportunity for hearing; and

''(II) be concluded not later than 120 days after the date on which the application for registration is filed with the Commission under paragraph (1).

''(ii) DETERMINATION.—At the conclusion of such proceedings, the Commission, by order, shall grant or deny such application for registration.

''(iii) EXTENSION AUTHORIZED.—The Commission may extend the time for conclusion of such proceedings for not longer than 90 days, if the Commission finds good cause for such extension and publishes its reasons for so finding, or for such longer period as to which the applicant consents.

''(C) GROUNDS FOR DECISION.—The Commission shall grant registration under this subsection—

''(i) if the Commission finds that the requirements of this section are satisfied; and

''(ii) unless the Commission finds (in which case the Commission shall deny such registration) that—

''(I) the applicant has failed to certify to the Commission's satisfaction that it is able to consistently provide proxy advice based on accurate information and to materially comply with the procedures and methodologies disclosed under paragraph (1)(B) and with subsections (f) and (g); or

''(II) if the applicant were so registered, its registration would be subject to suspension or revocation under subsection (d).

''(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—Subject to section 24, the Commission shall make the information and documents submitted to the Commission by a proxy advisory firm in its completed application for registration, or in any amendment submitted under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (c), publicly available on the Commission's website, or through another comparable, readily accessible means.

''(c) UPDATE OF REGISTRATION.—

''(1) UPDATE.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall promptly amend and update its application for registration under this section if any information or document provided therein becomes materially inaccurate, except that a registered proxy advisory firm is not required to amend the information required to be filed under subsection (b)(1)(B)(i) by filing information under this paragraph, but shall amend such information in the annual submission of the organization under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

''(2) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the end of each calendar year, each registered proxy advisory firm shall file with the Commission an amendment to its registration, in such form as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors—

''(A) certifying that the information and documents in the application for registration of such registered proxy advisory firm continue to be accurate in all material respects; and

''(B) listing any material change that occurred to such information or documents during the previous calendar year.

''(d) CENSURE, DENIAL, OR SUSPENSION OF REGISTRATION; NOTICE AND HEARING.—The Commission, by order, shall censure, place limitations on the activities, functions, or operations of, suspend for a period not exceeding 12 months, or revoke the registration of any registered proxy advisory firm if the Commission finds, on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing, that such censure, placing of limitations, suspension, or revocation is necessary for the protection of investors and in the public interest and that such registered proxy advisory firm, or any person associated with such an organization, whether prior to or subsequent to becoming so associated—

''(1) has committed or omitted any act, or is subject to an order or finding, enumerated in subparagraph (A), (D), (E), (H), or (G) of section 15(b)(4), has been convicted of any offense

specified in section 15(b)(4)(B), or is enjoined from any action, conduct, or practice specified in subparagraph (C) of section 15(b)(4), during the 10-year period preceding the date of commencement of the proceedings under this subsection, or at any time thereafter;

''(2) has been convicted during the 10-year period preceding the date on which an application for registration is filed with the Commission under this section, or at any time thereafter, of—

''(A) any crime that is punishable by imprisonment for 1 or more years, and that is not described in section 15(b)(4)(B); or

''(B) a substantially equivalent crime by a foreign court of competent jurisdiction;

''(3) is subject to any order of the Commission barring or suspending the right of the person to be associated with a registered proxy advisory firm;

''(4) fails to furnish the certifications required under subsections (b)(2)(C)(ii)(I) and (c)(2);

''(5) has engaged in one or more prohibited acts enumerated in paragraph (1);

''(6) fails to maintain adequate financial and managerial resources to consistently offer advisory services to clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders consistent with the best economic interest of those shareholders, including by failing to comply with subsections (f) or (g);

''(7) fails to maintain adequate expertise to ensure that proxy advisory services for clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders are tied to the best economic interest of those shareholders; or

''(8) engages in a prohibited act enumerated in subsection (j).

''(e) TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION.—

''(1) VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL.—A registered proxy advisory firm may, upon such terms and conditions as the Commission may establish as necessary in the public interest or for the protection of investors, which terms and conditions shall include at a minimum that the registered proxy advisory firm will no longer conduct such activities as to bring it within the definition of proxy advisory firm in section 3(a)(82), withdraw from registration by filing a written notice of withdrawal to the Commission.

''(2) COMMISSION AUTHORITY.—In addition to any other authority of the Commission under this title, if the Commission finds that a registered proxy advisory firm is no longer in existence or has ceased to do business as a proxy advisory firm, the Commission, by order, shall cancel the registration under this section of such registered proxy advisory firm.

''(f) MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—

''(1) ORGANIZATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed, taking into consideration the nature of the business of such registered proxy advisory firm and associated persons, to publicly disclose and manage any conflicts of interest that arise or would reasonably be expected to arise from such business.

''(2) COMMISSION AUTHORITY.—The Commission shall, within one year of the date of enactment of this section, issue final rules to prohibit, or require the management and public disclosure of, any conflicts of interest relating to the offering of proxy advisory services by a registered proxy advisory firm, including, without limitation, conflicts of interest relating to—

''(A) the manner in which a registered proxy advisory firm is compensated by the client, any affiliate of the client, or any other person for providing proxy advisory services;

''(B) business relationships, ownership interests, or any other financial or personal interests between a registered proxy advisory firm, or any person associated with such registered proxy advisory firm, and any client, or any affiliate of such client;

''(C) the formulation of proxy voting policies;

''(D) the execution, or assistance with the execution, of proxy votes if such votes are based upon recommendations made by the proxy advisory firm in which a person other than the issuer is a proponent; and

''(E) any other potential conflict of interest, as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

''(3) DISCLOSURE ON FACTORS INFLUENCING RECOMMENDATIONS.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall annually disclose to the Commission and make publicly available the economic and other factors that a reasonable investor would expect to influence the recommendations of such proxy advisory firm, including the ownership composition of such proxy advisory firm and any meetings with, or feedback received from, outside entities.

''(g) RELIABILITY OF PROXY ADVISORY FIRM SERVICES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall—

''(A) have staff and other resources sufficient to produce proxy voting recommendations that are based on accurate and current information and designed for clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders to advance the best economic interest of those shareholders;

''(B) implement procedures that permit issuers that are the subject of proxy voting recommendations—

''(i) access in a reasonable time to data and information used to make recommendations; and

''(ii) a reasonable opportunity to provide meaningful comment and corrections to such data and information, including the opportunity to present (in person or telephonically) details to the person responsible for developing such data and information prior to the publication of proxy voting recommendations to clients;

''(C) employ an ombudsman to receive complaints about the accuracy of information used in making recommendations from the companies that are the subject of the proxy advisory firm's voting recommendations and seek to resolve those complaints in a timely fashion and prior to the publication of proxy voting recommendations to clients; and

''(D) if the ombudsman is unable to resolve a complaint to a company's satisfaction prior to the publication of proxy voting recommendations to clients, include in the final report of the firm to clients—

''(i) a statement detailing the company's complaints, if requested in writing by the company; and

''(ii) a statement explaining why the proxy voting recommendation is in the best economic interest of shareholders.

''(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) DATA AND INFORMATION USED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.—The term 'data and information used to make voting recommendations'—

''(i) means the financial, operational, or descriptive data and information on an issuer used by proxy advisory firms and any contextual or substantive analysis impacting the recommendation; and

''(ii) does not include the entirety of the proxy advisory firm's final report to its clients.

''(B) REASONABLE TIME.—The term 'reasonable time'—

''(i) means not less than 1 week before the publication of proxy voting recommendations for clients; and

''(ii) shall not otherwise interfere with a proxy advisory firm's ability to provide its clients with timely access to accurate proxy voting research, analysis, or recommendations.

''(h) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION WITH RESPECT TO ILLEGAL RECOMMENDATIONS.—Any proxy advisory firm that endorses a proposal that is not supported by the issuer but is approved and subsequently found by a court of competent jurisdiction to violate State or Federal law shall be liable to the applicable issuer for the costs associated with the approval of such proposal, including implementation costs and any penalties incurred by the issuer.

''(i) DESIGNATION OF COMPLIANCE OFFICER.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall designate an individual who reports directly to senior management as responsible for administering the policies and procedures that are required to be established pursuant to subsections (f) and (g), and for ensuring compliance with the securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder, including those promulgated by the Commission pursuant to this section.

''(j) PROHIBITED CONDUCT.—

''(1) PROHIBITED ACTS AND PRACTICES.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall issue final rules to prohibit any act or practice relating to the offering of proxy advisory services by a registered proxy advisory firm that the Commission determines to be unfair, coercive, or abusive, including any act or practice relating to—

''(A) advisory or consulting services (offered directly or indirectly, including through an affiliate) related to corporate governance issues; or

''(B) modifying a voting recommendation or otherwise departing from its adopted systematic procedures and methodologies in the provision of proxy advisory services, based on whether an issuer, or affiliate thereof, subscribes or will subscribe to other services or product of the registered proxy advisory firm or any person associated with such organization.

''(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1), or in any rules or regulations adopted thereunder, may be construed to modify, impair, or supersede the operation of any of the antitrust laws (as defined in the first section of the Clayton Act, except that such term includes section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, to the extent that such section 5 applies to unfair methods of competition).

''(k) STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall, on a confidential basis, file with the Commission, at intervals determined by the Commission, such financial statements, certified (if required by the rules or regulations of the Commission) by an independent public auditor, and information concerning its financial condition, as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

''(l) ANNUAL REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall, not later than 90 calendar days after the end of each fiscal year, file with the Commission and make publicly available an annual report in such form as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

''(2) CONTENTS.—Each annual report required under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, disclosure by the registered proxy advisory firm of the following:

''(A) A list of shareholder proposals the staff of the registered proxy advisory firm reviewed in the prior fiscal year.

''(B) A list of the recommendations made in the prior fiscal year.

''(C) The economic analysis conducted to determine that final recommendations provided in the prior fiscal year (other than recommendations relating to an issuer-sponsored proposal or recommendations consistent with that of a board of directors composed of a majority of independent directors) delivered to clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders were in the best economic interest of those shareholders.

''(D) The staff who reviewed and made recommendations on such proposals in the prior fiscal year.

''(E) The qualifications of such staff to ensure that each of the recommendations for clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders

were tied to the best economic interest of those shareholders.

''(F) The recommendations made in the prior fiscal year where the proponent of such recommendation was a client of or received services from the proxy advisory firm.

''(G) A certification by the chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and the primary executive responsible for overseeing the compilation and dissemination of proxy voting advice that the final recommendations (other than recommendations relating to an issuer-sponsored proposal or recommendations consistent with that of a board of directors composed of a majority of independent directors) delivered to clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders in the last fiscal year—

''(i) were based on internal controls and procedures that are designed to ensure accurate information and that such internal controls and procedures are effective;

''(ii) do not violate applicable State or Federal law; and

''(iii) were based on the best economic interest of those shareholders.

''(H) The economic and other factors that a reasonable investor would expect to influence the recommendations of such proxy advisory firm, including the ownership composition of such proxy advisory firm.

''(m) TRANSPARENT POLICIES.—Each registered proxy advisory firm shall file with the Commission and make publicly available its methodology for the formulation of proxy voting policies and voting recommendations to clients that vote shares held on behalf of shareholders and how that methodology ensures that the firm's voting recommendations are in the best economic interest of those shareholders.

''(n) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Registration under and compliance with this section does not constitute a waiver of, or otherwise diminish, any right, privilege, or defense that a registered proxy advisory firm may otherwise have under any provision of State or Federal law, including any rule, regulation, or order thereunder.

''(o) REGULATIONS.—

''(1) NEW PROVISIONS.—Such rules and regulations as are required by this section or are otherwise necessary to carry out this section, including the application form required under subsection (a)—

''(A) shall be issued by the Commission, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section; and

''(B) shall become effective not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section.

''(2) REVIEW OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall—

''(A) review its existing rules and regulations which affect the operations of proxy advisory firms; and

''(B) amend or revise such rules and regulations in accordance with the purposes of this section, and issue such guidance as the Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

''(p) APPLICABILITY.—This section, other than subsection (n), which shall apply on the date of enactment of this section, shall apply on the earlier of—

''(1) the date on which regulations are issued in final form under subsection (o)(1); or

''(2) 270 days after the date of enactment of this section.

''(q) BEST ECONOMIC INTEREST DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'best economic interest' means decisions that seek to maximize investment returns over a time horizon consistent with the investment objectives and risk management profile of the fund in which the shareholders are invested.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78q(a)(1)) is amended by inserting ''proxy advisory firm,'' after ''nationally recognized statistical rating organization,''.

(c) PROXY ADVISORY FIRM DEFINITIONS.—Section 3(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second paragraph (80) (relating to funding portal) as paragraph (81); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(82) PROXY ADVISORY FIRM.—The term 'proxy advisory firm'—

''(A) means any person who is primarily engaged in the business of providing proxy voting advice, research, analysis, ratings, or recommendations to clients, which conduct constitutes a solicitation within the meaning of section 14; and

''(B) does not include any person that is exempt under law or regulation from the requirements otherwise applicable to persons engaged in such a solicitation.

''(83) PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH A PROXY ADVISORY FIRM.—With respect to a proxy advisory firm—

''(A) a person is 'associated' with the proxy advisory firm if the person is—

''(i) a partner, officer, or director of the proxy advisory firm (or any person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions);

''(ii) a person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the proxy advisory firm;

''(iii) an employee of the proxy advisory firm; or

''(iv) a person the Commission determines by rule is controlled by the proxy advisory firm; and

''(B) a person is not 'associated' with the proxy advisory firm if the person only performs clerical or ministerial functions with respect to a proxy advisory firm.''.

TITLE VII—LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN FAILURES TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL INFORMATION OR MAKING OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENTS

SECTION 3701. LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN FAILURES TO DISCLOSE MATERIAL INFORMATION OR MAKING OF MATERIAL MISSTATEMENTS.

Section 14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78n) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(l) FALSE OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS.—For purposes of section 18, the failure to disclose material information (such as a proxy voting advice business's methodology, sources of information, or conflicts of interest) or the making of a material misstatement regarding proxy voting advice that makes a recommendation to a security holder as to the security holder's vote, consent, or authorization on a specific matter for which security holder approval is solicited, and that is furnished by a person that markets the person's expertise as a provider of such proxy voting advice separately from other forms of investment advice, and sells such proxy voting advice for a fee, shall be considered to be false or misleading with respect to a material fact.''.

TITLE VIII—DUTIES OF INVESTMENT ADVISORS, ASSET MANAGERS, AND PENSION FUNDS

SEC. 3801. DUTIES OF INVESTMENT ADVISORS, ASSET MANAGERS, AND PENSION FUNDS.

Section 13(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) DISCLOSURES BY INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS IN CONNECTION WITH PROXY ADVISORY FIRMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Every institutional investment manager which uses the mails, or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce in the course of its business as an institutional investment manager, which engages a proxy advisory firm, and which exercises voting power with respect to accounts holding equity securities of a class described in subsection (d)(1) or otherwise becomes or is deemed to become a beneficial owner of any security of a class described in subsection (d)(1) upon the purchase or sale of a security-based swap that the Commission may define by rule, shall file an annual report with the Commission containing—

''(i) an explanation of how the institutional investment manager voted with respect to each shareholder proposal;

''(ii) the percentage of votes cast on shareholder proposals that were consistent with proxy advisory firm recommendations, for each proxy advisory firm retained by the institutional investment manager;

''(iii) an explanation of—

''(I) how the institutional investment manager took into consideration proxy advisory firm recommendations in making voting decisions, including the degree to which the institutional investment manager used those recommendations in making voting decisions;

''(II) how often the institutional investment manager voted consistent with a recommendation made by a proxy advisory firm, expressed as a percentage;

''(III) how such votes are reconciled with the fiduciary duty of the institutional investment manager to vote in the best economic interests of shareholders;

''(IV) how frequently votes were changed when an error occurred or due to new information from issuers; and

''(V) the degree to which investment professionals of the institutional investment manager were involved in proxy voting decisions; and

''(iv) a certification that the voting decisions of the institutional investment manager were based solely on the best economic interest of the shareholders on behalf of whom the institutional investment manager holds shares.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGER INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS.—Every institutional investment manager described in subparagraph (A) that has assets under management with an aggregate fair market value on the last trading day in any of the preceding twelve months of at least $100,000,000,000 shall—

''(i) in any materials provided to customers and related to customers voting their shares, clarify that shareholders are not required to vote on every proposal;

''(ii) with respect to each shareholder proposal for which the institutional investment manager votes (other than votes consistent with the recommendation of a board of directors composed of a majority of independent directors) perform an economic analysis before making such vote, to determine that the vote is in the best economic interest of the shareholders on behalf of whom the institutional investment manager holds shares; and

''(iii) include each economic analysis required under clause (ii) in the annual report required under subparagraph (A).

''(C) BEST ECONOMIC INTEREST DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term 'best economic interest' means decisions that seek to maximize investment returns over a time horizon consistent with the investment objectives and risk management profile of the fund in which shareholders are invested.''.

TITLE IX—PROTECTING AMERICANS' SAVINGS

SEC. 3901. REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO PROXY VOTING.

Section 14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78n), as amended by section 3701, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(m) PROHIBITION ON ROBOVOTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall issue final rules prohibiting the use of robovoting with respect to votes related to proxy or consent solicitation materials.

''(2) ROBOVOTING DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'robovoting' means the practice of automatically voting in a manner consistent with the recommendations of a proxy advisory

firm or pre-populating votes on a proxy advisory firm's electronic voting platform with the proxy advisory firm's recommendations, in either case, without independent review and analysis.

''(n) PROHIBITION ON OUTSOURCING VOTING DECISIONS BY INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS.—With respect to votes related to proxy or consent solicitation materials, an institutional investor may not outsource voting decisions to any person other than an investment adviser or a broker or dealer that is registered with the Commission and has a fiduciary or best interest duty to the institutional investor.

''(o) NO REQUIREMENT TO VOTE.—No person may be required to cast votes related to proxy or consent solicitation materials.

''(p) PROXY ADVISORY FIRM CALCULATION OF VOTES.—With respect to votes related to proxy or consent solicitation materials with respect to an issuer, a proxy advisor firm shall calculate the vote result consistent with the law of the State in which the issuer is incorporated.''.

TITLE X—EMPOWERING SHAREHOLDERS

SEC. 3911. PROXY VOTING OF PASSIVELY MANAGED FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–1 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 208 (15 U.S.C. 80b–8) the following:

''SEC. 208A. PROXY VOTING OF PASSIVELY MANAGED FUNDS.

''(a) INVESTMENT ADVISER PROXY VOTING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An investment adviser that holds authority to vote a proxy solicited by an issuer pursuant to section 14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78n) in connection with any vote of covered securities held by a passively managed fund shall—

''(A) vote in accordance with the instructions of the beneficial owner of a voting security of the passively managed fund;

''(B) vote in accordance with the voting recommendations of such issuer; or

''(C) abstain from voting but make reasonable efforts to be considered present for purposes of establishing a quorum.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to a vote on a routine matter.

''(b) SAFE HARBOR.—With respect to a matter that is not a routine matter, in the case of a vote described in subsection (a)(1), an investment adviser shall not be liable to any person under any law or regulation of the United States, any constitution, law, or regulation of any State or political subdivision thereof, or under any contract or other legally enforceable agreement (including any arbitration agreement), for any of the following:

''(1) Voting in accordance with the instructions of the beneficial owner of a voting security of the passively managed fund.

''(2) Not soliciting voting instructing from any person under subsection (a)(1) with respect to such vote.

''(3) Voting in accordance with the voting recommendations of an issuer pursuant to subparagraph (B) of such subsection.

''(4) Abstaining from voting in accordance with subparagraph (C) of such subsection.

''(c) FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUERS EXEMPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a foreign private issuer if the voting policy of the investment advisor with respect to such foreign private issuers is fully and fairly disclosed to beneficial owners, including the extent to which such policy differs from the voting policy for non-exempt issuers.

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COVERED SECURITY.—The term 'covered security'—

''(A) means a voting security, as that term is defined in section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–2(a)), in which a qualified fund is invested; and

''(B) does not include any voting security (as defined in subparagraph (A)) of an issuer registered with the Commission as an investment company under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–8).

''(2) PASSIVELY MANAGED FUND.—The term 'passively managed fund' means a qualified fund that—

''(A) is designed to track, or is derived from, an index of securities or a portion of such an index;

''(B) discloses that the qualified fund is a passive index fund; or

''(C) allocates not less than 60 percent of the total assets of the qualified fund to an investment strategy that is designed to track, or is derived from, an index of securities or a portion of such an index fund.

''(3) QUALIFIED FUND.—The term 'qualified fund' means—

''(A) an investment company, as that term is defined in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C 80a–3);

''(B) a private fund;

''(C) an eligible deferred compensation plan, as that term is defined in section 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

''(D) a trust, plan, account, or other entity described in section 3(c)(11) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–3(c)(11));

''(E) a plan maintained by an employer described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of section 403(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide annuity contracts described in section 403(b) of such Code;

''(F) a common trust fund, or similar fund, maintained by a bank;

''(G) any fund established under section 8438(b)(1) of title 5, United States Code; or

''(H) any separate managed account of a client of an investment adviser.

''(4) REGISTRANT.—The term 'registrant' means an issuer of covered securities.

''(5) ROUTINE MATTER.—The term 'routine matter'—

''(A) includes a proposal that relates to—

''(i) an election with respect to the board of directors of the registrant;

''(ii) the compensation of management or the board of directors of the registrant;

''(iii) the selection of auditors;

''(iv) a matter where there is a material conflict of interest between or among the issuer, members of management, members of the board of directors, or an affiliate of the issuer;

''(v) declassification; or

''(vi) transactions that would transform the structure of the registrant, including—

''(I) a merger or consolidation; and

''(II) the sale, lease, or exchange of all, or substantially all, of the property and assets of a registrant; and

''(B) does not include—

''(i) a proposal that is not submitted to a holder of covered securities by means of a proxy statement comparable to that described in section 240.14a–101 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation; or

''(ii) a proposal that is—

''(I) the subject of a counter-solicitation; or

''(II) part of a proposal made by a person other than the applicable registrant.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the first August 1 that occurs after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE XI—PROTECTING RETAIL INVESTORS' SAVINGS

SEC. 3921. BEST INTEREST BASED ON PECUNIARY FACTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 211(g) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–11(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) BEST INTEREST BASED ON PECUNIARY FACTORS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the best interest of a customer shall be determined using pecuniary factors, which may not be subordinated to or limited by non-pecuniary factors, unless the customer provides informed consent, in writing, that such non-pecuniary factors be considered.

''(B) DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY FACTORS.—If a customer provides a broker, dealer, or investment adviser with the informed consent to consider non-pecuniary factors described under subparagraph (A), the broker, dealer, or investment adviser shall—

''(i) disclose the expected pecuniary effects to the customer over a time period selected by the customer and not to exceed three years; and

''(ii) at the end of the time period described in clause (i), disclose, by comparison to a reasonably comparable index or basket of securities selected by the customer, the actual pecuniary effects of that time period, including all fees, costs, and other expenses incurred to consider non-pecuniary factors.

''(C) PECUNIARY FACTOR DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term 'pecuniary factor' means a factor that a fiduciary prudently determines is expected to have a material effect on the risk or return of an investment based on appropriate investment horizons.''.

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than the end of the 12-month period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall revise or issue such rules as may be necessary to implement the amendment made by subsection (a).

(c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to actions taken by a broker, dealer, or investment adviser beginning on the date that is 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3922. STUDY ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES IN MUNICIPAL BOND MARKET.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall—

(1) conduct a study to determine the extent to which issuers of municipal securities (as such term is defined in section 3(a)(29) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(29)) make disclosures to investors regarding climate change and other environmental matters; and

(2) solicit public comment with respect to such study.

(b) CONTENTS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall consider and analyze—

(1) the frequency with which disclosures described in subsection (a)(1) are made;

(2) whether such disclosures made by issuers of municipal securities in connection with offerings of securities align with such disclosures made by issuers of municipal securities in other contexts or to audiences other than investors;

(3) any voluntary or mandatory disclosure standards observed by issuers of municipal securities in the course of making such disclosures;

(4) the degree to which investors consider such disclosures in connection with making an investment decision; and

(5) such other information as the Securities and Exchange Commission determines appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) the results of the study required under this section;

(2) a detailed discussion of the financial risks to investors from investments in municipal securities;

(3) whether such risks are adequately disclosed to investors; and

(4) recommended regulatory or legislative steps to address any concerns identified in the study.

SEC. 3923. STUDY ON SOLICITATION OF MUNICIPAL SECURITIES BUSINESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall—

(1) conduct a study on the effectiveness of each covered rule in preventing the payment of

funds to elected officials or candidates for elected office in exchange for the receipt of government business in connection with the offer or sale of municipal securities; and

(2) solicit public comment with respect to such study.

(b) CONTENTS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall consider and analyze—

(1) the effectiveness of each covered rule, including whether each covered rule accomplishes the intended effect of such covered rule and has any unintended adverse effects;

(2) the frequency and scope of enforcement actions undertaken pursuant to each covered rule;

(3) the degree to which—

(A) persons subject to each covered rule—

(i) have in effect policies and procedures intended to ensure compliance with each such covered rule; and

(ii) are disadvantaged from participating in the political process generally and in relation to persons who solicit or receive government business or government licenses, permits, and approvals other than in connection with the offer or sale of municipal securities; and

(B) other State and Federal laws and regulations impact the solicitation of municipal securities business; and

(4) such other information as the Securities and Exchange Commission determines appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) the results of the study required under this section;

(2) an analysis of the extent to which persons affiliated with small businesses, as well as persons affiliated with minority and women opened businesses, have been affected by the covered rules; and

(3) recommended regulatory or legislative steps to address any concerns identified in the study.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED RULE.—The term ''covered rule'' means—

(A) Rule G–38 of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; and

(B) Rule 206(4)–5 (17 CFR 275.206(4)–5).

(2) MUNICIPAL SECURITIES.—The term ''municipal securities'' has the meaning given the term in section 3(a)(29) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(29)).

DIVISION D—AMERICAN FIRST ACT OF 2023

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''American Financial Institution Regulatory Sovereignty and Transparency Act of 2023'' or the ''American FIRST Act of 2023''.

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

Sec. 4001. Short title; Table of contents.

TITLE I—STOP EXECUTIVE CAPTURE OF BANKING REGULATORS

Sec. 4101. Report on the implementation of recommendations from the FSOC Chairperson and Executive Orders.

TITLE II—ENSURING U.S. AUTHORITY OVER U.S. BANKING REGULATIONS

Sec. 4201. Requirements in connection with rulemakings implementing policies of non-governmental international organizations.

Sec. 4202. Report on certain climate-related interactions with covered international organizations.

TITLE III—BANKING REGULATOR INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

Sec. 4301. Reporting on interactions with non-governmental international organizations.

TITLE IV—SUPERVISION REFORM

Sec. 4401. Removal of the Vice Chairman for Supervision designation.

TITLE I—STOP EXECUTIVE CAPTURE OF BANKING REGULATORS

SEC. 4101. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

(a) BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.—Section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 247b), as amended by section 4401(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may not implement a non-binding recommendation made by the Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council or contained in an Executive Order unless the Board of Governors first provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with—

''(A) notice that the Board of Governors intends to implement such recommendation;

''(B) a report containing the proposed implementation by the Board of Governors and a justification for such implementation; and

''(C) upon request, not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of the notice under subparagraph (A), testimony on such proposed implementation.''.

(b) OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.—Section 324 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (12 U.S.C. 1) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—The Comptroller of the Currency may not implement a non-binding recommendation made by the Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council or contained in an Executive Order unless the Comptroller of the Currency first provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with—

''(1) notice that the Comptroller of the Currency intends to implement such recommendation;

''(2) a report containing the proposed implementation by the Comptroller of the Currency and a justification for such implementation; and

''(3) upon request, not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of the notice under paragraph (1), testimony on such proposed implementation.''.

(c) FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.—Section 2 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1812) is amended by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

''(g) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—The Board of Directors of the Corporation may not implement a non-binding recommendation made by the Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council or contained in an Executive Order unless the Board of Directors first provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with—

''(1) notice that the Board of Directors intends to implement such recommendation;

''(2) a report containing the proposed implementation by the Board of Directors and a justification for such implementation; and

''(3) upon request, not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of the notice under paragraph (1), testimony on such proposed implementation.''.

(d) NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION.—Section 102 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—The Board may not implement a non-binding recommendation made by the Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council or contained in an Executive Order unless the Board first provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with—

''(1) notice that the Board intends to implement such recommendation;

''(2) a report containing the proposed implementation by the Board and a justification for such implementation; and

''(3) upon request, not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of the notice under paragraph (1), testimony on such proposed implementation.''.

(e) FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY.—Section 1311 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4511) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FSOC CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS.—The Director may not implement a non-binding recommendation made by the Chairperson of the Financial Stability Oversight Council or contained in an Executive Order unless the Director first provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with—

''(1) notice that the Director intends to implement such recommendation;

''(2) a report containing the proposed implementation by the Director and a justification for such implementation; and

''(3) upon request, not later than the end of the 120-day period beginning on the date of the notice under paragraph (1), testimony on such proposed implementation.''.

TITLE II—ENSURING U.S. AUTHORITY OVER U.S. BANKING REGULATIONS

SEC. 4201. REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.—Section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 247b), as amended by section 4101(a), is further amended by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

''(12) REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System may not propose or finalize a major covered rule unless, not later than 120 days before issuing such a proposed or final rule, the Board of Governors provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with notice, testimony, and a detailed economic analysis with respect to the proposed or final rule, including projections of economic costs, sectoral effects, and effects on the availability of credit, the gross domestic product, and employment.

''(B) MAJOR COVERED RULE DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term 'major covered rule' means a rule—

''(i) that the Board of Governors determines would have an effect, in the aggregate, on the economy of the United States of $10,000,000,000 or more during the 10-year period beginning on the date the rule takes effect; and

''(ii) that is intended to align or conform with a recommendation from a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central

Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision).''.

(b) OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.—Section 324 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (12 U.S.C. 1), as amended by section 4101(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller of the Currency may not propose or finalize a major covered rule unless, not later than 120 days before issuing such a proposed or final rule, the Comptroller of the Currency provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with notice, testimony, and a detailed economic analysis with respect to the proposed or final rule, including projections of economic costs, sectoral effects, and effects on the availability of credit, the gross domestic product, and employment.

''(2) MAJOR COVERED RULE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'major covered rule' means a rule—

''(A) that the Comptroller of the Currency determines would have an effect, in the aggregate, on the economy of the United States of $10,000,000,000 or more during the 10-year period beginning on the date the rule takes effect; and

''(B) that is intended to align or conform with a recommendation from a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision).''.

(c) FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.—Section 2 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1812), as amended by section 4101(c), is further amended by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board of Directors of the Corporation may not propose or finalize a major covered rule unless, not later than 120 days before issuing such a proposed or final rule, the Board of Directors provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with notice, testimony, and a detailed economic analysis with respect to the proposed or final rule, including projections of economic costs, sectoral effects, and effects on the availability of credit, the gross domestic product, and employment.

''(2) MAJOR COVERED RULE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'major covered rule' means a rule—

''(A) that the Board of Directors determines would have an effect, in the aggregate, on the economy of the United States of $10,000,000,000 or more during the 10-year period beginning on the date the rule takes effect; and

''(B) that is intended to align or conform with a recommendation from a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision).''.

(d) NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION.—Section 102 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752a), as amended by section 4101(d), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board may not propose or finalize a major covered rule unless, not later than 120 days before issuing such a proposed or final rule, the Board provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with notice, testimony, and a detailed economic analysis with respect to the proposed or final rule, including projections of economic costs, sectoral effects, and effects on the availability of credit, the gross domestic product, and employment.

''(2) MAJOR COVERED RULE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'major covered rule' means a rule—

''(A) that the Board determines would have an effect, in the aggregate, on the economy of the United States of $10,000,000,000 or more during the 10-year period beginning on the date the rule takes effect; and

''(B) that is intended to align or conform with a recommendation from a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision).''.

(e) FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY.—Section 1311 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4511), as amended by section 4101(e), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) REQUIREMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH RULEMAKINGS IMPLEMENTING POLICIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director may not propose or finalize a major covered rule unless, not later than 120 days before issuing such a proposed or final rule, the Director provides the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate with notice, testimony, and a detailed economic analysis with respect to the proposed or final rule, including projections of economic costs, sectoral effects, and effects on the availability of credit, the gross domestic product, and employment.

''(2) MAJOR COVERED RULE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'major covered rule' means a rule—

''(A) that the Director determines would have an effect, in the aggregate, on the economy of the United States of $10,000,000,000 or more during the 10-year period beginning on the date the rule takes effect; and

''(B) that is intended to align or conform with a recommendation from a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision).''.

SEC. 4202. REPORT ON CERTAIN CLIMATE-RELATED INTERACTIONS WITH COVERED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A Federal banking regulator may not meet with or otherwise engage with a covered international organization on the topic of climate-related financial risk during a calendar year unless the Federal banking regulator has issued a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing, for the previous calendar year—

(1) a complete description of the activities of the covered international organization in which the Federal banking regulator participates (including any task force, committee, or other organizational unit thereof); and

(2) a detailed accounting of the governmental and non-governmental funding sources of the covered international organization (including any task force, committee, or other organizational unit thereof).

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ''covered international organization'' means the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

(2) FEDERAL BANKING REGULATOR.—The term ''Federal banking regulator'' means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the National Credit Union Administration, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

TITLE III—BANKING REGULATOR INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

SEC. 4301. REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.—Section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 247b), as amended by section 4201(a), is further amended by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

''(13) REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—With respect to interactions between the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision), the Board of Governors shall—

''(A) keep a complete record of all such interactions, including minutes of all meetings and any recommendations made during such interaction for international standardization with respect to open-market policies and operations, discount lending and operations (including collateral policies), or supervisory policies and operations; and

''(B) issue an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing—

''(i) all of the information recorded pursuant to subparagraph (A) with respect to the previous year; and

''(ii) with respect to each non-governmental international organization with which the Board of Governors had an interaction in the previous year, a description of the funding sources of the non-governmental international organization.''.

(b) OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.—Section 324 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (12 U.S.C. 1), as amended by section 4201(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—With respect to interactions between the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision), the Comptroller of the Currency shall—

''(1) keep a complete record of all such interactions, including minutes of all meetings and any recommendations made during such interaction for international standardization with respect to discount lending and operations (including collateral policies) or supervisory policies and operations; and

''(2) issue an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing—

''(A) all of the information recorded pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to the previous year; and

''(B) with respect to each non-governmental international organization with which the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency had an interaction in the previous year, a description of the funding sources of the non-governmental international organization.''.

(c) FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION.—Section 2 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1812), as amended by section 4201(c), is further amended is amended by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

''(i) REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—With respect to interactions between the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision), the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall—

''(1) keep a complete record of all such interactions, including minutes of all meetings and any recommendations made during such interaction for international standardization with respect to discount lending and operations (including collateral policies) or supervisory policies and operations; and

''(2) issue an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing—

''(A) all of the information recorded pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to the previous year; and

''(B) with respect to each non-governmental international organization with which the Corporation had an interaction in the previous year, a description of the funding sources of the non-governmental international organization.''.

(d) NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION.—Section 102 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1752a), as amended by section 4201(d), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—With respect to interactions between the Administration and a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision), the Board shall—

''(1) keep a complete record of all such interactions, including minutes of all meetings and any recommendations made during such interaction for international standardization with respect to discount lending and operations (including collateral policies) or supervisory policies and operations; and

''(2) issue an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing—

''(A) all of the information recorded pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to the previous year; and

''(B) with respect to each non-governmental international organization with which the Administration had an interaction in the previous year, a description of the funding sources of the non-governmental international organization.''.

(e) FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY.—Section 1311 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4511), as amended by section 4201(e), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) REPORTING ON INTERACTIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—With respect to interactions between the Federal Housing Finance Agency and a non-governmental international organization (including the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements, the Network of Central Banks and Supervisors for Greening the Financial System, and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision), the Director shall—

''(1) keep a complete record of all such interactions, including minutes of all meetings and any recommendations made during such interaction for international standardization with respect to discount lending and operations (including collateral policies) or supervisory policies and operations; and

''(2) issue an annual report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing—

''(A) all of the information recorded pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to the previous year; and

''(B) with respect to each non-governmental international organization with which the Federal Housing Finance Agency had an interaction in the previous year, a description of the funding sources of the non-governmental international organization.''.

TITLE IV—SUPERVISION REFORM

SEC. 4401. REMOVAL OF THE VICE CHAIRMAN FOR SUPERVISION DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The second undesignated paragraph of section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 242) (relating to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board) is amended by striking ''and 2 shall be designated by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to serve as Vice Chairmen of the Board, each for a term of 4 years, 1 of whom shall serve in the absence of the Chairman, as provided in the fourth undesignated paragraph of this section, and 1 of whom shall be designated Vice Chairman for Supervision. The Vice Chairman for Supervision shall develop policy recommendations for the Board regarding supervision and regulation of depository institution holding companies and other financial firms supervised by the Board, and shall oversee the supervision and regulation of such firms.'' and inserting ''and 1 shall be designated by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, to serve as Vice Chairman of the Board for a term of 4 years.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by striking paragraph (12).

DIVISION E—LIMITATION ON SEC RESERVE FUND

SEC. 5001. LIMITATION.

During fiscal years 2026 and 2027, registration fees collected by the Securities and Exchange Commission shall not be deposited in the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUIZENGA. 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 under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, we have an opportunity to put a stake in the ground and ensure our financial system remains the envy of the world by passing H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act.

Under the Biden-Harris administration, agencies that have traditionally been viewed as independent have been hijacked to push through a partisan environmental, social, and governance, or ESG, agenda.

Politically motivated, unelected bureaucrats are forcing these leftwing political priorities—which, by the way, Mr. Speaker, Democrats were unable to pass into law even when they had unified control of Congress—on the American people through financial regulation.

In other words, rogue Democrat-appointed regulators are forcing companies to waste limited time and resources on ESG political mandates that have little or nothing to do with a firm's financial performance.

These misguided ESG efforts don't benefit our banking system or our capital markets. They certainly don't help consumers, workers, job creators, everyday investors, or retirement savers.

That is why House Republicans are fighting back with the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act. This bill is critical to combat the risks woke ESG initiatives pose to the American people and our financial system. It is a combination of four packages consisting of 20 different bills from the Committee on Financial Services, including my GUARDRAIL Act, Congressman STEIL's Protecting Americans' Retirement Savings from Politics Act, Congressman NORMAN's Businesses Over Activists Act, and Congressman LOUDERMILK's American FIRST Act.

I applaud my colleagues for their work and appreciate their partnership. I also commend Chairman MCHENRY for his steadfast leadership to ensure protecting Americans and our financial system from out-of-bounds ESG mandates is a key priority for Republicans on the Committee on Financial Services.

I want to underscore, Mr. Speaker, why H.R. 4790 is so desperately needed. Under the Biden-Harris administration, rogue regulators are weaponizing independent agencies to pursue the objective of the political far left at the expense of our financial system and, more importantly, everyday investors.

SEC Chair Gensler and progressive Democrats are abusing our securities laws, overstepping their statutory authority, and redefining the long-accepted ''materiality standard'' to accommodate the demands of radical climate and social activists.

The materiality standard, which has been a pillar of American securities laws for decades, requires public companies to disclose information that has substantial likelihood to influence the financial judgments of a reasonable investor. Those are the standards that have been accepted, I believe, since 1976.

House Democrats have proposed legislation to require public companies to disclose nonmaterial information, including all information related to climate impact and emissions, human capital, and ''equity,'' whatever that might be, none of which have a substantial impact on a given firm's financial performance. None of these proposals were enacted into law.

More recently, Chair Gensler's rogue SEC has overstepped its authority by pursuing rulemakings to mandate similar nonmaterial disclosures. This includes finalizing the disastrous climate disclosure rule earlier this year.

Let me be clear: If this information is material to a business' financial performance and therefore affects the everyday investor, it is already required to be disclosed under the materiality standard.

That is where my GUARDRAIL Act, a key pillar of this legislation we are considering today, comes in. It protects U.S. capital markets and the financial interests of everyday investors by rejecting this new, prescriptive, and expansive notion of materiality by reining in SEC overreach.

Specifically, the bill prevents rogue regulators from mandating the disclosure of nonmaterial ESG information that would overwhelm, not inform, everyday investors, also known as reasonable investors.

At the same time, H.R. 4790 holds large asset managers and the proxy advisory duopoly of ISS and Glass Lewis accountable. These firms are abusing their outsized market influence to force leftwing political views on public companies, rather than aligning their shareholder voting with the financial interests of investors and economic goals.

The Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act returns power to everyday investors and retirement savers from these unaccountable third parties. Additionally, the bill would require the SEC's shareholder proposal process to stop progressive activists from hijacking the proxy process to inject woke ESG initiatives into corporate boardrooms.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it actually would stop all left, right, or center activists' proposals from being introduced. That is a good thing for everyone. This will allow executives and directors to focus on creating shareholder value—by the way, their legal responsibility—and benefiting retirement savers and bolstering economic growth.

Finally, this bill would stop the alliance of leftwing activists, unaccountable global governance organizations, and politicized Biden-Harris regulators from weaponizing the U.S. banking regulatory framework to inject radical ESG initiatives to the detriment of consumers and American competitiveness.

With the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act, House Republicans are taking action to protect the financial system, workers, job creators, and everyday investors from radical ESG initiatives that put leftwing political goals above American prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4790, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we are on the brink of yet another government shutdown brought to you by MAGA Republicans. I have lost track of how many times this has happened in this Congress. Frankly, I and the rest of America are just tired. We are exhausted.

There are real consequences when the government shuts down. It harms our national security. It harms our economy. It harms servicemembers, veterans, retirees, and vulnerable communities.

Instead of working to prevent a shutdown, we are debating a bill that seeks to divide America with fake culture wars that are really about denying the real dangers posed by climate change and denying the fact that our country's rich diversity is one of our greatest resources.

This bill, H.R. 4790, which I am calling the promoting MAGA priorities over economic growth act, is straight out of the Republicans Project 2025 playbook. It would restrict voting rights for investors, ban information that MAGA Republicans don't agree with, and block the government agency responsible for protecting our capital markets, the Securities and Exchange Commission, from directing public companies to report critical information that impacts their bottom line, including climate risk, company diversity, and employee welfare.

This bill flies in the face of the 80 percent of investors who want companies to disclose these metrics, known as environmental, social, and governance, or ESG, policies. Companies that prioritize these metrics perform better financially than their peers that do not.

Many studies have shown that companies that embrace the diversity of the United States outperform those that do not. Indeed, companies with the highest percentages of women board directors outperformed those the least by 53 percent when it comes to shareholder returns.

If we think about it, this is just common sense. When a company includes the views and perspectives that reflect the diversity of America, all of America is likely to see the value of that company.

When I was chairwoman of the committee, I created the first of its kind Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion. We received countless hours of testimony from researchers who confirmed that embracing diversity and inclusion is not just the right thing to do but is also good for the bottom line. It is good management.

Let me go through in more detail what this bill does.

First, H.R. 4790 strips American investors of their legal right to vote on and offer proposals that can influence the direction of the companies they own, particularly those related to ESG policies. The bill does this by giving management, rather than the SEC, the final say on whether a proposal gets included on the ballot at a company's annual shareholder meeting.

□ 1345

The effect of this bill would deprive investors of what is today, right now, a legal right to have proposals of any kind included.

There is a long history of shareholders pushing America's corporations to adopt practices that most of us take for granted today. This includes majority-independent boards, say-on-pay executive compensation, and annual director elections.

Today, investors are pushing companies to report ESG metrics, board diversity, and how workers are treated. Being able to offer, and then vote on these proposals, is a legal right of investors under current law. That is right. Shareholders are the legal owners of the companies they invest in and corporate executives work at their pleasure.

Mr. Speaker, it seems that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, who are so concerned about socialism, might need a refresher about how capitalism really works.

Second, H.R. 4790 undermines another critical component of our equity markets. The bill limits independent analysis and research by impeding key providers that investors use known as proxy advisers.

Proxy advisers are neutral third parties that provide shareholders and their representatives with independent analysis about items that are up for a vote on the corporate ballot. Proxy advisers also solve an important problem by doing the research on thousands of corporate votes that investors would otherwise have to do themselves. Management simply does not want ordinary investors to have this information as it may not align with their recommendations.

To be clear, investors pay for these services and do so because they don't just want to take management's word, and they shouldn't. By restricting what analysis and research ordinary investors can purchase and use, H.R. 4790 is effectively another MAGA book ban.

Third, H.R. 4790 severely limits the SEC's authority to direct companies to report data about their climate risks, diversity hiring, and employee welfare.

Instead of allowing the SEC to determine what information investors should see, as is currently settled law, under this bill, companies themselves would make this determination.

It shouldn't surprise anyone that a company's management is not inclined to share more than it has to, and if it gets too close, one can imagine that companies wouldn't share much of anything.

Congress authorized the SEC to be the arbiter of what is disclosed because our markets only work when investors—investors—have sufficient information to make informed investment decisions.

Finally, H.R. 4790 undermines the government's ability to coordinate with international partners and take commonsense steps to address financial risks like those posed by climate change. In fact, if the Federal Reserve hears from a European counterpart that requiring companies to guard against wildfire risk is important, the Fed would have to jump through several new hurdles before it could implement it, even in an emergency.

This extreme measure would even make it harder for our bank regulators to encourage banks to expand small business lending, an issue I tried to fix through an amendment but was blocked.

To be clear, this bill doesn't just have one or two poison pills in it. When each bill was separately considered in committee, not a single Democratic member voted for them.

H.R. 4790 strips the right of investors to vote and offer their own proposals to strengthen the companies they own, strips their access to independent research and analysis about the companies they own, and strips the government regulator of its authority to compel those companies to provide the market with critical information.

Is this America?

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I will just note that, yes, it is America, and I will note that the ranking member voted against a continuing resolution just yesterday to keep government open. However, I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that she will have another opportunity very, very soon.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LOUDERMILK).

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act. Not only is this bill important to restoring sound financial practices within the financial services sector, it includes two provisions that originated from legislation I introduced in this Congress. The most significant is my bill, H.R. 4823, the American Financial Institution Regulatory Sovereignty and Transparency Act of 2023, better known as the American FIRST Act.

The short title is an apt description of the bill's aim: to put American interests first in bank supervision and remove misguided political influence from our banking system. The American FIRST Act has three important key elements:

First, it removes undue political influence from banking regulations. In recent years, Mr. Speaker, we have seen bank policy used by regulators to further their political interests, not for what is best for banks or their customers. Bank regulators have proposed sweeping supervisory changes without critically evaluating the models they use to forecast climate-related financial risk. When nonbinding FSOC proposals are written into binding regulation, they deserve a high degree of scrutiny from lawmakers.

The truth is that the banking system shouldn't be a race to fill supervisory roles with partisan loyalists. It should be about safeguarding the financial system with a sober eye for objectivity.

Hastily pushing through regulations without a thorough economic analysis can have significant unintended consequences, especially on the average consumer.

According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, aggressive climate regulations like those proposed by FSOC could have catastrophic effects on our energy sector. Small businesses and families in energy-producing States could face higher energy costs and reduced credit access.

My provisions in this bill will ensure that any regulatory action proposed by FSOC, or the executive branch undergoes a full review process so that the public better understands the tradeoffs that they are making.

My colleagues across the aisle call these reporting requirements hoops that regulators will be forced to jump through, but in reality, they are arguing against increased transparency and good governance in banking regulation.

Second, it ensures that bank regulators fall under U.S. authority. Bank supervisors at the Federal Reserve, FDIC, OCC, and others have consistently put the interest of large foreign banks ahead of our own. These policies aren't just abstract. They have significant implications for the stability of our financial system and for American competitiveness abroad.

For example, on May 22, 2022, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, a European-based, international organization, lowered transnational footprint standards for the largest European banks, which disadvantaged U.S. banks of the same size. Federal Reserve officials actually endorsed the changes, which put American banks and their borrowers at a significant disadvantage.

My bill addresses this problem by requiring U.S. financial regulators to periodically report on how they engage with their foreign counterparts. It also requires them to conduct a robust analysis before implementing any rule to conform with the recommendations of an international body. Specifically, it mandates that they conduct a thorough economic analysis, projecting the effects on credit markets, employment, and the broader economy before implementing any rules originating from a foreign nongovernment organization.

Third, it depoliticizes Federal Reserve supervision. The American FIRST Act calls for the elimination of the vice chairman for supervision at the Federal Reserve. This role was intended to centralize supervisory power within the Fed, but it has added another layer of complexity. Last year we experienced a significant banking crisis on the Fed's watch, which is hardly evidence that the system is more stable with another powerful bureaucrat in the mix. At worst, the position has unnecessarily politicized bank supervision allowing unchecked partisan bureaucrats to channel credit away from politically disfavored sectors.

Finally, I would also like to highlight another provision in this bill, previously introduced as H.R. 4649. This provision would require transparency from America's largest asset managers when voting the shares entrusted to them.

These large firms have historically relied on external proxy advisory firms to guide how they vote the shares they manage for other investors. Some of these proxy firms are actually foreign owned and managed entities which do not have the soundness of the U.S. economy as their primary interest.

This bill would require these large firms to disclose how often they vote in line with proxy advisory firms and to ensure that their votes are in the best interests of their shareholders.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for transparency and good governance and vote ''yes'' on H.R. 4790.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS), who is a member of the Committee on Financial Services and the co-chair of the Congressional Sustainable Investment Caucus.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill.

As co-chairman of the Congressional Sustainable Investment Caucus, I am glad to join Ranking Member WATERS and other colleagues here to talk about protecting the freedom to invest.

Americans want their pensions and retirement savings to be invested responsibly.

Additionally, recent studies have shown that 80 percent of investors want to invest in companies that consider climate risks, diversity hiring, and employee welfare.

That is because investors understand that these factors have huge implications for the value of their investments and depend on disclosures to make informed choices.

Corporations are spending up to $500,000 a year to evaluate their sustainable business practices because investors are asking for this information. Many of these investors manage pensions and retirement savings for teachers, firefighters, police officers, and other hardworking Americans.

However, House leadership is bringing legislation to the floor that limits access to the very information that investors want.

I submitted an amendment that would have protected the right of investors to access these disclosures. Unfortunately, this amendment and others intended to increase transparency were rejected.

Mr. Speaker, the bill we are voting on today would make it more difficult for investors to maximize the returns on your retirement savings.

Why?

It is because House leadership is trying to make it more difficult to consider risk factors that they simply don't like.

According to a 2023 Statehouse Report, retirees' pension funds stand to lose billions of dollars due to Republican bills attacking sustainable and profitable investment practices.

Mr. Speaker, if you really believe in the free market and capitalism, then you need to give investors the freedom to make their own decisions.

We need to grow pension and retirement savings, not force them into shortsighted, riskier investments.

I know that giving responsible investors more information is a good thing. It is not a bad thing.

Evidence shows that bills targeting sustainable business practices directly harm taxpayers, investors, and hardworking Americans' retirement funds.

We should be giving investors the information they need to continue growing pensions and retirement funds. This bill would do the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, what was interesting in the introduction and the comments so far is they haven't talked about the markets. They were saying that we were going to be in a recession. In fact, just the opposite has happened.

In fact, Chairman Gensler and this administration have done such a good job that we saw the Dow Jones shoot past 40,000 points and now over 42,000 points.

Why?

It is because they are doing a good job. It is because they are giving the information to the investors that the investors want, and they are making good decisions.

However, they, again, want to burn the books when it comes to information.

Is this America?

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition, and I thank the leader, again, for yielding me time.

□ 1400

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) to speak on his work on protecting Americans' retirement savings from politics.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which will protect retirement savings from political interference by activists and their proxy adviser allies.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for including my legislation in this comprehensive package. My bill, the Protecting Americans' Retirement Savings from Politics Act, reins in proxy advisers and puts a stop to the political takeover of retirement investments.

Names like ISS and Glass Lewis may not make the headlines every day, but these two firms constitute a powerful proxy adviser duopoly. They are fueling a movement to weaponize Americans' retirement funds to push their political agenda. This hurts workers, our economy, and the returns on Americans' hard-earned retirement savings.

Under Chairman Gensler, the Biden SEC gutted safeguards that were meant to provide proxy advisers with accountability and transparency. The SEC has also given a green light to activists to inject politics into the boardroom by changing the rules and empowering unaccountable SEC staff. This has predictably led to a huge spike in politically motivated shareholder proposals.

ISS and Glass Lewis control 97 percent of the proxy adviser market, advising virtually all professional investors. ISS offers companies consulting services to address the same activist proposals they make recommendations on, which is an obvious conflict of interest.

My bill prevents this conflict and enforces the disclosure of other potential conflicts of interest.

On top of that, the proxy adviser firms don't bear any costs or responsibility or accountability for their misguided recommendations. Some of these proposals clearly harm shareholders' value. In some cases, they have even directed companies to do things that are against the law.

Hardworking Americans saving for retirement shouldn't bear these costs. Many, I think, would be shocked to learn that their investments aren't always being maximized to provide a secure retirement. Instead, they are being hijacked for political impact.

Congress needs to rein that in and prevent that abuse. My bill addresses this in several key ways.

First, it reforms the proxy process to reduce the number of duplicative, repetitive, and politically motivated shareholder proposals. Second, it establishes a registration process for proxy advisory firms, requiring them to disclose their conflicts of interest and methodologies, and restricting their ability to offer consulting services.

It also reimposes liability on proxy advisers for getting things wrong. It ends robovoting, the process that autofills proxy advisers' recommendations. This practice can magnify proxy advisers' errors and biases.

Third, the bill places requirements on institutional investors to ensure they are voting with Americans' best economic interests in mind. They can't just outsource judgment to conflicted proxy advisers. Retirement security is far too important.

The Protecting Americans' Retirement Savings from Politics Act is an essential part of this comprehensive and commonsense legislation. We need to step up to empower investors, restore transparency and accountability, and enhance competition.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who is also the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, our capital markets and our capitalist system are the envy of the world.

How does that system work? Investors decide how to allocate capital, not the government. Investors control the corporation through voting, not the corporate insiders, not the board, and not the executives.

This bill is designed, with a Marxist tint in mind perhaps, to blind and cripple the capitalists of America, the shareholders, the investors.

Let's say an investor agrees with Republicans on how to allocate their money. That is fine, but some investors may care about the environment, or they may just believe that investing in low carbon is more profitable and investing in resilient companies is more profitable.

This bill blinds them. It says: You are just the investor, and the government has decided what criteria you are going to use, and we are going to blind you and not give you the information to make a decision based on carbon footprint. You don't decide. The government decides.

There is more for the Marxists here in this room. Not only does this deprive capitalists of the right to allocate capital, but it specifically helps the Chinese Communist Party because American corporations are going to have to decide, in many cases, do they sell their artificial intelligence secrets to the highest bidder in Shanghai? If the corporation wants to, its shareholders now can come forward and say: No, we care about America. We are patriots. Do not sell.

Under this bill, the shareholders cannot stop their company from selling AI to the Chinese Communist Party.

There is a lot here, not only for Marxists in general, but for the Chinese Communist Party in particular. They achieve that by blinding investors, by not giving them information, and crippling investors' ability to control their corporations.

It has obviously come to a low point here in Washington that you need a member of the Progressive Caucus to defend capitalism from the Republican Party, but I believe in a system in which investors have the information they want and get to vote on how the corporation behaves.

Instead, we will see. Investors can only make decisions based on the information that the Republican Party is willing to let them have, and investors can't stop their corporations from selling out our technology knowing that the insiders, the corporate board and

the executives, might have a giant payday, a huge bonus, a huge run-up in money, and they might sell our artificial intelligence secrets to Beijing, and the investors are blocked by this bill.

Marx would vote ''yes.'' I am voting ''no.''

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I will note that, for some, the louder and longer they say something, they hope people will believe it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and congratulate him on this compilation of 20 fantastic bills that were favorably reported out of Financial Services.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this package, which includes a bill of mine, H.R. 4662, the Corporate Governance Examination Act.

Too often, politically or socially motivated shareholders' proposals cause investors to shoulder increased and unnecessary costs. My legislation will examine whether the proposal process has become unnecessarily politicized and help ensure these proposals don't deter future investors or endanger current investors.

This important legislation would require the SEC to conduct comprehensive studies on shareholders' proposals, proxy advisory firms, and proxy process.

These studies will address key problems in politically and socially motivated proposals, such as financial incentives and obligations of involved parties, the impact on long-term retail investors, the influence of proxy advisory firms, and the costs incurred by companies in response to shareholders' proposals.

These studies will provide data-driven insights to enhance shareholders' value and promote transparent corporate governance practices.

I thank the Members who have bills in this package today for their incredible work toward upholding our capitalist society and urge my colleagues to support this package.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Still I rise, and I rise today in strong opposition to this legislation. On the subject of climate change, acknowledging the dangers posed by climate change benefits corporate America, as climate change is a threat to our financial system, as well as the global economy.

If insurance companies and their investors do not account for climate risk, they will either have to go bankrupt or exit certain markets, exacerbating the recent trend wherein some of the largest insurance companies are choosing to withdraw coverage from certain States.

Further, a 2023 study conducted by asset manager Nuveen found that more than 73 percent of U.S. investors said they were more likely to invest in a company that communicates its plans for effectively managing ESG-related risk.

Now on the question of diversity. When it comes to diversity, diversity is a benefit, not a detriment. Diversity benefits corporate shareholders by improving a company's performance.

A 2023 McKinsey report found that companies in the top 25 percent for both gender and ethnic diversity in their executive teams are, on average, 9 percent more likely to outperform their peers.

On the other hand, McKinsey found that companies in the bottom 25 percent for both gender and ethnic diversity are 66 percent less likely to outperform their peers.

In truth, this isn't about minorities and women not being qualified. In truth, it is about the fact that they are minorities and women in a society that has historically discriminated against them. Minorities and women are good for business.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I note that this bill is absolutely neutral on climate change and doesn't even reference it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR), who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act, sponsored by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), my good friend.

This important act includes two of my bills, the Protecting Retail Investors' Savings Act and the Banking Regulator International Reporting Act, to protect capitalism from the politicization of capital allocation and to curtail the Biden-Harris regulators' efforts to circumvent Congress and use regulation to force leftist climate policies down the throats of the American people.

In recent years, we have witnessed an alarming rise in asset managers favoring green and politically favored investments that deliver lower returns.

According to data from Morningstar last year, sustainable U.S. equity funds underperformed the broader S&P 500 Index by 5 percentage points. In 2022, the average sustainable ESG fund was down 19½ percent.

This stands to reason because ESG funds are, by design, less diversified. Studies show that fees for ESG funds average as much as 43 percent higher than non-ESG funds, further eroding investor returns. Too often, retail investors unwittingly sacrificed financial returns to advance the ESG movement.

It is time to stand up for American investors against the fraud of ESG. My bill would require investment advisers to prioritize financial performance over these nonpecuniary and political factors.

Additionally, the Federal banking agencies, in coordination with the Biden-Harris administration, are working with global governance bodies outside of our country and climate activists to put climate policies into supervision of U.S. financial institutions under the guise of concerns about safety, soundness, and stability.

When Congress questions their motives and actions, they claim they are just abiding by international standards in secret board meetings abroad. Congress and the American people deserve transparency and robust information on these meetings between U.S. regulators and foreign global governance groups, some of which include officials from our adversaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, regulators' independence is being severely threatened, as they are being politicized to achieve the dreams of the Green New Deal. For the safety of our economy and for the retirement security of our constituents, we must pass this legislation to end the politicization of capital allocation, not to harm capitalism, but to depoliticize capitalism, to take the government out of capitalism.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this legislation.

□ 1415

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), who is also the ranking member of the Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 4790, a package of partisan, harmful financial services bills that would harm American investors and consumers.

Study after study has proven that diversity and racial equity in the workplace significantly improve company performance, leading to greater profits and enhanced levels of innovation. Failing to address these issues at a firm directly affects stock value and investment risk.

Therefore, investors should unquestionably have this data about the companies they are investing in. Shareholders ought to have a meaningful opportunity to bring these issues to the attention of management through the shareholder proposal and proxy statement process.

The bottom line is, diversity matters, diversity disclosures matter, and investors have the right to access the information they need to make informed investment decisions based on their own judgment of which factors indicate long-term value.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, dismissing certain disclosures as nonmaterial or irrelevant takes that decision out of the hands of the investor and impedes the asset managers' ability to mitigate risks to clients.

Lastly, instead of empowering investors and consumers, this majority has prioritized dismantling diversity and inclusion programs and a full-scale war on environmental, social, and governance policies that investors themselves are demanding.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), who has been putting a lot of effort into this.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4790.

This bill is an important step toward ensuring the information required to be disclosed to the Securities and Exchange Commission by issuers be material to voting or investment decisions. It also contains several other measures to push back on activist ESG shareholder proposals.

While shareholder engagement remains an important aspect of corporate governance, the consideration of shareholder proposals that deviate from the company's strategic direction or long-term goals has transformed boardrooms into partisan platforms.

Although the number of shareholder proposals is increasing, support is declining across the board. A 2009 study noted that costs directly incurred by companies due to such proposals were estimated to be about $87,000 per proposal, totaling $90 million annually.

The Performance over Politics Act, which is included in this package, would allow issuers to defer the resubmission of shareholder proposals for 3 years if those proposals are similar in nature.

These thresholds would respect the decisions of the majority of shareholders.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN), who is a member of the Financial Services Committee and the co-chair of the Congressional Sustainable Investment Caucus.

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a former CEO who would have personally benefited from this legislation. I rise in strong, dare I say, vehement, opposition to this legislation.

Let me be very clear. The job of a CEO, especially in capital-intensive businesses like the one I used to run, is to be a prudent and responsible steward of other people's capital.

I should also be candid and say that sometimes investors can be a pain in the butt. When you are the CEO, you are managing their money. They may call you, and they may ask questions about wanting to dig into the details of your hiring policies. They may want to dig into the details of your internal governance policies. They may want to understand the degree to which your company is hedged out against future risks, ESG or otherwise.

It is very tempting in those moments, from my personal experience as a CEO, to say: ''You all don't understand this business as well as I do. I am so much smarter than you. I am going to ignore your questions because they are not material,'' and hang up the phone.

That is a great way to become an ex-CEO, which is exactly as it should be. When you tell them that they don't understand what I know about my company, they are inclined to correct you and say: ''No. It is not your company. It is my company.''

My Republican colleagues are doing exactly that with this bill. They are telling investors and shareholders that they do not have a right to decide what is material in their interest in these companies. Maybe that is an individual investor. Maybe that is a pension fund. They are saying that they don't matter.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you, our Nation's CEOs thank my Republican colleagues for their service, for looking out for them.

Now, we will always have a few lousy, self-interested CEOs who would like to fleece their investors, who would like to hide their liabilities, who would like to tell you to shut up and pound sand because you don't understand their business.

It is sad to me to see the Republican Party choose to associate with them and say we have their backs. I am proud to stand with our Nation's good CEOs and, more importantly, with all of our Nation's investors in strong opposition to this antimarket, antigrowth legislation.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUNN), who is a member of our Financial Services Committee.

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4790, and I thank our chairman, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA), for leading this very important bill.

The rising cost of living and inflation are making it hard for everyone, particularly those in ag States like Iowa. Over half of Iowans rely on some type of retirement account just to plan for their future—their kids' future, their future retirement, their ability to buy a first-time home.

However, some investment managers are now letting politics guide their decisions, not free market principles. They are working not to improve returns for their investors, retirees, or every American, but working in a way to align their politics before actual market-based principles.

That is why I believe we must pass this bill, which includes my Protecting Americans' Savings Act, and eliminate these tragic conflicts of interest. We cannot allow unelected bureaucrats, administrators, or political activists to gamble with Americans' hard-earned and well-invested future. The retirement savings that are being led here ensure that our companies do what is best for all Americans, including my constituents back home in Iowa, not the political motivations of a few.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation. I thank Mr. HUIZENGA for his strong leadership and work in making sure that this can come to the floor and pass.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), who is also the vice ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this bill is just another extreme MAGA political stunt to undermine the safety and soundness of our banks and financial system.

Rather than focus on economic growth, it pushes extremist policies, stripping away critical environmental, social, and governance initiatives and disclosures.

Let's be clear: Climate risk is financial risk, and diversity is good business.

Just look at a recent McKinsey report: Top companies grow more when they consider climate risk and embrace diversity and inclusion than when they only look at the bottom line.

Let's make this simple. Why do Republicans want to take power away from shareholders? Why are they doing away with decades of progress in corporate transparency? Why do they want less information?

This is not an effort to secure economic growth for our Nation. It is an effort to deny reality, something that extreme Republicans are experts at.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NORMAN). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I, too, ask: Is this America?

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), my good friend and a member of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the chairman of the subcommittee and a great leader in Financial Services, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies, as introduced by Mr. HUIZENGA.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, limits the disclosures that securities issuers must provide to the SEC, ensuring they only report information that is material to investors' decisionmaking.

H.R. 4790 also includes my bill, H.R. 4653, the Protecting U.S. Business Sovereignty Act.

My legislation defends American businesses from the overreach of foreign regulations like the EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, which threatens U.S. businesses by imposing costly compliance

burdens on U.S. businesses for participating even in a minor way in the EU.

Republicans are not against ESG, Mr. Speaker, as an investment choice. If individual investors want to prioritize environmental, social, or governance factors, that is their freedom. What we oppose is when these ideological views are mandated, when investors are forced to comply with burdensome regulations that prioritize political ideology over profitability, prioritize ideology over outcomes, which harms the economy and undermines the freedom to invest one's own wealth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Let's choose economic growth and the freedom of choice for American investors.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB), who is also the vice ranking member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, the so-called ESG debate is a fabricated political issue funded by corporate interests that are trying to protect their short-term profits at the expense of our workers, our retirees, and our communities.

The stakes are real, and hardworking families' retirement security is on the line.

Just look at the impacts at the State level, Mr. Speaker. Indiana's budget office, for example, has estimated that forcing their State pension system to divest from firms or funds that use ESG factors could reduce returns by $6.7 billion.

Public funding is also at stake. Let's look at Texas. It passed anti-ESG legislation at the State level, disrupting the municipal bond market. Public borrowing costs have now increased by roughly $400 million in Texas.

Anti-ESG efforts shield companies from accountability, put families' retirement savings at risk, and cost the public money.

All this is for corporate profits. Pensioners and retirees deserve better.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Michigan.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I want everyone to admit that this is all for corporate profits and that the American people deserve better.

These are retirees who worked incredibly hard, and we have to do everything we can to protect their investments. They deserve better. They deserve the transparency that these factors produce.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I simply note that if this was about protecting investors and maximizing their profit, we wouldn't force them to go into a lower return product like my colleagues are trying to do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE), my friend and colleague, a member of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, my friend from Michigan, for yielding me time to speak in support of this legislative package that includes my bill, H.R. 4657.

Mr. Speaker, under the Biden-Harris administration, economic growth has been sacrificed to pursue a woke agenda detrimental to Tennesseans. This is one of the many reasons I rise in support of my Michigan colleague's legislation, H.R. 4790.

The Tennesseans I represent can be assured that I will continue to prioritize working families over the woke socialist agenda known as ESG that far-left progressives are inserting into retirement accounts.

□ 1430

My bill that is included in this package, would protect retail investors and retirement savings from leftwing, activist shareholders and socially directed investment funds from abusing the shareholder process to advance their progressive political agendas.

Activist investors that force companies to take social positions on issues like abortion and climate change shouldn't be making business decisions.

My bill would offer companies respite from these harmful and extremist shareholder proposals, which is why my bill is referred to as the RESPITE Act in the Senate.

Tennesseans know firsthand how woke priorities don't align with our values or our financial interests. That is why we stood up to Tractor Supply Company and forced them to care about people again and not politics.

When the Securities and Exchange Commission came after our farmers to collect ESG-related information, the Tennessee Attorney General's office sued the SEC to remind them that they were overstepping by engaging in environmental policy.

Tennessee is proud to lead the charge against the woke agenda championed by the Biden-Harris administration.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to join me in voting ''yes'' on H.R. 4790, so that we can turn the focus back on promoting economic growth and not social wokeness.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN), a member of the Financial Services Committee and the co-chair of the Congressional Sustainable Investment Caucus.

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, again, I oppose H.R. 4790 because it impedes shareholders' engagement with the companies they own, limits visibility into corporate decisionmaking, and ultimately weakens the foundation of America's strong free market.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee. If the House rules had permitted, I would have offered this motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment would require companies to disclose when they abandon commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI.

DEI initiatives at companies lead to more innovative and productive organizational cultures. Establishing a diverse workforce helps companies attract and retain top talent and ultimately drives better business outcomes.

I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the text of this amendment immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTEN: I hope that my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD).

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I support Mr. HUIZENGA's bill, H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act, and I thank him and Chairman MCHENRY for their leadership on this issue.

In particular, I highlight my bill within this larger package. It is called the Stop Executive Capture of Banking Regulators Act.

This bill applies a requirement to the Federal Reserve, the OCC, the FDIC, the NCUA, and the FHFA to report to Congress when they plan to implement a nonbinding recommendation from an executive order, or FSOC.

All the regulators I just listed are independent. Independent regulators are supposed to act according to their respective expertise. They shouldn't just adopt recommendations from the President or Treasury without their own due diligence.

This bill says that if they do choose to implement a nonbinding directive from the executive branch, they should tell Congress and the American people what they are planning to do and why. That is a commonsense requirement, and, frankly, this shouldn't be a partisan issue.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan has 4 minutes remaining. The gentlewoman from California has 6 minutes remaining.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. We all want our investments to grow. Investors want to be able to compare ESG metrics across companies because there is substantial research showing that companies that are actively managing their climate risk and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion are more profitable, not less.

Consistent and transparent disclosure on these metrics are critical for investors who are looking to maximize their investment growth, not just for

investors who are looking to put their money toward good causes.

This is not just about doing the right thing for the Earth or for employees. It is about doing the right thing for a company's bottom line, the right thing for the growth of our investments, and the right thing for investor choice.

My colleague has claimed that nothing in this bill would prevent an individual from investing in companies with ESG policies, but let's take a look at the facts.

This bill would make it harder for investors to access clear and consistent disclosures from companies on ESG metrics.

How can an investor make informed decisions without that information? They cannot, and that is why this bill is so harmful.

It is taking away investor rights and investor choice in order to force MAGA policies on all of us at the expense of investors. It is unacceptable.

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close.

Meanwhile, I again reiterate that the law requires any material information, including climate information, must be disclosed currently, if it is material.

I will continue to reserve the balance of my time until the gentlewoman is prepared to close.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill has been opposed by the Biden-Harris administration. In fact, this Statement of Administration Policy states that this bill ''would severely limit the ability of Federal financial regulators to protect consumers and investors.''

It also ''would disempower stakeholders and investors. . . .''

I include the Statement of Administration Policy in the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 4790—PRIORITIZING ECONOMIC GROWTH OVER WOKE POLICIES ACT

The Administration opposes H.R. 4790, which would severely limit the ability of Federal financial regulators to protect consumers and investors.

Since 1934, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has worked to protect investors, safeguard markets, and enhance access to capital. Central to these efforts are the SEC's disclosure rules, which require companies that offer securities to the public to provide investors the information they need to make informed decisions. The changes proposed in H.R. 4790 would fundamentally limit the SEC's ability to fulfill its mission by prohibiting the agency from requiring companies to provide certain disclosures of information material to investment decisions, and instead allowing the regulated companies themselves the discretion to determine what must be disclosed.

The SEC also exists to ensure that companies are responsive to shareholder and investor concerns. However, H.R. 4790 would disempower stakeholders and investors, including by preventing the SEC from compelling companies to notify investors of other shareholders' proposals and by limiting the types of proposals that shareholders can introduce.

Finally, the bill also limits some independent agencies, including the Federal Reserve, from working to influence standards proposed by specified international organizations that work to improve the financial system, curtailing the Nation's ability to coordinate with international counterparts in the face of threats to the global economy.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I also point out that this bill is opposed by over 40 organizations and investor advocates. I include in the RECORD the letter these groups signed indicating their opposition to H.R. 4790.

September 17, 2024.

Re Opposition to anti-ESG bills that threaten workers' retirement security and our financial system, and weaken tools of corporate accountability.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) and the 39 undersigned organizations write in opposition to Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act (H.R. 4790) and the Protecting Americans' Investments from Woke Policies Act (H.R. 5339), which are packages of several bills that are part of a broader, unpopular campaign against common sense investment practices. This campaign seeks to both force financial actors to ignore a slew of financial risks to the detriment of workers' retirement security and the integrity of our financial system, and weaken tools of corporate accountability. The bills at issue were marked up by the House Financial Services Committee (HFSC) and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. If passed, they would represent a giveaway to corporations at the expense of workers, investors, and the public.

The bills marked up by HFSC in July of last year were the culmination of what the committee's majority publicly characterized as ''ESG month''—a series of six hearings and a markup designed to discourage financial actors from taking into account environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in their investment decision-making and undermine corporate accountability. The bills can be categorized based on the effects they would have: (1) undermine regulations that would equip investors with more information to make better investment decisions (H.R. 4790); (2) insulate the management of public companies from investor input and accountability, including by eliminating fundamental investor rights to file shareholder proposals (H.R. 4767 and H.R. 4655); and (3) hamstring the ability of federal banking regulators to respond effectively to micro- and macro-prudential risks to the financial system (H.R. 4823). For a more detailed discussion of these bills, see AFR's letter of opposition submitted ahead of the markup.

The bills marked up by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce in September would amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) with the effect of undermining workers' retirement security. Two of the bills—H.R. 5339 and H.R. 5337—have a longer history, mirroring two Trump-era Department of Labor (DOL) rules. Those rules were widely criticized and have since been rescinded because they produced significant confusion about what fiduciaries are allowed to consider when making investment decisions, and had a chilling effect on the consideration of financially relevant information—thereby putting workers' retirement security at risk. The other two bills would also harm workers saving for retirement, H.R. 5338 by interfering with efforts to increase diversity among asset managers managing workers' savings and H.R. 5340 by mandating confusing and misleading information be sent to investors. For a more detailed discussion of these bills, see AFR's letter of opposition submitted ahead of the markup.

Congress should not lend support to an effort that would harm the public interest and has triggered fierce and effective opposition from a broad coalition of diverse stakeholders. For example, state-level anti-ESG legislation—which included 161 pieces of legislation introduced in 28 states this year—faced significant pushback from public pension beneficiaries, retirement system officials, bank and local business associations, and unions. As a result, the vast majority of the bills were defeated. A strong coalition has also opposed past anti-ESG congressional actions.

Voters overwhelmingly oppose measures like these. Although the anti-ESG campaign is well-funded, polling decidedly shows a strong majority of voters do not support its goals. For example, 63% of voters do not believe the government should set limits on corporate ESG investments. And when it comes to how companies should operate in our society, ''most voters (76%) feel companies play a vital role in society and should be held accountable to make a positive impact on the communities in which they operate.'' This includes both the majority of Republicans (69%) and the majority of Democrats (82%), reflecting strong bipartisan support. Additionally, a recent poll by Public Citizen found that voters oppose Congress passing legislation to limit the type of information about a corporation's business record that is disclosed to pension and retirement fund managers, investors, and the public, and that voters would reward an elected official who favors requiring corporations to disclose environmental, social, and governance information about their business dealings to investors and the public.

For all the reasons stated above, the undersigned organizations urge you to oppose these anti-ESG bills. Thank you for your consideration of our perspective. Please do not hesitate to contact Natalia Renta if have any questions.

Sincerely,

Americans for Financial Reform; 17 Communications; 350.org; Adrian Dominican Sisters, Portfolio Advisory Board; AFL–CIO; Alabama Interfaith Power & Light; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); American Federation of Teachers; Center for Popular Democracy; ClientEarth USA; Communications Workers of America; Congregation of St. Joseph; Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise.

Environmental Defense Fund; For the Long Term; Global Reporting Initiative (GRI); Green America; Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility; International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Invest Vegan; League of Conservation Voters; Majority Action; Mercy Investment Services, Inc.; National Education Association; National Women's Law Center; NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice; Oxfam America.

Private Equity Stakeholder Project; Public Citizen; RFK Human Rights; Rhia Ventures; Rise Economy (formerly California Reinvestment Coalition); Sierra Club; SOC Investment Group; Stance Capital; Strong Economy For All Coalition; Take on Wall Street; The People's Justice Council; Tulipshare, Sustainable Investment Fund; Unlocking America's Future.

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time until the gentlewoman is prepared to close.

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

Mr. Speaker, we have talked a lot during this debate about investors, and I want to be clear that when I say ''investor,'' I am talking about people saving for retirement, their children's education, and to purchase a home. I am talking about Americans who have saved a few dollars in a mutual fund or purchased a few stocks.

These are the investors, and it is their rights that this bill tramples on. It tramples on their right to vote on and to offer proposals to strengthen companies they own, their right to information to evaluate their investment, and it undermines the regulator who works to protect investor rights.

This is taking us back. This is undoing the traditional investor rights that we have enjoyed for so long that are now being stripped while there is an attempt to undo what we are trying to do with climate change.

Well, I know that they don't believe in the science and what is happening with climate change, but this is going way beyond what I thought any of my colleagues on the opposite side of the aisle would do.

I understand that large public corporations want this bill because it would allow them to take investors' money but ignore them in every respect.

Shareholders are the legal owners of these companies, not the executives. Mr. Speaker, I think the executives simply forgot who they work for.

The shareholders are the ones who invest their hard-earned dollars in the company and deserve the right to participate in this small way.

This bill is a blatant denial of climate change and insulting to communities all across this country that have been burned by historical wildfires, flattened by monster hurricanes, and parched by record heat waves and droughts.

This bill is an attempt to make us see our neighbor as a threat rather than as a friend. It suggests wanting companies to reflect the diversity of America is itself un-American.

I know that there are those who don't like to see people like me in the boardrooms, who don't like to see people of color in the boardrooms, who don't like to see LGBT in the boardrooms.

We are not going back, Mr. Speaker. We are going to continue to fight this fight, and we are going to fight for the investors.

With that type of thinking, it leads the politicians to share fearmongering lies, like people eating pets rather than seeing that our diversity of people, ideas, backgrounds, and religions is our greatest strength and what sets America apart from the rest of the world.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues, the Members who spoke here today, as well as the 20 Members who included their bills in this particular package.

We have heard a lot of rhetoric. We have heard a lot of hyperbole. We have heard a lot of fearmongering, charged rhetoric, and, frankly, even some falsehoods today from my colleagues across the aisle.

I want to be clear, Mr. Speaker, that again, the law requires any material information, including climate, and all these other things that have been discussed today, must be disclosed to investors, if it is material.

Now, in 1976, the great Thurgood Marshall established standards of materiality in the TSC v. Northway case.

Thurgood Marshall realized, as did the rest of the Supreme Court, that having just arbitrary and capricious and sort of willy-nilly rules surrounding what should or shouldn't be disclosed and what should and shouldn't be informative to the reasonable investor—his words and their words—to the reasonable investor, they needed to put guardrails around that. In 1976, Thurgood Marshall did that.

This administration, after nearly 50 years, and their puppets in the supposedly independent agencies have turned that concept on its head.

We see this time and time again because they cannot do this through the legislative process. They are turning to those regulators who are abusing their situations.

Here are the facts. Unelected bureaucrats have hijacked and overhauled the public company shareholder proxy process.

Here are the facts. They have adopted rules and guidance that exceeds their statutory authority, and by the way, those same courts have been putting them back in their place.

Here are the facts. They have redefined the materiality standard. They have ceded authority over American financial regulation to global governance bodies.

Why would we do this? Why would we do this when the U.S. capital markets are the envy of the world? Capital comes to the United States because of our strength. Yet, they want to undermine and weaken it.

In response, our bill, H.R. 4790, the Prioritizing Economic Growth Over Woke Policies Act, will prevent regulatory overreach.

It will restore the materiality standard. It will restore the SEC's proxy voting process. It will hold large proxy advisory firms accountable.

It will block regulators from injecting ESG and other initiatives into our financial system. It will reassert sovereignty over American financial regulation to American regulators, not international bodies. Again, Mr. Speaker, the law requires any material information be included to the reasonable investor.

Let's seize this opportunity to protect workers, to create jobs, to protect those job creators and everyday investors from radical ESG initiatives that put leftwing political goals above American prosperity.

Let's ensure our financial system remains the envy of the world, Mr. Speaker. Let's vote ''yes''.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Casten of Illinois moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4790 to the Committee on Financial Services.

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

Mr. Casten moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4790 to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION E—DISCLOSURES

SEC. 5001. PUBLIC COMPANY DISCLOSURES WHEN ELIMINATING EMPLOYEES AND OFFICES THAT PROMOTE DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(t) ELIMINATION OF EMPLOYEES AND OFFICES THAT PROMOTE DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION.—Each issuer required to make quarterly reports under this section shall include in such report whether the issuer, during the reporting period, eliminated any employees or offices tasked with enhancing the issuer's commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the workforce and business practices of the issuer.''.

(b) INITIAL REPORT.—Each issuer required to make reports under section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 shall file a Form 8–K with the Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether the issuer has eliminated any employees or offices tasked with enhancing the issuer's commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the workforce and business practices of the issuer.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1540

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (MIKE GARCIA of California) at 3 o'clock and 40 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:

The motion to recommit H.R. 3724;

Passage of H.R. 3724, if ordered;

The motion to recommit H.R. 4790; and

Passage of H.R. 4790, 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.

ACCREDITATION FOR COLLEGE EXCELLENCE ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 3724) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation, offered by the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 195, nays 203, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 432]

YEAS—195

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Caraveo
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wild
Williams (GA)

NAYS—203

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NOT VOTING—33

Barragán
Blumenauer
Bush
Cárdenas
Cleaver
Clyburn
DesJarlais
Dingell
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Evans
Ferguson
Garcia, Robert
Granger
Grijalva
Grothman
Huffman
James
Joyce (OH)
Langworthy
LaTurner
Loudermilk
McHenry
Meuser
Pelosi
Phillips
Ryan
Stauber
Van Orden
Waltz
Wexton
Wilson (FL)
Zinke

□ 1605

Messrs. STRONG, GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. LUNA, Messrs. RESCHENTHALER, FINSTAD, Ms. MALOY, Messrs. RUTHERFORD, CLYDE, VAN DREW, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. VEASEY, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. MRVAN changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 432.

Stated against:

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 432.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 213, nays 201, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 433]

YEAS—213

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis

D'Esposito
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NAYS—201

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—17

Cárdenas
DesJarlais
Dingell
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Evans
Ferguson
Granger
Griffith
Grijalva
James
Miller-Meeks
Ryan
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Wexton
Zinke

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1613

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 433.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 433, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

CONGRESSIONAL BASKETBALL GAME

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

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, rest assured, House of Representatives, that the basketball trophy will be back in our Chamber for another year.

Congratulations to the Members of Congress for defeating the Downtown Lobbyists two nights ago. We took it to them.

The civil servants of our society took it to Downtown. A big congratulations to the Members of Congress for defeating them.

This is an awesome event that we do. It supports Hoops for Youth, a big charity that goes to help youth sports, along with many of the other sporting activities that we do.

Just to finish it off, I congratulate and particularly recognize our captain and this year's MVP, retiring Member BRAD WENSTRUP. Can we get a round of applause?

You may hear rumors from Downtown that it required Enes Freedom, formerly Enes Kanter of the NBA, to help our team win, but that is unsubstantiated. We could have beaten them on our own.

GUIDING UNIFORM AND RESPONSIBLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION LIMITS ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 4790) to amend the Federal securities laws with respect to the materiality of disclosure requirements, to establish the Public Company Advisory Committee, and for other purposes, offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 211, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 434]

YEAS—206

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)

Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NAYS—211

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
De La Cruz
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NOT VOTING—14

D'Esposito
DesJarlais
Dingell
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Evans
Ferguson
Granger
Grijalva
James
Rodgers (WA)
Ryan
Wexton
Zinke

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1621

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 215, nays 203, answered ''present'' 1, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 435]

YEAS—215

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxx
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Pence
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NAYS—203

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—1

Griffith

NOT VOTING—12

DesJarlais
Dingell
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Evans
Ferguson
Granger
Grijalva
James
Ryan
Wexton
Zinke

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1628

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for today's votes due to a

death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 432, YEA on Roll Call No. 433, NAY on Roll Call No. 434, and YEA on Roll Call No. 435.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes today due to circumstances beyond my control. The roll call votes I missed included the MTR on H.R. 3724, passage of H.R. 3724, the MTR on H.R. 4790, and passage of H.R. 4790. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 432, "nay" on Roll Call No. 433, "yea" on Roll Call No. 434, and "nay" on Roll Call No. 435.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 19, 2024, at 3:20 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1871.

That the Senate passed S. 3187.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 9468.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

NO BAILOUT FOR SANCTUARY CITIES ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5717.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 5717.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1635

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5717) to provide that sanctuary jurisdictions that provide benefits to aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws are ineligible for Federal funds intended to benefit such aliens, with Mr. CLOUD in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, in just 3½ years, President Biden and his border czar, KAMALA HARRIS, have allowed more than 7.6 million unvetted, illegal aliens into the United States. That is the equivalent of adding an entirely new State almost the size of Arizona, our 14th largest State, with nine congressional districts. Those not engaged in criminal activities are almost entirely destitute and are overwhelming public schools, hospitals, food banks, public housing, and social services.

This began the very first day of this administration, when Biden and HARRIS rescinded the remain in Mexico policy, ordered construction on the border wall halted, and literally instructed ICE to stop enforcing court-ordered deportations.

Today, ICE remains hog-tied in discharging its duty to remove even criminal illegal aliens from our midst. Before they can do so, they are now required to first develop a full profile of the criminal and to identify mitigating circumstances, such as if the criminal has high blood pressure or is a caregiver.

A former top ICE official told the Judiciary Committee that the Biden-Harris policies have made immigration enforcement more dangerous, more difficult to carry out, and less efficient overall. The flood of illegal mass migration at our southern border has thinned the ranks of ICE officers available to enforce laws within the interior because so many have been siphoned off to process illegals being allowed into our country.

When constituents ask me how this could be happening to their communities, I have to remind them that if they voted for Biden and HARRIS, this is exactly what they voted for, and if that surprises them, they weren't paying attention.

In 2019, KAMALA HARRIS told the ACLU she would slash funding for immigration detention and close private immigration detention centers. As ABC News has been forced to confess, HARRIS did, in fact, endorse taxpayer funding to provide transgender surgeries for illegal aliens detained in the United States.

Americans are beginning to realize the severe danger to public safety posed by cities and States that refuse to notify ICE so that dangerous criminals can be turned over to them for deportation once they have served out their sentences, as the law requires. Instead, the woke left releases these criminals back onto our streets and into our communities to prey on new victims.

Instead of ICE being able to take these criminals into custody while they are disarmed and in custody, ICE agents, instead, must track them down and confront them when they are armed and at large. This is the very essence of the sanctuary policies that so many Democrats, including Biden and HARRIS, have supported and facilitated.

Although current law already prohibits jurisdictions from refusing to cooperate with Federal immigration officials, jurisdictions controlled by leftist officials continue to do so. This bill changes that.

The growing list of Americans victimized by criminal aliens released back onto our streets, in defiance of Federal law, is truly appalling.

According to ICE, Cook County, Illinois, saw law enforcement release 1,070 criminal aliens and immigration violators in fiscal year 2019 despite requests by ICE to notify the agency before they are released from local custody. One of those criminals was a Mexican national who had been arrested for theft. After his release from custody, that illegal alien lured a 3-year-old girl into a McDonald's bathroom and sexually assaulted her. Had Chicago authorities cooperated with Federal officials, that man, a convicted aggravated felon who previously had been deported, could have been in ICE custody and instead removed to Mexico.

In January 2023, a 27-year-old illegal alien from Mexico was allowed to remain in the United States through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program despite his arrest for domestic violence in New Jersey. Local law enforcement ignored an ICE detainer and released him, where he went on to murder his girlfriend and a married couple.

Without this legislation, we should brace ourselves for what is to come. In 2019, KAMALA HARRIS committed to ending ICE detainers. H.R. 5717 would prevent any jurisdiction from ever doing so again.

Specifically, this bill renders sanctuary jurisdictions ineligible to receive certain taxpayer dollars that would bankroll illegal immigration in American communities. By denying certain Federal funding to jurisdictions that prohibit or restrict their cooperation with Federal immigration officials, the bill encourages sanctuary jurisdictions to end their anti-enforcement policies in favor of working with the Department of Homeland Security.

Today, Democrats will present far-fetched hypotheticals about how Republicans want to strip funding from program after program. On the contrary—to continue to receive these

funds, the jurisdiction would simply need to follow existing law. Isn't that what a nation of laws is all about?

It is absurd that a bill like this is even necessary. As we have seen time and time again, far-left jurisdictions would prefer to release dangerous criminal aliens back onto American streets than to deport them once they have served their sentence, as Federal law requires. This bill helps end this dangerous and tragic absurdity.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, rather than bring up an immigration bill that attempts to secure our border or address the broken immigration system, the Republican majority has brought us a bill that would simply bankrupt States and localities that have chosen a different path on immigration than the Republican agenda.

I am not surprised that this bill offers no solutions, though. Republicans have made it very clear that they are more interested in trying to scapegoat immigrants and score cheap political points, especially in these weeks leading up to the election, than in working to solve problems.

This legislation would prevent so-called sanctuary jurisdictions—in some cases entire States, like New York, California, and North Dakota—from receiving any Federal funds that might ''benefit'' undocumented immigrants, resulting in drastic cuts to education, transportation, law enforcement, and healthcare. This bill is being rushed to the floor without following regular order. Given how poorly written this bill is, it is clear why its supporters might have wanted to shield it from greater scrutiny.

The title of the bill implies that it is narrowly crafted and targeted at Federal funds for undocumented immigrants in sanctuary jurisdictions. In reality, however, its impact would be much, much wider. It would target not only States led by Democrats like New York, California, and Illinois, but Republican strongholds like Utah and North Dakota, and its impact would be felt across the country.

Let's think about how this bill would affect our communities. For example, local police protect the public. They do not check a person's immigration status when responding to a call for help or answering a 911 call. As a result, under this bill, State and local police forces will lose millions of dollars in Byrne JAG grants from the Department of Justice, one of the main ways that the Federal Government supports police equipment purchases, training, and officer salaries.

Likewise, States are required by law to provide students with a K–12 public education regardless of immigration status. As such, States receive billions of dollars from the Department of Education to fund K–12 education. Under this bill, any so-called sanctuary jurisdiction would lose this funding for all its students, regardless of their immigration status.

One more example that highlights how truly absurd this bill is: Last year, the Federal Government provided the States of California and New York, both of which are considered sanctuary jurisdictions under this bill, with $5 billion and $2.3 billion respectively to build and maintain highways, bridges, and pedestrian infrastructure. This funding benefits all of the States' residents, including undocumented immigrants, which puts the funding at risk under this bill.

□ 1645

My Republican colleagues will argue that we are reading the bill too broadly, but we know this is exactly what Republicans want to do.

The Trump administration has previously tried to condition Department of Justice funding on States changing their sanctuary city policies. Further, this concept is straight out of Project 2025, which specifically calls on a potential future Trump administration to try to coerce States and localities into adopting anti-immigrant policies by withholding Federal funds.

Republicans used the term ''sanctuary city'' the same way that Donald Trump tells stories about immigrants eating cats and dogs. They want their constituents to be afraid of immigrants and to imply that some cities harbor criminals and refuse to comply with Federal law. The truth is, in some cities, gaining the trust of immigrant communities is a key component of good policing.

The Major Cities Chiefs Association argues that when local police are viewed as colluding with immigration authorities, they may spur ''increased crime against immigrants in the broader community, create a class of silent victims, and eliminate the potential for assistance from immigrants in solving crimes or preventing future terroristic acts.'' Following this guidance, many cities across the country have adopted policies that limit contact between local police and Federal immigration agencies.

However, regardless of how someone may feel about sanctuary jurisdictions and community trust policies, the answer is not a blunt instrument that claws billions of dollars away from these States and localities. Our constituents send us here to fight for their interests, not to take away funds they depend on.

This is a dangerous and overly broad bill.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chair, I yield 8 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA), the author of this bill.

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Chair, you break it, you bought it. That is not a Republican saying. That is not a Democrat saying. That is just a widely accepted premise in our culture: You break it, you bought it.

Let me tell you, Mr. Chair, nobody broke the border like President Biden and Vice President and border czar KAMALA HARRIS, along with the mayors and Governors of sanctuary cities and States.

President Biden broke the border when he repealed 64 very effective Trump-era policies. Biden repealed remain in Mexico. Biden applied lower asylum standards. Biden stopped border wall construction. Biden even repositioned border agents away from the border to be in migrant processing centers behind desks just to process more and more migrants into the country.

By reversing Trump's very effective policies, President Biden and border czar and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS have created a wide-open border for illegal immigration and asylum abuse.

The immediate consequence of these actions was a surge in illegal border crossings, reaching levels we have never seen before. Now, every State, including New York, nearly 2,000 miles away from the southwest border, has become a border State.

While the Biden-Harris administration has done its damage, sanctuary city jurisdictions are only exacerbating this crisis even further. When cities like New York adopt sanctuary policies and forbid local law enforcement from coordinating with Federal officials on enforcing immigration law, they send a huge signal to those who are in our country illegally or those who would break our asylum laws.

The message is: Come to New York. Come because we will not enforce Federal immigration law here.

The migrants sure got the message. Mr. Chair, 100,000 migrants have passed through New York City since the spring of 2022. At the height of the crisis, there were over 64,000 migrants in the city's care, all at the taxpayers' expense.

New York's Governor recently proposed $5 billion more to address New York's migrant crisis at the same time she proposed cutting from our kids' public schools. Yet, New York State officials did absolutely nothing to change New York City's and New York State's sanctuary policies. Despite the uncontrolled crisis across the five boroughs, New York City has refused to change its sanctuary policies, the very policies incentivizing illegal immigration.

Those illegally crossing the border or who feign asylum to be paroled into the interior of our country know that if they make it to New York, they will be given taxpayer-funded food, shelter, healthcare, transportation, and social services. Hardworking American taxpayers will be the ones footing the bill, Mr. Chair.

If we do not put an end to these sanctuary city policies, that number will continue to balloon, costing families even more, all during a time of significant financial hardship and record inflation. New Yorkers, and indeed all

taxpayers, should not have to bear this burden.

Schools are at capacity. Our cities are overrun. Our law enforcement is stretched to the limit. Our social services are being overwhelmed. Our hospitals are overburdened. Local budgets are strained to the breaking point. Homeless Americans are having trouble accessing shelter services. Migrant children, many unaccompanied, are being exploited by smugglers, traffickers, and violent gangs, and they are being put to work illegally or, worse, abused and trafficked.

Instead of changing course, cities like New York have the audacity to turn around and demand more money from taxpayers from nonsanctuary jurisdictions to fund their failed sanctuary policies.

Today, Mr. Chair, enough is enough. My No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act is about accountability. It is about ensuring that cities and States that refuse to enforce Federal laws are not rewarded with Federal dollars related to their defiance.

Let the policymakers from sanctuary jurisdictions hear us loud and clear: If you incentivize illegal immigration in your city, knowing full well the migrants will come, don't come to the Federal Government for a bailout.

Let me make something also abundantly clear: This legislation will prohibit Federal funding from going toward fueling the root causes of the migrant crisis. In no way, Mr. Chair, can this legislation be construed to harm school systems, law enforcement, and other benefits for American citizens. Those entities will remain eligible for Federal funding under this legislation.

Mr. Chair, America is like a ship taking on water. My colleagues from the other side of the aisle, their solution is to merely build a bigger boat. My solution, Mr. Chair, is to plug the hole causing the crisis in the first place by cutting off Federal funds that would only exacerbate the crisis.

Mr. Chair, I thank the chairman for his support of my legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let's be real. The reason these migrants are in New York is because they were bused there involuntarily by Governor Abbott of Texas.

Mr. LaLota's bill would remove from New York all Federal funding for schools, all funding for transportation, because it says that in a sanctuary State or city, anything that may benefit migrants will not be paid. As I said in my opening remarks, roads benefit migrants like anybody else, so no funding for roads, bridges, and highways. Schools benefit migrants like anybody else, so no funding for the schools.

This bill would essentially take all Federal funding away from New York State. Why Mr. LaLota would introduce a bill to take basically all Federal funding away from our joint State of New York is a question his constituents are going to have to address in 2 months.

Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. Jayapal), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, here we are, wasting time again on the floor on a bill that has no chance of becoming law, when, meanwhile, Republicans have failed to pass a continuing resolution that would keep our government funded. Some in your party are even calling for a government shutdown, which would have detrimental effects on Americans across the country.

Are we dealing with that issue? No. Republicans couldn't pass their own bill, a partisan bill, to continue to fund the government, and we are not trying to do anything on that. Instead, we are here talking not about a bill that actually works for real solutions for our outdated immigration system, but we are once again talking about a bill that demonizes immigrants.

This is something that Republicans have refused to put forward, real solutions to our broken immigration system, because, in their own words, they want to keep immigration broken so that they can continue to demonize immigrants and continue to try to make this an election issue.

Here we are today, once again, debating a bill inspired by Trump's Project 2025 that would strip billions of dollars in vital Federal funds from States and localities across the country, including in my home State of Washington.

Under this bill, jurisdictions that want to keep the proper division between Federal enforcement and local law enforcement are penalized for doing just that, taking away any Federal funds that might ''benefit'' undocumented immigrants. That makes absolutely no sense on multiple levels.

First of all, community trust policies in these jurisdictions foster cooperation and trust between immigrant communities and local authorities. That is crucial for effective policing and public safety.

When immigrants feel safe reporting crimes and working with law enforcement, it actually strengthens public safety for everyone. That is why members of the Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force, which is made up of law enforcement officials from across the country, have expressed concern with this bill, stating that when local police are viewed as colluding with immigration authorities, ''undocumented residents may fear that they, or people they know or depend upon, risk deportation by working with law enforcement,'' and that ''this fear undermines trust between law enforcement and the communities we serve,'' which actually can facilitate an increase in violent crime.

That is law enforcement talking about what this bill would actually do. It would hurt our ability to protect public safety.

On top of that, local jurisdictions have neither the money, the training, nor the time to enforce Federal immigration laws, particularly when it undermines their own ability to build community trust and do their necessary work.

H.R. 5717 is just bad policy. It implements Trump's extreme Project 2025 agenda by stripping localities and States across the country of billions of dollars in Federal funding for education, transportation, infrastructure, law enforcement, and healthcare just because those funds might benefit undocumented immigrants, forgetting that they actually benefit everybody in the community.

Let's remember that undocumented immigrants are interwoven into our communities. Approximately 1.1 million U.S. citizens are married to undocumented immigrants, and over 600,000 U.S. citizen children live in mixed-status households where at least one person is undocumented, not to mention the DACA recipients who work in public schools, hospitals, and small businesses.

Attempts to punish cities and States for using funding in a way that benefits undocumented people take away the very necessary funding that communities across the country have been asking for, and it will inevitably also harm U.S. citizens and American communities in those same localities.

Welcome to Donald Trump and Stephen Miller's America, where the Federal Government tries to coerce State and local governments to adopt the most anti-immigrant policies. If they refuse to do so, well, then that entire community is going to be stripped of Federal funding for the most essential services.

We have recently seen how dangerous this rhetoric and this policy can be. For the past few weeks, Republicans have relentlessly pushed debunked myths about how Haitian immigrants have supposedly invaded Springfield, Ohio, and are eating people's pets.

Sadly, that led to the city having to evacuate city hall and lock down multiple hospitals due to bomb threats. Parents are afraid to send their kids to school as Springfield elementary schools were evacuated 2 days in a row because of the bomb threats.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington.

□ 1700

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, my Republican colleagues love to talk about so-called immigrant crime and chaos at the border, but the reality is that their callous disregard for the truth, for conspiracy theories and lies and demonization of immigrants, has brought crime and chaos to the residents of Springfield, Ohio, putting their well-being and security at risk.

Mr. Chairman, we are better than this. America is better than this. We

can fix the immigration system without ripping communities apart and stripping away billions of dollars in vital Federal funding. We can solve the problems at the border without fearmongering and scapegoating immigrants who are helping to build our communities across the country.

Unfortunately, that would require bipartisanship, compromise, and a commitment to actually solving the problem, all of which my Republican colleagues have made clear they have zero interest in doing.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this dangerous bill.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chair, every grant the Federal Government makes to States and localities comes with conditions that they must fulfill in order to receive those funds. This measure simply says to get Federal funds, you must obey Federal law.

Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO).

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I rise today not only to support this legislation, but let's also clarify for a moment: My colleague across the aisle suggested that it is time to get real. Law enforcement has been trusted in our communities to do their jobs and provide for public safety without Federal or State interference for years. Sanctuary city policies are actually handcuffing local law enforcement and precluding them from intervening in protecting American citizens. Sanctuary city policies keep local law enforcement from even being able to interact with Federal law enforcement, therefore making it impossible for them to do their jobs.

My colleague across the aisle said it is time to get real. The overwhelming number of illegal immigrants being transported to cities and States like New York is not at the hands of Governors of States, but of the Federal Government. I know this because, as a county executive, I saw it firsthand. In fact, it was imposed on my community and my law enforcement.

Since President Biden took office, over 11 million individuals have entered our country illegally. In the State of New York, because of sanctuary city policies, Governor Hochul and Mayor Adams have allowed for the transport of migrants—apparently, that is okay if Democratic mayors do it—to cities, communities, motels, and hotels throughout upstate New York.

One of my colleagues referred to the so-called crime committed by illegal immigrants. We are not suggesting that everyone who comes to this country commits a crime, but we are suggesting that when we interface with an illegal immigrant who does, in fact, break the law, law enforcement should be able to do its job and interact with Federal officials and, ultimately, arrest and deport individuals who break the law.

We know that this has occurred in our State. Just 1 month ago, a Peruvian serial killer wanted for 23 murders was arrested at the southern border, released based on the current administration's policy, and then transported to New York.

I don't think Governor Abbott drove him there. Instead, it is likely the Federal Government and our tax dollars brought him to New York, where he was arrested, living in Endicott, New York.

In another instance, an illegal immigrant raped and strangled a woman in Delaware County, New York. This individual committed a heinous act while out on bail for raping another woman, thanks to New York City's sanctuary city policy and cashless bail. This crime could have been prevented but was not.

At what point does the State of New York recognize that this is a crisis of their own making? No one will lose a dollar if States like New York and cities like New York would abandon sanctuary city policies and allow local law enforcement to do their jobs.

At times, I come here and it feels as if we are in some sort of version of the Wizard of Oz. Pay no attention to the crisis of our making. Look, over there—Project 2025. Pay no attention to the crimes being committed. Look, over there—an offensive tweet.

To my colleagues, it is very simple: Law enforcement can do its job well, and we ought to demand accountability from States that preclude them from protecting American citizens.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, once again, I point out that what everyone thinks of the Biden administration's immigration policies, the only effect of this bill would be to take all Federal funds away from States like New York, California, North Dakota, Utah.

Again, for Mr. MOLINARO, who represents New York, he will have to explain to his constituents why he thinks all Federal funds should be taken away from New York.

Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA), a new member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Chair, today, I rise to express my profound concerns about the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act and its potential ramifications for cities like Chicago, which I proudly represent.

As the Nation's first sanctuary city, Chicago is a shining example of what it means to be a melting pot of cultures, backgrounds, and experiences. We are committed to the principles of inclusion, safety, and justice for all its residents, regardless of immigration status.

As a welcoming city and State, our policies are designed to build trust between our immigrant communities and local law enforcement, ensuring that everyone feels safe to report crimes and seek assistance without fear of deportation.

The No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act threatens to undermine these efforts by withholding essential Federal funds from cities that uphold such priorities. The bill proposes to penalize cities like Chicago, counties like Cook County, and States like Illinois by cutting off essential resources that support public safety, community service, education, and transportation.

Let me be clear: This legislation not only affects the bureaucratic operations of our city and State government, it would also deeply impact the daily lives of our own families and neighbors.

Federal grants play a vital role in equipping emergency response services and our law enforcement with the resources that they need to keep our communities safe. This bill would cut these funds, compromising our ability to effectively protect our communities and maintain our public safety.

Similarly, many of our community programs, which provide critical support to our most vulnerable populations, are also funded by Federal grants. Losing this funding will mean significantly reduced support for afterschool programs, fewer resources for schools and healthcare services, and less assistance for families facing economic hardship. It would decimate the Federal dollars used to maintain and improve our city's transportation infrastructure, from roads to public transportation to clean water access.

The Federal dollars threatened by this bill are essential for our economic growth and for the quality of life of all residents.

The message of this bill is clear: If a city chooses to embrace the immigrant communities and prioritize their safety and well-being, it will be punished. This is not only unjust but counterproductive.

Our Nation's strength lies in its diversity, and our cities' efforts to protect and support all residents should be applauded, not penalized.

Let us reaffirm our commitment to values that unite us rather than divide us. Let us support policies that uplift all of our communities and ensure they have the resources they need to thrive.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), the chairman of the House Committee on the Budget.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, if those cities want the hard-earned tax dollars of our citizens, they need to respect our laws, our sovereignty, and the safety of the American people.

Mr. Chair, there are fewer things more despairing than having to pass laws to enforce laws because our chief law enforcement officer and Commander in Chief has fallen down on the job. If President Biden and Vice President HARRIS don't respect the laws of our land, I don't suspect other people will either.

I rise in support of H.R. 5717, the No Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act.

Sanctuary cities are magnets. They are part of the perverse incentives that are drawing illegal immigrants into

this country. In fact, their mere existence is illegal under U.S. law. Title 8, Section 1324 of the United States Code prohibits the harboring of illegal aliens, making such acts a felony punishable by imprisonment up to 5 years. Other sections in title 8 prohibit local jurisdictions from withholding the immigration status of an individual from Federal authorities.

These rogue local officials who promote these policies and flout the rule of law are themselves acting as criminals, and they are a disgrace to our great country. They should be impeached or prosecuted.

These jurisdictions are sanctuaries for lawlessness, crime, and chaos that is a cancer pervading our country.

Sanctuary cities are a scourge to our country's law and order, to a civil society whose sacred duty is to provide for a common defense, promote domestic tranquility, and enforce the laws of the land.

As John Adams once said, this is ''a government of laws, not of men,'' and when we depart from that central tenet of this Republic, we are diminished as a people and weaker as a nation.

Mr. Chair, you get what you tolerate, and we have tolerated this recklessness for way too long. Sanctuary cities must be stopped. This legislation would prohibit Federal dollars from funding public services for illegal aliens in sanctuary cities.

Mr. Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to do the right thing, uphold the rule of law, and protect the American people. I urge them to vote for H.R. 5717.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOWMAN).

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5717. This bill is a deeply absurd and completely transparent attempt to fearmonger and continue stoking hatred of immigrants in our communities.

Let me be loud and clear: Immigrants make our communities stronger and more vibrant every single day, and Americans can see through these tactics.

Instead of recognizing the beauty of our diverse communities and working to serve them, Republicans are putting forth a bill that would actually strip billions in Federal funding from their own communities and even from entire States, including my home State of New York.

This bill is so broadly written that it could endanger Federal funding for school lunches, public schools, hospitals, public transportation, roads and bridges, police equipment, emergency response, and much more.

These are the institutions that keep us safe, healthy, and able to thrive, but Republicans are throwing it all away for what? For hate, for fear-mongering, and for their own power. Our job in Congress is to serve our communities, not destroy them just to score cheap political points that are completely unfounded in reality.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee.

If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill. My amendment would restore desperately needed title I funding for our public schools. I am a lifelong educator. I was a teacher, counselor, and middle school principal before coming to Congress.

I have watched as Republicans have tried to come for public schools. In the FY25 budget, they proposed to cut title I funding by 25 percent. In fact, Project 2025 wants to cut title I funding for schools completely. Think about what that would mean for our kids. That means 180,000 teachers gone.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New York.

□ 1715

Mr. BOWMAN. Funding that improves academic achievement, provides high-quality learning opportunities, enables extracurricular activities and co-curricular activities and supplemental services are all decimated.

Schools are the backbone of our communities and the lifeblood of our democracy.

Increasing title I means more quality educators, more school-based programs to nurture students, smaller class sizes, and better student outcomes.

So my amendment would do just that. That is because it is far past time that we prioritize our kids, and our communities deserve a bill take actually meet their needs, not one that completely abandons them.

Mr. Chair, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

I include in the RECORD the text of this amendment.

Mr. BOWMAN of New York moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5717 to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Add at the end of the bill the following:

SEC. 4. APPROPRIATION.

In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the Secretary of Education for fiscal year 2025, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, $4,716,578,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, for carrying out title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as ''ESEA''): *Provided*, That $2,358,289,000 shall be for targeted grants under section 1125 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That $2,358,289,000 shall be for education finance incentive grants under section 1125A of the ESEA.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I am ready to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Chairman, as we get closer to the end of our fiscal year with no resolution in sight, we are wasting our time with these absurd bills.

I know that Members of this Chamber have very mixed feelings about appropriations bills and the earmarks that go along with them, but only in this backwards Congress would Members think that stripping their constituents of Federal funding is good policy.

This legislation, which offers no solutions and would serve only to punish our communities, is opposed by law enforcement, organized labor, and civil and immigrant rights organizations.

Mr. Chair, I urge all Members to oppose it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Last week, the House Judiciary Committee received chilling testimony from Sheriff Mike Boudreaux of the rural Central Valley county of Tulare, California. What he told us should be an earsplitting alarm for every town and every city in America.

In the sanctuary State of California, the criminal cartels have sunk deep roots throughout the State. In his county alone, a single assassin for the Sinaloa cartel admitted to over 25 murders. The sheriff said:

That he was responsible for a certain area of California and there were many other assassins assigned by cartels in California, throughout California, that were responsible for those areas.

Then he spoke to California's sanctuary State law. He told of a reign of terror committed by an illegal migrant over a 24-hour period in his county: a murder in Visalia, attempted murders an Exeter and Tulare, as well as shootings in Pixley, Sultana, and Visalia and an armed robbery in Exeter.

Here is the fine point of the matter: 2 days before this nightmare unfolded, this monster had been arrested, and ICE had requested a detainer so that they could deport him.

As Sheriff Boudreaux testified again:

Due to California's sanctuary State law, the Sheriff's Office was legally prohibited from recognizing or honoring the detainer of this would-be murderer and we were further prohibited from notifying ICE of his release from jail.

This is the dystopian world the Democrats have created in California with their sanctuary law which was supported at the time by then-State Attorney General KAMALA HARRIS.

As Sheriff Boudreaux told us:

Much of what I speak of in regard to California and the violence, as well as the human trafficking, it is mirrored in other States all throughout the United States. The cartel wants to control these migrant towns and truly lead the same way that they are in other countries, specifically in Mexico.

He estimated that well over 50 percent of the crimes that he is dealing with in his county are now being committed by illegal immigrants, but since he can't report or confirm these numbers, the official number is zero.

I might add that the NYPD estimates that 75 percent of the crimes that they are now dealing with in Manhattan are committed by illegal migrants.

If it has not come to your neighborhood yet, Mr. Chairman, it soon will if we continue down the path that we are on.

Mr. Chairman, the American people have precious little time to awaken and stop this insanity before it engulfs their towns, neighborhoods, and communities if it hasn't already. In the meantime, measures like this will assure that policies like this never again are allowed to threaten our families.

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

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The bill is considered as read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5717

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 Bailout for Sanctuary Cities Act''.

SEC. 2. SANCTUARY JURISDICTION DEFINED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subsection (b), for purposes of this Act, the term ''sanctuary jurisdiction'' means any State or political subdivision of a State that has in effect a statute, ordinance, policy, or practice that prohibits or restricts any government entity or official from—

(1) sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging with any Federal, State, or local government entity information regarding the citizenship or immigration status (lawful or unlawful) of any individual; or

(2) complying with a request lawfully made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer for, or notify about the release of, an individual.

(b) EXCEPTION.—A State or political subdivision of a State shall not be deemed a sanctuary jurisdiction based solely on its having a policy whereby its officials will not share information regarding, or comply with a request made by the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226 and 1357) to comply with a detainer regarding, an individual who comes forward as a victim or a witness to a criminal offense.

SEC. 3. SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS INELIGIBLE FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL FUNDS.

Beginning in the fiscal year that begins after the date of enactment of this Act, a sanctuary jurisdiction is ineligible to receive any Federal funds that the sanctuary jurisdiction intends to use for the benefit (including the provision of food, shelter, healthcare services, legal services, and transportation) of aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws (as such terms are defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act).

The CHAIR. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in part C of House Report 118–685.

Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part C of House Report 118–685.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 3, beginning on line 3, strike ''Beginning'' and all that follows through ''Act'' on line 4, and insert the following: ''Beginning on the earlier of the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act or the first day of the fiscal year that begins after the date of enactment of this Act''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, there are nearly 300 sanctuary jurisdictions in the United States. That is 300 places in our Nation that refuse to cooperate with Federal law enforcement to detain and remove illegal aliens. That is why this underlying bill is so important.

There is not a single so-called sanctuary jurisdiction locality that intentionally refuses to uphold the law who should be receiving Federal funds. Every city, county, or State that has laws, regulations, resolutions, or policies protecting illegal alien criminals from ICE should not receive a penny of Federal funding for the benefits of those illegal aliens.

Unfortunately, these jurisdictions received over $300 million from the Department of Justice in 2021 alone.

My concern with this legislation, and it is a fairly minor one, is the timeline. Right now, the bill says that there will be a complete funding prohibition on food, shelter, healthcare, and other services for illegal aliens in sanctuary jurisdictions, but the funding ineligibility kicks in at the beginning of the fiscal year after the date of an enactment.

Practically, that could raise a circumstance in which the funding prohibition described in this bill wouldn't kick in until nearly a year after this bill becomes law.

In my view, that is too long. It is too long of a timeframe for these sanctuary cities, these jurisdictions, to get away with violating our laws and taking tax dollars from hardworking Americans.

This amendment amends section 3 of the text to ensure that the funding ineligibility for these jurisdictions become effective no later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this act and potentially even sooner.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, this amendment makes a bad bill even worse. The underlying legislation is already dangerous and overly broad. It would prevent so-called sanctuary jurisdictions, in some cases entire States, from receiving any Federal funds that might benefit undocumented immigrants, resulting in drastic cuts to education, transportation, law enforcement, and healthcare.

To make matters worse, this amendment would force this bill into effect within 60 days of passage. So even if States and localities wanted to change their policies to comply with this bill, they likely would not be able to do so in time.

Many State legislatures are only in session for parts of the year. The legislature for my State of New York, for example, is only in session 6 months out of the year and does not convene again until January 2025.

There has been no consultation with the relevant agencies to determine if this short timeline is feasible, not only to determine every sanctuary jurisdiction, but also what funds and programs are impacted.

This amendment makes this dangerous bill even more absurd.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, these jurisdictions are aiding and abetting criminals. They are ignoring and violating Federal law. They created this problem, so if they have to call a special session to fix the problem they created, that is on them. It shouldn't be the taxpayers of Tennessee who have to fund it.

I have got veterans in my community that aren't getting services because of illegal immigrants. There are only so many dollars to go around. Tennessee spends roughly $850 million a year annually for illegal immigrants. That is textbooks, that is computers for our kids, that is psychological evaluations and treatment for our veterans. If I have to choose between a citizen and an illegal who is violating our laws, I choose an American every single time.

Mr. Chairman, if Soros-funded sanctuary jurisdictions want to violate the law and turn their backs on America, on our citizens, and on law enforcement personnel, they should not be financially rewarded for doing so. There is no good argument my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can make that involves asking my constituents, hardworking Americans in middle Tennessee, to subsidize the lives of lawbreakers as well as the decisions of sanctuary jurisdictions who want to protect those lawbreakers.

It is time to defund and to deport. This is our country. We get to decide who comes in, and we get to decide who has to leave.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, again, this bill would take funds away not from illegal immigrants only; it would take funds away from everybody in many States and many cities. It would take virtually all funds for police; virtually all funds for highways, bridges, and roads; and virtually all funds for health and hospitals.

Most of the people who would suffer under this bill are American citizens.

The Republicans say: So what? They have made the choice to be a sanctuary space.

American citizens have this choice. They have the right to make decisions. That is what self-government is all about, and this bill comes along and says, let's take away the right of all of the people of New York, of California, of Utah, of North Dakota, and of Illinois to make decisions about their government. They are not really Americans. Let's take those rights away.

It is pernicious, and this amendment would say: Don't even give them the time to do it, and don't even give the Federal agencies the time to adjust their policies to do it.

This makes no sense.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, the crazy conjecture of the consequences is clearly confounding.

Let's be honest. We are talking about the food, the shelter, and the healthcare that is going directly to illegal immigrants, nothing to American citizens. Keep in mind, it is the jurisdictions who created this problem. It is the jurisdictions that are violating our laws and making a mockery of our system and turning their backs on law enforcement.

Mr. Chair, you have girls and women all across the country who have been sexually assaulted by illegals. These are crimes that would never have happened if they were back in their home country if they had never been allowed in this country, if they had not been given sanctuary, had they not been released.

So when the gentleman talks about consequences, why doesn't he ask those women and those children?

Why doesn't the gentleman ask those families?

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I am not going to get into a debate over the Biden administration's immigration policy. That is a separate debate that is happening.

The fact of the matter is that this bill would take virtually all Federal funds away from many States and many cities in this country.

A sanctuary jurisdiction is ineligible to receive any Federal funds that the sanctuary jurisdiction intends to use for the benefit, including the provision of food, shelter, healthcare services, legal services, and transportation of aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status.

Aliens present in the United States without lawful status use our roads and highways, so no road and highway money for all the people who are born who are here. Aliens who are here go to schools, so no funding for education. Aliens who are here go to hospitals when they are sick, so no funding for healthcare.

This makes no sense. This bill would take large amounts of money and virtually all Federal funds in fact away from many States in the Union.

Mr. OGLES says it would leave more money for Tennessee. I don't know whether that is true or not, but it would take virtually all Federal funds away from most States, and frankly as a Representative from New York which would lose all Federal funds, I wouldn't vote for a nickel for Tennessee in that case. That is because all Americans, whether in Tennessee or New York or Pennsylvania or Illinois, should be treated equally and not sacrificed on the altar of someone's opinion of immigration policy.

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

□ 1730

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part A of House Report 118–685.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add, at the end of the bill, the following:

SEC. 4. REPORT ON NONCOMPLIANCE.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate a report that includes a list of States, and political subdivisions of States, that have failed to comply with requests described in section 2(a)(2).

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1455, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, what this does is asks Homeland Security to produce a report. So-called sanctuary jurisdictions choose to undermine Federal law enforcement when it attempts to enforce our immigration laws. I am grateful we are considering the underlying bill to hold them accountable. I thank the chairman.

One policy that would make a city a sanctuary city is a prohibition or a restriction on government entities or officials from complying with lawful requests from the Department of Homeland Security under section 236 or 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

My modest amendment just asks that DHS provide an annual report to Congress detailing which jurisdictions have failed to honor such lawful requests. I believe having that information and having the report is important. Without it, it could be difficult to know which jurisdictions are complying with the law.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, even though I am not opposed to it.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, this amendment requires the Department of Homeland Security to provide an annual report to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees listing all the jurisdictions that failed to comply with a detainer request or inform the Department about the release of an individual. It is important for us to take a step back and remember what this bill is about. This bill is intending to strip Federal funding from jurisdictions that have ''sanctuary'' policies.

I think a report like this would be quite illuminating for Members across the aisle because it would show Republicans just how many of their own constituents are being harmed with their own legislation.

Communities in Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Georgia, North Carolina, just to name a few, would lose out on funding for central services, like public schools, infrastructure, and policing.

Yes, I think this report would help show exactly how damaging this legislation is, and, therefore, I do not oppose this amendment.

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I thank my colleague for supporting my amendment.

As we look at the jurisdictions across the country that may be ignoring current Federal law, whether by ordinance, whether by order of the mayor, by statute, or just an unwritten rule, this report would illuminate and bring to light those jurisdictions that, quite frankly, are putting America at risk.

A border crisis is a disaster for the country. It has turned every State into a border State. It spurred drug trafficking, human trafficking, and other crime. There was just a bodega that was shut down that was trafficking illegals today.

It has caused resource crises for cities and towns across the country who have found that they don't have the resources to deal with the influx, the mass influx, of people the Biden-Harris administration has released upon them.

Again, this information is critical as we move forward, as we look for solutions and put an end to this crisis that is plaguing our country.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, in closing, again, it is a simple report. It is valuable information. It is time that all cities, all communities enforce the Federal law. It is time to deport the illegals who are draining our system, taking money away from American citizens.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. MORAN). There being no further amendments, under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLOUD) having assumed the chair, Mr. MORAN, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5717) to provide that sanctuary jurisdictions that provide benefits to aliens who are present in the United States without lawful status under the immigration laws are ineligible for Federal funds intended to benefit such aliens, and, pursuant to House Resolution 1455, he reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. BOWMAN of New York moves to recommit the bill H.R. 5717 to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

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.

ENHANCED PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY ACT OF 2024

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9106) to direct the Director of the United States Secret Service to apply the same standards for determining the number of agents required to protect Presidents, Vice Presidents, and major Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9106

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 ''Enhanced Presidential Security Act of 2024''.

SEC. 2. UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR SECRET SERVICE PROTECTION OF PRESIDENTS, VICE PRESIDENTS, AND MAJOR PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

The Director of the United States Secret Service shall apply the same standards for determining the number of agents required to protect Presidents, Vice Presidents, and major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the United States Secret Service shall conduct a comprehensive review of the provision of protection by the Secret Service for Presidents, Vice Presidents, former Presidents, and major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate a report that includes the findings from such review, along with any recommendations for improving the provision of protection.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term ''major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates'' has the meaning given such term in section 3056 of title 18, United States Code, and includes any other Presidential or Vice Presidential candidate for whom the President has otherwise authorized the Secret Service to protect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MORAN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 9106.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER), my friend, who is the sponsor of this critical legislation.

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

In America, elections are determined at the ballot box, not by an assassin's bullet.

In recent months, we have seen two such attempts on the life of former President Donald Trump: first in Pennsylvania, and most recently in Florida.

That these incidents were allowed to occur is a stain on our country. We have endured through assassinations of political leaders, including Presidents. It is destructive to our country. It is destructive to our democracy, our constitutional Republic, and it undermines the confidence that Americans have in their government and in the electoral process.

But for a millimeter's difference, Donald Trump would be dead. But for a millimeter's difference, an assassin would have upended our election. Regardless of how every American feels, regardless of how every American intends to vote, it is the right of the American people to determine the outcome of this election.

The idea that our election could be decided by an assassin's bullet should shake the conscience of our Nation, and it requires swift action by the Federal Government. It requires Congress to ensure that the Secret Service provides the same level of protection as it does to the President of the United States to the leading candidates for President. In this case, they are former President Trump and Vice President HARRIS.

Either one of them is going to be President come January 20, 2025, and the American people should get to make that choice.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) for assisting in immediately moving to introduce this legislation in the aftermath of the first assassination attempt on Donald Trump.

It is shocking that it took a second assassination attempt for Donald Trump to get the same level of protective detail from the Secret Service as the President of the United States. It shouldn't have come to that, which is all the more reason why this bill is necessary. It will ensure that this never happens again and that the Secret Service conduct an immediate review to determine what resources are

needed, what personnel is needed, and report immediately back to Congress.

This will ensure that every candidate running for President gets the same level of protective detail as the current President and that the same level of protective detail afforded to the Vice President is afforded to the Vice-Presidential candidate.

□ 1745

We have a responsibility to ensure their safety and their well-being.

I also commend my colleagues, Congressman MIKE KELLY and JASON CROW, who are leading the House Task Force on the Attempted Assassination of Donald J. Trump. Their work to investigate this incident and the detailed shortcomings within the Secret Service will certainly help Congress implement further meaningful reforms in the future and ensure the funding and resources are available.

I think the most important thing for the American people to understand is that it is the responsibility of the government to ensure that our elections are free, fair, and decided by the American people at the ballot box, and that any attempt, either by a foreign government or by a fellow citizen, to undermine that by trying to assassinate a political candidate must be stopped at all costs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Speaker Johnson, Leader SCALISE, and Chairman JORDAN for swiftly moving to advance this legislation to the floor for a vote. I encourage every single one of my colleagues, regardless of their political views, regardless of whether they like or dislike one of the candidates, to recognize the fundamental fact that we have a responsibility to ensure their safety and well-being and let the American people decide who will be President, not an assassin and not an assassin's bullet.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 9106, the Enhanced Presidential Security Act of 2024, requires the Secret Service to apply the same standards for determining the number of agents required to protect Presidents, Vice Presidents, and major Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates.

It also directs the Secret Service to conduct a review of the provision of protection provided to these individuals and to report its findings and recommendations to Congress.

I support this legislation to ensure that the Secret Service has the tools, resources, and procedures necessary to keep our highest elected officials and candidates safe, which is critical to our democratic system of government.

In advancing this legislation, Republicans are hoping to distract from the common denominator in every successful assassination of a U.S. President, as well as the attempted assassination of President Reagan and the attempted assassination of former Presidents and Presidential candidates Theodore Roosevelt and Donald Trump. In every single one of these events, the weapon used was a gun.

The fact is that the work of the Secret Service is made infinitely more difficult by our lax gun laws.

This Congress, the Republican majority has repeatedly sought to further weaken our gun laws, endangering our children, our law enforcement officers, our communities, and even their own Presidential candidate.

Last year, after a mass shooter killed six people, including three children, at a school in Nashville, Republicans fought to make sure everyone could continue to acquire the accessory that shooter used in circumvention of the National Firearms Act.

Earlier this year, our Republican colleagues cheered as the Supreme Court, stacked with Republican nominees, struck down the regulation of bump stocks, allowing the accessory used in the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history to again be available to the public without even a background check.

When the Senate tried to bring up legislation to again regulate bump stocks, Senate Republicans blocked it. Similar legislation in the House has just one Republican cosponsor, and the Republican majority has refused to advance it.

Just today, Republicans used their control of the Judiciary Committee to advance a bill that would weaken the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, reinvigorate the black market for guns, and reopen the online and private sale loophole. That legislation would make it so that convicted felons, domestic abusers, and other dangerous persons who are prohibited from possessing a gun could easily get one without a background check. It would make it so that unlicensed sellers could, once again, profit from endangering our communities.

It doesn't stop there. Not only have they sought to unravel our gun laws through legislation and our courts, but our Republican colleagues have also sought to defund the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the primary agency tasked with enforcing our gun laws, including by helping State and local law enforcement solve violent crimes and keep guns out of the wrong hands.

The cumulative effect of these efforts is clear. We know from headline after headline that it is far too easy for violent individuals to get a gun and end a life or many lives in a matter of seconds. That is true whether the attacker targets schoolchildren, a domestic partner, a house of worship, or a Presidential candidate.

The challenges faced by the Secret Service would be vastly diminished if we passed any one of our many proposals to keep guns out of the wrong hands, but over and over, Republicans have prioritized access to deadly weapons over the safety of our communities.

I support this legislation because the Secret Service must be able to protect our highest elected officials and candidates, but this legislation will do nothing to make the rest of us any safer or change the fact that gun violence continues to take the lives of more than 100 Americans every single day.

As Republicans yet again rush headlong toward a government shutdown, unable to even manage the most basic aspects of governing, and as they continue to oppose every action to prevent gun violence, Democrats will continue to fight to make our communities safer for every American.

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

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, let me get this straight. Some crazy guy on the left tries to assassinate President Trump, and it is Republicans' fault? That is what we just heard.

Next thing they are going to say is, oh, some crazy guy on the left tries to assassinate President Trump, and it is President Trump's fault. Oh, wait a minute. They said that, too.

This is ridiculous. We have a bipartisan bill that Representative LAWLER went to Democrats to work with them on, something that everyone knows needs to happen, and what does the ranking member do? He says it is Republicans' fault. What do Democrats do? What does the left do? They say it is President Trump's fault. You cannot make this stuff up.

After all that President Trump has been through, they go to that. After they spied on his campaign, after Mueller, after impeachment, after they raided his home, after they tried the crazy 14th Amendment idea that the best way to beat him is not let him play the game, not let him go on the ballot—thank goodness the Supreme Court decided 9–0 that was bogus. That is what they do.

I wasn't even going to talk. I was going to let Mr. LAWLER, who has done the work on this, handle all this. His remarks were totally bipartisan, not partisan at all. I was just going to let this good piece of legislation that is going to go on suspension—everyone is going to vote for it—just let it happen, but no, they cannot help themselves. It is ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER), who is working in the proper fashion on a good piece of legislation that will protect, as he indicated in his opening remarks, both former President Trump and Vice President HARRIS. That is what we want in America.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, on the issue of gun violence in America, I think about New York and the disastrous cashless bail law, which was put into effect and supported by the ranking member and continues to be supported by the ranking member, in which more than 80 percent of perps who are carrying and using a gun are released back out onto the street.

I will quote New York City Mayor Eric Adams: ''When it comes to guns, this year, 2,386 people were arrested with a gun. Of those, approximately 1,921 are out on the street.''

Eric Adams went on to say:

''Arrested with a gun, out on the street.''

''Gun arrests in custody, 19.5 percent. Out of custody, over 80 percent.''

''How do you take a gun law seriously when the overwhelming numbers are back on the streets after carrying a gun?''

Eric Adams says very clearly that you can't take it seriously when you refuse to prosecute people who use guns in the commission of a crime.

So many of my colleagues in New York have been so clueless about this. They talk about gun violence, but they have no problem allowing a criminal using guns in the commission of a crime to be put back on the street to do it again and again. It is wrong.

If you want to crack down on gun violence in America, then prosecute criminals who use guns in the commission of a crime, but no, we don't want to do that.

New York raised the age so 16- and 17-year-olds are being treated in family court rather than criminal court, and the gangs are using them, letting them use guns in the commission of a crime because they know they are going to get a slap on the wrist.

Let's get serious about gun violence in America. Let's crack down on criminals who actually use guns in the commission of a crime.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, this Nation is awash in guns. It is the only Nation where we have, time after time after time, school shootings, where we aren't even surprised at mass shooting events in schools. We are the only Nation that has mass shooting events because of our lax gun laws, because we are awash in guns.

Mr. LAWLER says we should prosecute people who use guns in crimes. I agree. We certainly should. We certainly should do that, and if the people of New York aren't, they should. I can't comment on the New York laws. I haven't been in the legislature in 32 years. Mr. LAWLER has been there more recently.

The fact of the matter is, this country is awash in guns, and Mr. JORDAN says that a left-winger attempted to assassinate former President Trump. We don't know that. The person who attempted to assassinate him, we know, researched the whereabouts of former President Trump. He researched the whereabouts of President Biden. He seemed to want to kill somebody, and the evidence seems to point out that the reason he attacked Trump and not Biden was because Trump was holding a rally near where he was. However, the fact is he is dead, and we don't know. We certainly don't know his political opinions.

In any event, this country is awash in guns.

While this bill is a good bill, we should equally protect our Presidential candidates, whether they are the incumbent President or the would-be President and Vice-Presidential candidates. The fact is that Presidential candidates and all of us are less safe because this country is awash in guns, and it is the only country in the world—I shouldn't say that—there are countries where genocide is being committed, like Darfur in Sudan, but it is one of the only countries in the world awash in guns.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), the cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to partner with my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER), on a matter of urgent importance to our Nation.

The United States is entering an age of ever-escalating political violence, as evidenced by the violent assault on the United States Capitol on January 6 and as evidenced by not one but two attempted assassinations of a former President.

On July 13, the difference between an attempted assassination and a completed assassination was not the skill of the Secret Service. It was luck.

If the gunman had been slightly more precise in his shooting, or if the former President had moved ever so slightly to his right, the former President would have been killed. The fact that America stood inches and seconds away from a national crisis is itself a crisis.

The security of a major Presidential candidate, whether it be Democratic nominee Vice President HARRIS or Republican nominee former President Donald Trump, cannot be left to chance.

□ 1800

Hoping for the best and lucking out is not a policy prescription for protecting a President or a Presidential candidate.

Both the House and the Senate, both Democrats and Republicans, should be dedicated to a bipartisan, bicameral proposition that both major Presidential candidates of both parties are entitled to the highest level of Secret Service protection, not only for their sake, but for our Nation's.

One final point is that the Secret Service urgently needs not only more resources but also deeper structural reforms. Only 30 percent of the Secret Service budget is dedicated to protective operations. The remaining 70 percent is spent on legacy functions that trace back to the Secret Service's time in the Treasury Department.

The role the Secret Service plays in financial law enforcement does not reflect a rational allocation of resources and responsibilities. It is an accident of history and a relic of the past that should be reexamined by the United States Congress.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, once again, the Federal Government is just as it was this same time last year, on the brink of shutting down, threatening to cut off essential services for millions of Americans.

Instead of addressing the real needs of the American people, Republicans have spent this week spreading misinformation about immigrants, attempting to hide from their own record on reproductive care, and evading their responsibility to govern.

In bringing up this legislation, they seek to distract the American people from the fact that their own actions have repeatedly made every American, from Presidential candidates to schoolchildren, more at risk of gun violence.

When Democrats take back the House, we will work to make everyone in this Nation safer, but for today, I urge Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote on this commonsense, good legislation that is designed to protect our Presidential candidates, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9016, 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. JORDAN. 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.

HONORING BISHOP W.C. MARTIN AND HIS WIFE, FIRST LADY DONNA MARTIN

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

Mr. MORAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop W.C. Martin, pastor of Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Possum Trot, Texas, and his wife, First Lady Donna Martin.

Nearly three decades ago, Bishop Martin and his wife, Donna, who already had two biological children, adopted another four, starting a movement of 22 families within the Possum Trot community to adopt or foster children without a home.

Mrs. Martin was inspired to adopt after the death of her beloved mother, Murtha, who had raised 18 children. She stated: And the Holy Spirit said, think about those other children out there that do not have what you had with your mother. I was overcome with such warmness, I walked back into the house, picked up the Yellow Pages, and called an adoption agency.

That is how it began. It concluded with 77 children finding loving homes in a community that simply decided that they would do what they could and give all that they had for the benefit of the most vulnerable and needy among them.

This story has been retold in the recent film, ''Sound of Hope: The Story of Possum Trot,'' which is a story of inspiration for all of us to give more, to love more, and to do more for those around us.

I thank Reverend and First Lady Martin for living out their faith and for changing the destinies of so many young lives. They are remarkable.

RECOGNIZING KIM McMILLION

(Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. KIM McMillion, who serves as my deputy district director for my Beckley office in West Virginia. Kim recently celebrated her 25th year working for a Member of the House of Representatives.

Throughout her career, spanning three different Members, Kim has served the people of West Virginia with a grateful heart, always working to find solutions when issues arise between Federal agencies and our constituents.

She is well known throughout the district for her work in assisting with identifying Federal grant opportunities, acquiring medals and Purple Hearts for veterans in the community, and her expertise in handling complex issues of immigration and Social Security affecting our constituents. She is truly a wealth of knowledge and an invaluable member of my staff.

Outside of her work, Kim's greatest joy is her family. She is a wonderful wife to her husband, Frankie, mother to Tyler and her late son Derrick, and grandmother to Jonathan, Charlee, and Abigail.

I am delighted to commend her here on the House floor and even more delighted that Kim and her family could be here today to celebrate her 25 years of service to the United States Congress.

I invite my colleagues to join me and her family in congratulating her on this achievement.

AMENDING THE FEDERAL RESERVE ACT

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

Mr. OGLES. Madam Speaker, we have heard time and time again in the Financial Services Committee and in our hearings across the Hill that there is a dire need for transparency and accountability among the banking agencies.

Yet, blatant partisanship has dictated the appointments of leftist bank regulatory officials during the Harris-Biden administration.

One of my bills was included in H.R. 4790, which passed the House earlier today. My bill, the Supervision Reform Act, amends the Federal Reserve Act to remove the confusing designation established by the Dodd-Frank Act for one of the members of the Board of Governors to be designated as vice chair of supervision.

The vice chair of supervision should not be afforded special treatment and be allowed to abuse the position to rewrite the narrative for the failures of the banking system and to cook up unjustified climate rules and force them on banks.

Americans are watching Kamalanomics eat away at their hard-earned savings, and the Fed's ESG-related partisan regulations are part of the problem.

It is time to end the confusion, which has been the result of Dodd-Frank's misguided creation of the vice chair for supervision position.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard time and again—at Financial Services Committee hearings and across the Hill—that there is a dire need for transparency and accountability among the banking agencies.

Blatant partisanship has dictated the appointments of leftist bank regulatory officials during Harris-Biden Administration, to include the Federal Reserve's Vice Chairman for Supervision Michael Barr.

Mr. Barr in particular appears to be far more interested in advancing his own partisan plans than in confronting the serious financial and regulatory costs on the American people by the Harris-Biden administration.

One of my bills was included in H.R. 4790, which passed the House earlier today. My bill, the Supervision Reform Act amends the Federal Reserve Act to remove this confusing designation, established by the Dodd-Frank Act, for one of the members of the Board of Governors to be designated as the "Vice Chairman for Supervision".

The Vice Chair for Supervision should not be afforded special treatment to write his own narrative on bank failures on behalf of the Federal Reserve System as a whole, but the current Vice Chair for Supervision did just that.

The Vice Chair for Supervision should not be afforded special treatment to undertake his own experiments on climate change with private banks, or to cook up unjustified climate rules at the Fed, but the current Vice Chair for Supervision did just that.

The current Vice Chair for Supervision's assertion of special powers has led to disastrous results regarding policy positions of Federal Regulators.

Americans are watching "Kamala-nomics" eat away at their hard-earned savings, and the Fed's ESG-related partisan regulations are part of the problem.

Fed-Supervised banks are supervised by their regional Fed. Banks in regions where supervisors have stayed focused on practical supervision to ensure safety and soundness face the confusion of worrying about how to balance the sound supervisory guidance of their own supervisor with that of the unnecessary "Vice Chair for Supervision."

It's time to end that confusion, which has been the only result of Dodd-Frank's misguided creation of the Vice Chair for Supervision position.

I am happy that my colleagues recognized this and passed H.R. 4790 to provide more clarity and transparency for the Federal regulators to ensure that they do not overstep their authority by forcing ESG initiatives.

CONGRATULATING DAVID PINCKNEY

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I congratulate my dear friend, chef Dave Pinckney, on his retirement from the Cherokee Country Club.

David has worked in the food industry since he was 16 years old, washing dishes at The Orangery, which was a very nice restaurant. As a matter of fact, at the time it was a 4-star restaurant in Knoxville.

Eight years later, David became the restaurant's executive chef. I went there one time with a very nice family. The Burchetts usually didn't dine at places like that. They didn't take coupons.

I was amazed to find that the menu was written in French. I was a little embarrassed, didn't know what to do, and the waiter said: Sir, the chef would like to prepare you something special.

When it came out, it was two small grilled steaks with some ketchup in the middle. It saved me from embarrassment, and I was fed. That was my dear friend, Dave Pinckney. He is a fraternity brother of mine.

My heart goes out to Dave. He just lost his dad who was a dear UT professor and was idolized by people on the UT campus and all around the State of Tennessee.

In 2006, Dave took a new job, though, as Cherokee Country Club's new executive chef, again, a country club I am not a member of.

As Jackie Gleason said: I would not join a country club that would have someone like me.

Clearly, I am not in line to be in the membership roles there.

He is known for dedicating himself to making high-quality meals and making sure every customer enjoyed the food he brings to them.

He also taught cooking classes, he helped his friends open popular restaurants of their own, and he has appeared on several TV shows to showcase his cooking skills.

The Cherokee Country Club has been lucky to have him, and I wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING CORPORAL BRANDON SCHREIBER

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

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Corporal Brandon Schreiber, a native Hoosier and a Newton County Sheriff's deputy who was shot in the line of duty on September 1. He passed away on September 11 as a result of his injuries.

Corporal Schreiber served with the Newton County Sheriff's Department for 8 years, 5 of which were full time.

Like so many law enforcement officers, Corporal Schreiber always put the needs of his community above his own. His friends and family described him as a light of empathy, even in the toughest of situations.

Corporal Schreiber leaves behind his beloved wife and their two children. Our thoughts and prayers are with Corporal Schreiber's friends and family and the Newton County Sheriff's Department during this difficult time.

APOLOGIZE TO PRESIDENT TRUMP

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I will comment on the horrific events of a week ago. For the second time in 3 months, President Donald Trump was the subject of an assassination attempt. The question is why and what can we do to prevent it from happening again.

I have followed politics my whole life. I have never seen such language of hate coming from President Trump's opposition as I have heard from anybody else.

Again and again, President Joe Biden has said: There is one existential threat. It is Donald Trump.

President Biden has said: Trump and the MAGA Republicans, whatever that is, represent extremism that threatens the very foundations of our Republic.

They claim it is going to be the end of our democracy. I am not sure they know what democracy means. In any event, their clear intent is to tell the American people that Donald Trump will permanently change the type of Nation we have.

This is absurd, and they ought to be called out for it by the mainstream press. They ought to be forced to—not forced, but begged to until they eventually do apologize to President Trump and say there is no evidence this is going to be the end of democracy, whatever that means, so we can avoid a third assassination attempt.

I beg these people to please come to the floor here and apologize to President Trump.

□ 1815

BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION FAILURES AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr BIGGS. 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 subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure now to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), the co-chair of the Border Security Caucus.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my fellow co-chair, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) for sponsoring this Special Order hour with me.

Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce tonight's Special Order. We are going to be discussing KAMALA HARRIS' tenure and her appalling record as the Biden border czar.

In this role, HARRIS has worked not to secure the border of America but instead to deliberately dismantle our borders and put our Nation's safety and sovereignty at grave risk. Her intentional negligence has exacerbated the largest illegal alien invasion in history, one probably not seen since the ancient Romans were overrun by the Germanic hordes in the 3rd century leading to its downfall, an invasion that continues to ravage our communities and our pocketbooks while creating avenues of entry for dangerous individuals who are bent on inflicting harm to Americans and our American way of life.

Since 2021, more than 350 suspected terrorists have been encountered attempting to cross our southern border. We know at least 99 illegal alien individuals from the FBI's terrorist watch list have been released into the United States after being in the custody of Customs and Border Patrol. How does this happen?

Shockingly, many of these vile criminals are earning their golden ticket into our country through the Biden-Harris administration's corrupt and dangerous CBP One app; in reality, an illegal granting of parole, by the way.

Since day one, this administration has viciously striven to reverse all of Donald Trump's effective border policies, remove vetting protocols for asylum seekers, hand out public benefits to illegals, and actively hinder States from safeguarding their own borders and citizens. My own, the Lone Star State of Texas, is one of them.

Border czar KAMALA HARRIS has overseen it all and must be held accountable.

It doesn't take a national security expert, or even a policymaker, for that matter, to comprehend that by dissolving our borders, we expose ourselves to countless threats from all over the planet. Clearly, HARRIS does not care about the consequences of her own policies. In fact, she and the liberal media would rather deny that she ever held the title of border czar. She is using semantics to pull the wool over our eyes, but the American people see right through it.

Tonight, you will hear how border czar HARRIS has failed every State, city, community, and citizen of our country; how her reckless policies have led to the death or victimization of countless Americans at the hands of the illegal aliens that she has funneled into our Nation; and how communities and families have been devastated by the costs and deadly drugs being smuggled across the border.

Madam Speaker, make no mistake about it. This is a self-made border crisis that KAMALA HARRIS has gone out of her way to create, and now the safety of our Nation is in jeopardy. She knows this, just as her boss does, and yet the only action we have seen is her running away from the consequences of her own failures.

My colleagues and I refuse to let her get away with it.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments. I appreciate serving with him on the Border Security Caucus. He does a great job there, and I appreciate it so much.

In Colorado, the Tren de Aragua has been overrunning Colorado communities. Border officials have referred to Tren de Aragua as MS–13 on steroids. These criminals are the worst that the world has to offer, and the Biden-Harris regime has allowed them to make themselves at home in Colorado communities.

Larry Medina was arrested by Aurora police in connection with a felony menacing at Whispering Pines Condominiums. The victim reported to police Medina pointed a firearm and threatened to kill him.

Jhonardy Pacheco-Chirinos was arrested on a first-degree assault warrant out of Adams District Court. The warrant stemmed from an assault in November 2023 at an apartment complex.

Jhonnarty DeJesus Pacheco-Chirinos was arrested in connection with a nonfatal shooting the day before at Fitzsimons Place apartments.

Luis Miguel Calzadilla-Rojas was arrested in connection with a nonfatal shooting in front of a probation officer.

Yoendry Vilchez Medina-Jose was arrested on a warrant stemming from an assault at Whispering Pines Condos.

Juan Carlos Mejia-Espana was arrested following a domestic dispute, also at Whispering Pines Condominiums. He had a weapon.

Carlos Aranguren-Mayora had numerous encounters with Aurora police officers and law enforcement agencies throughout the metro area. He faces a total of 38 charges, five active court cases.

Roiberth Daniel Mora-Marquez was arrested in connection with an April 4 dispute and assault over unpaid rent money. He is also a suspect in a nonfatal shooting.

Jose Miguel Reyes-Perez was arrested for aggravated assault, menacing, and motor vehicle theft.

This is what is going on in Colorado. I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LOPEZ) to discuss this further.

Mr. LOPEZ. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to highlight the most disgraceful failure of the Biden-Harris administration with respect to our southern border.

The most important job of a President is to protect our borders from invasion of any criminal element that seeks to undermine the safety of American citizens, our communities, and our Nation. President Biden, in his misplaced wisdom, determined that the best person suited for that job was not himself but his Vice President KAMALA HARRIS. He announced that as the border czar, KAMALA HARRIS was competent and understood what needed to be done to protect our southern border.

Boy, was he wrong in making that decision. Perhaps Vice President HARRIS misread the memo that stated she was tasked with protecting our border, not surrendering it. Her incompetence has made every State in America a border State, leaving local governments to deal with violent criminal gangs, thugs, murderers, sex traffickers, and drug smugglers.

In recent weeks, I, along with the rest of the public, have watched the events in Aurora, Colorado, with horror. As Members of a violent Venezuelan prison gang commandeered multiple apartment complexes, gave the green light to kill cops, and wreaked havoc on small Colorado communities, this administration insists that our border is secure.

If this administration won't do anything about the vicious gangs running rampant in our country, I will. I have introduced a bill that would compel the Department of Homeland Security to quickly detain and deport all illegal immigrants with known gang affiliations. This is a commonsense public policy that will help keep our streets safe and free from the terrors being perpetrated by these animals. I would urge my colleagues to join me in this worthwhile fight. A failure to do so will inevitably result in more senseless pain and suffering for our people.

The presence of the gang we saw in Aurora is not limited to that town. This group has spread like a cancer throughout our country, with incidents in Texas, Wisconsin, Indiana, Chicago, Florida, Louisiana, and New York, among many others.

A recent CBP report showed that over 500,000 individuals have been flown in and paroled by this administration in a massive and largely unseen mass parole program.

KAMALA HARRIS doesn't care about this crisis, and she doesn't care about the Americans that she is hurting. She never spoke to the past two Border Patrol chiefs who served during the Biden-Harris administration. She has only visited the southern border one time during the past 4 years. That is not leadership. That is not someone trying to solve a problem. That is someone who is trying to hide from a problem that she created.

This crisis has created real heartbreak and human cost. Many men, women, and children have been targeted and victims of abuse or trafficking. Something not often talked about is the mental health impact this has on the DHS law enforcement officers. In 2022, 17 members of the CBP committed suicide. The point is that something must be done.

We have a moral responsibility to right this wrong. We can start that effort by deporting the gang members that have been allowed to breed in our country. We should pass my commonsense legislation that ensures that illegal aliens with known gang ties are no longer allowed to live here and cause havoc.

I will fight every single day I am here to make that happen. I would urge all Members to do the same.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative LOPEZ for his comments.

On August 4, 2024, Enforcement and Removal Operations Boston apprehended Guatemalan national Jorge Luis Castro-Alvarado, who was charged with raping a Massachusetts resident. Castro illegally entered the United States on an unknown date, at an unknown location without being inspected, admitted, or paroled by a U.S. immigration official. He was convicted of assault and battery on a family or household member. The court sentenced Castro to 18 months in prison and suspended all but 6 months of the prison sentence.

In early 2023, Juan Carlos Garcia Rodriguez became one of the up to 140,000 unaccompanied children with whom HHS has lost contact. Just months after HHS lost contact with Garcia Rodriguez, he ran away from his sponsor and assaulted and murdered 11-year-old Maria Gonzalez in Pasadena, Texas. Garcia Rodriguez was illegally smuggled to the U.S. border through Louisiana in 2023 by a guide paid for by his parents. Rodriguez was then processed as a UAC and later transferred to custody of the Department of Health. Despite this, Rodriguez was placed with an unrelated adult sponsor who was also an illegal alien.

I now yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNE), who knows about the ravages of illegal migration.

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I rise today to address the ongoing and deadly border disaster that every week continues to take the lives and livelihoods of American citizens all over our country.

Border czar KAMALA HARRIS has failed in her assigned role to protect our country and to secure our borders. I submit that HARRIS never intended to have secure borders, and her primary focus has been to get rid of every successful border control measure that we had in place during President Trump's administration. From the beginning, HARRIS' goal was to flood our Nation with a tsunami of illegal immigrants so they could overwhelm our States and cities with populations that HARRIS ultimately hopes to turn into U.S. citizens whom she believes will create permanent Democrat control of the White House and Congress.

Due to the deliberate actions of the Biden-Harris administration, millions of illegal immigrants have been trafficked either by deadly Mexican cartels or by the illegal immigrant airlines and other transportation assistance run by this administration. This has led to horrific crimes being committed throughout America as daughters, sisters, and mothers are brutally attacked, raped, and murdered.

At the same time, Biden and HARRIS have lost over 320,000 illegal immigrant children. They are likely enslaved in sex trafficking or forced labor. It is not an exaggeration to say that KAMALA HARRIS has brought about a massive new era of slavery that our country has never seen. She has inflicted a humanitarian disaster on our Nation. American citizens are losing their lives by the hundreds of thousands because of this disaster.

Every week, we learn about new atrocities that are committed by this administration against the American people. Just yesterday, a former Border Patrol sector chief testified how the Biden-Harris administration directed our Border Patrol to hide information from the American people about the explosion of illegal immigrants with possible ties to terrorism who are entering our country. This former border chief further testified that he was forced to release hundreds of illegal immigrants every day into communities that were not prepared to handle such an influx.

The actions of Biden and HARRIS have been lawless, dangerous, and are purposefully designed to destabilize our Nation. Truly, there has been no more destructive administration in my lifetime, and they should be condemned for these horrific acts against the American people.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Enforcement Removal Operations Boston apprehended an unlawfully present 28-year-old Salvadoran national charged with numerous sex crimes against a child on Nantucket island. Officers from ERO Boston arrested Bryan Daniel Aldana-Arevalo September 10 in Nantucket. Aldana had unlawfully entered the U.S. on an unknown date, at an unknown location without having been inspected, admitted, or paroled by a U.S. immigration official. Nantucket authorities arraigned Aldana on July 26 in Nantucket District Court for one count of rape of a child with a 10-year age difference and two counts of indecent assault and battery on a child under 14.

Deportation officers from Enforcement Removal Operations Atlanta arrested an Ecuadorian fugitive listed as one of the country's 100 most wanted criminals. Officers apprehended Cesar Condor Vaca during a targeted operation in Greenville, South Carolina, on January 30. The assistant attache in Ecuador notified ERO Atlanta that Condor Vaca was wanted by Ecuadorian authorities for femicide. An ERO assessment revealed Condor Vaca legally entered the U.S. on March 15, 2021, and failed to depart as required. ERO Atlanta officers served him with a notice to appear. A notice to appear. He will remain in U.S. ICE custody pending removal proceedings.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN), who knows the ravages of illegal migration in South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for leading this Special Order hour. The pictures, the posters of what Congressman BIGGS is showing demonstrate the horror that people are going through on an activity that this administration not only is condoning, they are encouraging it.

When you think about the last 3½ years, what this administration has subjected this country to, it is beyond comprehension. With the invasion at our border, he is basically changing the landscape of this country in a way that is going to take a long time to come back and recover from.

□ 1830

Yes, we are going to deport them when President Trump takes office, but look at the lost lives that Congressman BIGGS is showing, the members who are brazenly killing Americans.

Let me read some comments by czar HARRIS that point out what I am saying about this being so intentional. She has not disavowed any of the statements I am getting ready to read.

HARRIS has called the building of a border wall stupid and useless, labeling it as President Trump's medieval vanity project.

In both 2020 and 2024 campaigns, she has stated that detention centers would be shut down if she became President.

In the Senate, HARRIS supported cutting ICE bed numbers, stopping border wall construction, and opposed all of President Trump's effective border policies, including the remain in Mexico policy and the title 42 expulsions.

In 2019, border czar HARRIS stated in an ACLU survey that she supports providing transgender surgeries for detained illegal aliens.

It is bad enough what she is saying in all of these comments, but the scary part about it is she could actually become our President and put this country into a further declining position.

The policy changes which she advocates, along with ending the border wall—let me say, on the border wall, you ask any Democrat that has not said one word about the illegal immigration crisis, their position is walls don't work. If they don't work, then why, every time we have a dignitary or any foreign leaders from other countries, guess what goes up around the Capitol to protect us? A wall, a fence. It is insanity that they are denying this.

She is for restricting immigration officers from arresting, detaining, and deporting aliens; she is terminating asylum cooperative agreements with Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras; she, as I stated, was for ending the remain in Mexico policy; and she is for removing the adversarial nature of the asylum process, making it easier to grant frivolous asylum claims.

Folks, this is outlandish. Over 200,000 Americans have died from fentanyl. Over the past 24 months, law enforcement has seized an average of 2,020 pounds of fentanyl per month. That is enough to kill 458 million people.

My issue that needs to be highlighted all across this country is to at least have mercy on the children. There are 300,000 plus children that have not been accounted for and are either dead or in sex slave activity, and this administration, the blood is on their hands.

I thank the Congressman for leading this charge and the pictures that he is showing, because it puts a face on what this administration is doing to America.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate the gentleman from South Carolina.

Ellen Gutierrez Saez, Johan Salvo Alacon, and Manuel Eduardo Fuentes Gomez, three Chilean citizens living illegally in the United States, were arrested and believed to be part of a South American criminal gang operating in the United States whose members commit robberies, fraud, and traffic stolen property.

That group is believed to be responsible for at least 111 robbery incidents since February 2023.

Nathan Kharim Melendez is wanted in Mexico for the criminal charge of causing multiple injuries with a vehicle and abandoning the scene, fleeing the scene. He has been wanted by Mexican authorities since March of this year when he was named as the suspected driver of a car that ran over a 30-year-old woman, her 5-year-old daughter, and 2-year-old nephew. He was arrested in Phoenix, Arizona, in June of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE), one who knows the ravages of illegal migration in Arizona.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity tonight from Mr. BIGGS.

Here we stand, 3 years after KAMALA HARRIS was installed as the border czar helping to spearhead this administration's deadly open-border policies, a task she has carried out with exceptional success for 42 months.

The number of individuals apprehended illegally crossing our southwest border who are on the terror watch list increased roughly 3,000 percent from the previous administration. That is a 3,000 percent increase on the border czar's watch.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle refuse to call it what it is: an invasion.

I also point out that we just commemorated the 23rd anniversary of 9/11. I have said this time and time again, but it bears repeating. It only took 19 depraved individuals to carry out the horrific attacks on that day.

Since Biden installed KAMALA as the border czar, close to 400 members of the terror watch list have attempted to infiltrate our Nation. When you combine that number with the nearly 2 million known got-aways that have evaded apprehension and permeated our communities, the likelihood of potential terror attacks in the near future is chilling.

What has to happen for this administration and this Chamber to say: Enough. We will finally take who we are letting into this country seriously?

How many foreign threats do we have to let in?

How many Americans have to be slaughtered at the hands of criminal aliens?

How many sexual predators have to be granted access to our communities before this administration wakes up?

KAMALA's record as border czar is a guidebook for what not to do to secure our border and ensure the safety of American families.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. CRANE's recounting of what is going on across our border.

ERO Boston removed Felipe Augusto De Oliveira, a 23-year-old Brazilian fugitive, from the United States who was wanted by authorities in his home country for attempted homicide.

U.S. Border Patrol apprehended De Oliveira on March 28, 2023, after he unlawfully entered the United States near Lukeville, Arizona. He was subsequently released on his own recognizance by a Department of Justice immigration judge, and I am sure we are looking for him still.

Enforcement and Removal Operations in Miami, in partnership with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office, arrested Giovanni Radu, a 22-year-old citizen of Italy, who entered the United States as a nonimmigrant and violated the terms of his admission. He collected a total of $80,000 in the past year using a fake nonprofit.

He is facing State charges, including organized scheme to defraud, failure to register as a charitable organization, and a whole host of these things, as well as carrying a concealed weapon during a felony and battery on a law enforcement officer.

One who knows well, because she has some roots in Arizona as well as Florida, what is going on in the ravages of crime that is a result of this wide-open border is my friend, the gentlewoman from Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my outstanding colleague from the great State of Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) and also from the great State of Texas (Mr. BABIN) for hosting this Special Order this evening.

It is time to call a spade a spade. The wide-open border policy of the Biden-Harris regime is quite literally killing Americans across the country, and there is no denying this.

I myself have been to the border nine times, and I have ridden along with our agents through their shifts for hours seeing firsthand the horror, the trafficking, the crime, the gang members, and the abuse of women and children. I have seen the hundreds of thousands of wristbands littering the ground along the riverbanks. The wristbands that the cartels force people to wear to show which cartel they belong to, how much they have been paid, and, of course, what number they are.

It is such a big operation that the cartels have created the most efficient means possible to move people into the country illegally. What is worse, the American government, Biden and HARRIS, are helping the cartels do it.

How, you might ask? Well, it is by taking away critical resources from our Border Patrol agents, by not enforcing the current laws on the books, and by taking away policies that stop the flow of illegals, not by legislative action but through executive action, of course.

I suppose we shouldn't be surprised that Biden and his border czar, KAMALA HARRIS, don't care about the law. When it gets in their way, they subvert it.

It is clear they have zero regard for the American people, despite nearly 300 people a day dying of the trafficked fentanyl that comes across the border or the thousands who have fallen victim to violent crime by illegals. They just simply ignore us and pretend like it doesn't happen and it doesn't exist.

Now, while the Vice President, a/k/a border czar, pretends to care now all of a sudden about our southern border, I have a few questions for her.

Madam Vice President, do you know how many Americans have been harmed by criminal illegal aliens?

Do you know how many lives have been forever changed by the violence perpetrated against them by the people who broke our laws, who you invited here, you flew here, who have crossed our border and harmed our citizens?

As if every town in America wasn't already a border town, I ask this: What about the hundreds of thousands of unaccompanied minors trafficked into this country for whom the Federal Government knows nothing of their whereabouts?

The 325,000 kids that have been lost under her watch, what has she done about that?

Do their lives not matter?

These children have been forced into child labor situations, sex trafficking, and abuse. What has been done about that? It happened on her watch.

House Republicans have been correcting the record and shining a spotlight on the disastrous crisis at our southern border for 4 years now, sounding the alarm of the failures of this administration and particularly border czar HARRIS.

She is not fooling the American people by pretending to care all of a sudden. She is not fooling this Chamber. She is certainly not fooling the angel families who have lost loved ones due to the reckless policies that she and President Biden have put forth.

We need a real Commander in Chief, not a czar, not someone who is cackling, laughing, and making jokes. It is not a laughing matter. We certainly don't need a trafficker in chief. That is what we have now. We need a real Commander in Chief, and November is coming.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman and appreciate her comments and experience along the border.

In August of 2023, illegal alien Kindu Jeancy Zamambu was charged with felony first-degree sexual abuse and misdemeanor unlawful imprisonment for assaulting a woman at a hotel in Cheektowaga, New York.

Zamambu, a 23-year-old national of the Democratic Republic of Congo, entered California on February 13, 2023. He was arrested about 1 mile west of San Ysidro, which is the San Diego area. ICE enrolled Zamambu in Alternatives to Detention and released him into the U.S. Less than 6 months later, he was assaulting a woman in New York.

Next, is Daniel Hernandez Martinez from Venezuela. Within 6 months of his release in the United States, Venezuelan national Daniel Hernandez Martinez committed at least 22 criminal offenses in New York City.

He is charged with petit larceny on four separate occasions, criminal possession of stolen property on three occasions, multiple charges for menacing, assault, attempted assault, criminal mischief, possession of burglary tools, disorderly conduct, and more.

He was released into the United States without any legal justification.

In addition to his crimes, DHS records indicate he is a suspected member of the dangerous Tren de Aragua gang. Currently, there are no DHS records to indicate that ICE has removed him from the country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY), someone who knows the ravages of crime produced by illegal migration.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona for yielding the time and for hosting this Special Order hour to bring real attention to this crisis.

Just last month, a family of four was brutally murdered in the town of Irondequoit, New York, just outside of Rochester. Two little girls, babies, 2 and 4 years old, were slaughtered in cold blood by a man who should have never been on American soil in the first place. They were murdered beside their parents.

The murderer was an illegal immigrant wanted for murder in his own country, who somehow managed to sneak across our border, get a fake ID, and tear this family apart.

□ 1845

This is not an isolated case. Just last month, ICE agents from the Buffalo office arrested a Peruvian gang leader and a serial killer in Broome County near Binghamton. He was responsible for 23 murders in Peru. He was so callous of a killer that he had the victims' faces and names tattooed on his body, and here he was, hiding in plain sight in upstate New York.

How did we get here? Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, the failed border czar herself, and Democratic leaders removed the previous administration's border policies that actually worked, that were actually keeping America safer, and they allowed this border crisis to spiral out of control.

KAMALA HARRIS has had 39 months to get this border crisis under control. What has she done? Not a damn thing. Nothing. No action. No accountability.

What have we seen instead? Record-breaking illegal crossings at our southern border and also at our northern border, which is becoming a new hotbed of illegal crossings, rampant drug trafficking of deadly fentanyl into every community across the country, and violent criminals walking right into our neighborhoods.

It is not just Washington that is to blame. Democrats in my State capital of Albany and in New York City roll out the red carpet for illegal immigrants in New York State: driver's licenses for illegals, check; free housing, food, and debit cards for illegals, check. It is as if Governor Hochul and her Democratic allies put up a giant neon sign saying: Come on in. We are open.

Mr. Speaker, New York sanctuary State policies are endangering our citizens. This family in Irondequoit paid the ultimate price for the Democrats' reckless agenda.

Under President Trump's administration, we had control of our borders. We had policies that worked: building the wall, enforcing remain in Mexico, and ending catch and release.

Under Biden and HARRIS, all we have is chaos. The wall was halted. ICE and our Border Patrol have been limited. Criminals are running free in sanctuary cities like New York.

Let me also remind everyone that 185 Democrats voted against the Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act just yesterday. The bill is to ensure that anyone crossing our border with a history of violent assault, sexual assault, or domestic violence is turned away or deported immediately. Mr. Speaker, 158 Democrats voted against that bill.

I ask my colleagues: How many more lives need to be lost before this administration wakes up? How many more families must suffer? How many more families must be torn apart?

The American people are sick and tired of this crisis. They are sick of crime, open borders, and endless excuses. Enough is enough.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his stirring testimony.

Mr. Speaker, in November 2023, Jose Barrera Amaya was arrested for drunken conduct and fighting. DHS arrested Barrera Amaya, but the agency released him on the very same day. Just months after his first arrest in March 2024, Barrera Amaya was arrested for stabbing his neighbor and his neighbor's brother at a laundromat.

DHS first encountered Barrera Amaya in December 2021 along the U.S.-Mexico border. After being expelled pursuant to title 32, press reports indicated that Barrera Amaya had reentered the country as a got-away through Eagle Pass, Texas.

Jose Ibarra from Venezuela: Border Patrol apprehended Jose Ibarra in September 2022, and the Biden-Harris administration released Ibarra into the U.S. just 1 day later because it determined that Ibarra's release was warranted due to urgent and humanitarian reasons or a significant public benefit.

On February 22, 2024, Jose Ibarra murdered 22-year-old nursing student Laken Riley in Athens, Georgia. Riley's body was found on the University of Georgia campus after she had gone for a run.

A day later, authorities arrested the 26-year-old Venezuelan national in connection with Riley's murder and charged him with malice murder, felony murder, aggravated battery, aggravated assault, false imprisonment, kidnapping, hindering a 911 call, and concealing the death of another.

Laken Riley would be alive today if Biden and HARRIS were enforcing the law instead of releasing hardened criminals like Jose Ibarra.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), who knows what the ravages of illegal migration have done to Georgia.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative BIGGS, for hosting tonight's Special Order hour, along with my good friend BRIAN BABIN, as well, talking about the devastating impact the crisis at our southern border is causing our country.

Every State is a border State. Obviously, we have lost a loved one in Georgia.

I got a text, interestingly enough, today from a small rural town in my district that basically they said it is a Third World country here. This is in rural America. She said that she doesn't mean to complain, but they can't even go to the grocery store.

I am sure it has been said here many times tonight: Over the past 4 years, the Biden-HARRIS administration has had an open-border policy. When those candidates, when they were running for President, raised their hands and said that we would give away free healthcare—every single one of them raised their hand. We should have known then what was going to happen.

I don't understand why the American people weren't alerted by that because I have been on mission trips to these countries. I have tried to help these people in their home country with medical, buildings, and other things. They have no healthcare.

Since the Biden-HARRIS administration took office, and with KAMALA HARRIS as border czar, there have been over 10 million illegal immigrant encounters and roughly 2 million known got-aways. Got-aways are here for a different reason. It is not good.

I can't tell you, for the Committee on Energy and Commerce, how many hearings we have had dealing with fentanyl, like a mom losing a child to fentanyl. It is the leading cause of death of men between ages 14 and 40 in our country. How can we continue to allow this?

Worsening the already dire situation, this administration has failed to remove 99.7 percent of illegal immigrants released into the United States, making every community and every State a border State.

I have been to the border multiple times, and what I have witnessed is this: It is the most inhumane process I have ever witnessed. It is disgusting that children are pinned up like animals. I asked the Border Patrol where these people get the money to pay the cartels, and I understand the cartels, Mr. Speaker, are making $32 million a week down there. I asked how they would pay for this. They said that they don't have the money. I asked what guarantees payment when they get here.

This is what we are allowing. This administration is allowing this. It is the most horrible thing I have ever heard. They are indentured servants in the beacon of freedom, indentured slaves to the cartels. Guess what? If those cartels don't get paid, they start killing off their family members. How disgusting.

How can this administration be allowed to continue this barbaric policy? They could put an end to it. I don't know why the Vice President on the campaign trail hasn't said she is going to stop this tomorrow. They can do it.

I saw and witnessed them coming across in a boat, and I said: Why don't you all stop the boat?

They said: You see those children? If we stop that boat, they will start throwing their children in the river.

How can we allow this, America? Like I said, it is barbaric. These are war criminals.

We lost a National Guard soldier trying to save someone from drowning. He drowned trying to save them in that river.

Folks, I could be here a long time, but enough is enough. The House has taken action by passing the most comprehensive border security bill in the history of the United States Congress, H.R. 2. The Senate has not taken up that bill.

We must secure this border. Call your Senators. Demand that they stop these horrible crimes we are seeing committed at this border.

Let me tell you something else that nobody's talking about. We have the most generous legal immigration system in the world. Why don't we talk about improving that system bipartisanly? We should be recruiting the best and the brightest into this country, the most skilled. One million people per year are legally allowed to apply for citizenship in this country and go through the process. We also have a million student visas.

We need to fix this problem and stop this inhumane and really just barbaric activity that this administration is carrying on with right now. It is disastrous.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for all of his good work on the issue.

Mr. Speaker, Jesus Enrique Ramirez Cabrera was arrested September 7 after abducting a high school girl in Manassas, Virginia. Cabrera allegedly approached the girl on her morning walk to school, falsely identified himself as a police officer, and then forced the girl into his car, abducting her. Thankfully, the girl was able to escape with minor injuries out of the moving car.

He was found and charged with abduction, robbery, impersonating a police officer, and petit larceny.

U.S. Border Patrol had arrested Ramirez Cabrera on December 9, 2023, after he unlawfully entered the United States near San Luis, Arizona. U.S. CBP issued Ramirez a notice to appear before a Department of Justice immigration judge and then released him from custody.

Here is another case that impacts Virginia. Jose Fabricio Veizaga-Vargas, who is a Bolivian, was arrested by U.S. Border Patrol on April 24, 2023. Now, remember this: On April 24, 2023, after he unlawfully entered the U.S. near El Paso, Texas, Veizaga was served with a notice to appear before a DOJ immigration judge, who released him on his own recognizance on April 25, 2023.

Following his arrest by Fairfax County Police on May 3, ERO Washington lodged an immigration detainer against Veizaga.

The Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court convicted Veizaga of misdemeanor sexual assault of a child aged 13 to 14 and sentenced him to 6 months in jail, but the court then suspended all 6 months of the sentence. The Fairfax County Adult Detention Center refused to honor the immigration detainer and then released him from custody without even notifying ERO Washington, D.C.

Veizaga was again arrested on August 8—this is all in 2023—by Fairfax

County Police and charged with misdemeanor DWI. The detention center refused to honor ERO Washington's immigration detainer again and released him without notifying ERO Washington, D.C.

Fairfax County Police arrested Veizaga a week later and charged him with seven counts of felony possession of child pornography, felony possession of obscene material with a minor. The detention center refused again to honor the immigration detainer and again released Veizaga onto the streets without notifying ERO Washington, D.C.

Ultimately, on August 19—remember, this is all in 2023—in Annandale, Virginia, 36-year-old Bolivian Jose Fabricio Veizaga-Vargas was apprehended by ERO, Enforcement Removal Operations, and convicted of sexually assaulting a Virginia child. He is also now charged with DWI and possession of child sexual abuse material.

The point of it is that we see how much havoc this one individual wreaked upon Virginia. That is what we have because of the Biden-Harris open-border policies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD), my friend who has seen the ravages of illegal migration.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) has led four border trips that I have been on during my time in Congress. I have been there six times, but four times under the leadership of Mr. BIGGS. I appreciate his leadership on the Border Security Caucus and his leading this Special Order hour tonight on this all-important policy and depicting the harm being done in our country, the existential threat to our country, which is the border invasion.

I find it interesting that Democrats don't care about the border invasion. They just don't like us to call it a border invasion. Democrats don't care about the illegal aliens flooding into our country. They just don't like us to call them illegal aliens because whether it is their policies on energy and climate, national security, national defense, law enforcement—or pro-criminal, I should say—their policies on transgenderism, abortion extremism, or this policy of tonight, the immigration border invasion, Democrats cannot be honest with the American people about what they really believe and what they really want to do to our country or they would never win another election.

□ 1900

If the American people fully understood the harm the Democratic Party is doing with this border invasion and that they are doing it on purpose, that it is the plan that they are executing, then they would never win another election. That is why border czar HARRIS, who has massively failed at her one job, the one job we know that she was given as Vice President, the border czar job, she is now trying to distance herself from this responsibility and the catastrophic impact upon the country.

The fundamental difference between Democrats or VP HARRIS and Republicans on the border and immigration is Republicans believe that America should decide who is able to come to our country and under what conditions.

Democrats believe that everyone around the world, that 96 percent of the world's population that does not live in the United States, is entitled to come to America legally or illegally in spite of whatever their background and their intentions might be.

For them, the noncitizens, the illegals, get to decide and set the policy. That is why they will never answer the question of how many is too many, or what is the end game?

Is it because they believe that these illegals flooding our borders are truly just unregistered Democrats who will vote for them legally or illegally in the next election?

That is why they oppose the SAVE Act. They didn't even want any efforts, any attempt to try to prohibit or prevent noncitizens from voting in our elections.

Are their policies because they want to transform America by flooding our country with non-Americans who don't speak our language; who don't know or respect our laws; who haven't earned their citizenship or demonstrated they can contribute to our society and make us better and stronger; who aren't familiar with, much less devoted to, our Constitution; and who haven't embraced our values or our culture, so that if you flood enough of them in here illegally or otherwise we will no longer at some point be America?

How do they not care about their own DHS's numbers of some 12 million illegals who have come over the past 4 years with some 3 million known gotaways, the truly dangerous ones who avoid apprehension, who avoid surrendering for the free social services, housing, education, healthcare, and so forth that is provided by the Biden-HARRIS administration?

The stress on our public safety has been so effectively shared tonight by Congressman BIGGS and the others who have spoken before me.

Do the Democrats and border czar HARRIS not believe the border invasion is happening?

Do they not believe it is a bad thing?

Again, if the American people knew and understood the Democrat position on the border and the illegal invasion, then they would never win another election if they realized they are doing this to us on purpose.

Only time will tell how dangerous the illegals are whom the border czar HARRIS has helped invade our country.

Only time will tell the harm that awaits the citizens of the United States from those who evaded apprehension, those who have the criminal backgrounds and the terrorist ties who are trafficking drugs and women and children into our country.

This is KAMALA HARRIS' America, and the American people are paying the price as has been described so effectively here tonight. The American people have had enough.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman BIGGS for leading this Special Order tonight.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GOOD for his remarks. It is a pleasure to hear from him and have him participate.

After everything we have heard tonight, it is no wonder that KAMALA HARRIS has been working hard to distance herself from her role as the border czar. Under her watch, more than 10 million illegal aliens have crossed our border, 350 terrorists have been stopped at the border, of which 100 of those were released into the country. That is just who we know about.

Since 2021, more than 200,000 Americans have died from fentanyl overdoses, and enough fentanyl has come into the country to kill 458 million people, more than enough to kill every American alive.

More than 300,000 children have been misplaced under the border czar's watch. In fact, she can't even tell you, Mr. Speaker, exactly how many are missing. She has no idea where they are. All we know is that sometimes you had an individual sponsor receive as many as 40, 50, or 60 unaccompanied young children whom we don't know now where they are, and we don't vet the sponsors anyway.

Now, KAMALA HARRIS wants us to believe that she would be tough on the border and that she would solve the crisis.

Why would anyone believe her?

What would she do differently than when she was second in command of the executive branch and designated the border czar?

The reality is she wouldn't do anything differently.

We know this not only from her record as the border czar but also from the policies she has supported throughout her career.

Let's just recount some of those. For instance, she called the border wall stupid, useless, and a medieval vanity project. That is not unlike one of Arizona's Congressmen, Mr. GALLEGO, who said that it was stupid and useless.

Here we have KAMALA HARRIS saying that the detention centers need to be shut down, promising to do so if she was President.

She has supported measures to reduce detention bed numbers and cut funding for border wall construction.

She opposed all of President Trump's effective border policies, including remain in Mexico and title 42.

She has even said she supports using taxpayer dollars to pay for sex change surgeries for detained illegal aliens.

Does that sound like someone who wants to fix the border?

Does that sound like a border State prosecutor which she now aggrandizes herself as as she goes around the country campaigning?

There should be no doubt that if KAMALA HARRIS is in the White House next year we will only get more of the same and maybe even worse.

Mr. Speaker, if you thought 10 million illegal aliens in 4 years was bad, you just wait. The American people should not be fooled.

Now, talking about not being fooled, here is what you have from former San Diego Sector Chief Agent Aaron Heitke who told members of the House Homeland Security Committee on Wednesday that the White House repeatedly tried to fake America out, to ''quiet the border-wide crisis.''

What was she doing? What was the Biden-HARRIS administration doing?

She was shielding information from the press and concealing crossings by dangerous migrants with terrorist ties.

This is what he said: ''I had to release illegal aliens by the hundreds each day into communities who could not support them.

''To quiet the problem, two flights a week were provided from San Diego to Texas. These flights simply brought aliens that would have been released in San Diego over to Texas.''

Each flight cost about $150,000.

That is what KAMALA HARRIS the border czar did.

What else did the administration do?

What else did she do to hide what is happening at the border?

For one thing, they don't count CBP One entrance or the Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba, Nicaragua program as encounters. So when you count and you see the number, Mr. Speaker, you are not going to see that.

So what does that mean?

It means the last 15 months CBP One people have come in and been released into the country under that fraudulent, illegal program, by the way. There are 815,000 just in that program that they don't count. Venezuela, Haiti, Cuba, and Nicaragua, 530,000 in the same period of time, 530,000.

Mr. Speaker, do you wonder why you have Tren de Aragua all over the country?

By the way, about 6 weeks ago, CBP actually issued from their headquarters to the field offices a notification saying: Hey, watch out, Tren de Aragua is now embedded and infiltrating the country, but it is moving to the Northeast part of the United States of America.

In the same memo, they said: Also, be aware that Iran and Iranian proxies are flooding our border with terrorists.

That is not BIGGS talking. That is KAMALA HARRIS' own administration admitting their failure.

How about this: Jerome Powell, the head of the Federal Reserve, just yesterday said: Do you know what is causing rising unemployment?

It is unfettered illegal immigration.

That is from KAMALA HARRIS' administration. They appointed Jerome Powell to be the head of the Federal Reserve. That is what you see from this border, Mr. Speaker.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? I have literally listened to some of my colleagues in our committee say: There is no crisis on the border. There is no problem on the border. El Paso, for instance, is a loving community. We don't have a problem.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker?

We have a problem not just on the border anymore. Arizona is a transit for illegal migration. Phoenix is a hub for human sex and drug trafficking. We have got multiple interstates going through there, and the illegal migration comes up and goes from Phoenix and is distributed throughout the country.

That is why Arizona, Texas, California, and New Mexico now are not the only States suffering under the rampage of an invasion of illegal migrants. It is every State and every community.

So, Mr. Speaker, when you talk about who controls the borders, it is the cartels. The cartels control the border. There are multiple plaza fights going on right now between various factions, some within the Sinaloa cartel in and of itself, going after each other trying to pick up pieces so they can control the plaza. That is what is going on.

Why is it going on?

It is because this administration refuses to enforce the law. It is going on because when President Biden was elected, within 72 hours he had issued more than 100 executive orders, many of which were to basically emasculate the border security and policy of the previous administration under Donald Trump which was so successful.

I will give you now just one quick example, Mr. Speaker.

The Yuma sector, the last year Donald Trump was President, had fewer than 8,600 encounters. There have been weekends under this administration that they have had 8,600 encounters. The Tucson sector 60,000 per year on average under the previous administration.

Under this administration, there have been months, nearing 60,000. That is what you have to understand, Mr. Speaker. It isn't just numbers. These numbers represent people who come in here, some with benign intentions and others with malevolent intentions.

Mr. Speaker, this has got to stop, and it must end now, but this administration refuses to do it. H.R. 2 sits languishing over there in the Senate. It has been there for 1½ years. That is a bill that would bring this to a halt quickly.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities towards the President and Vice President.

STOP PROJECT 2025

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material into the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I founded the Congressional Task Force to Stop Project 2025.

Some people might be curious as to why I did that.

I have served in Congress for almost 12 years, and throughout that period, I have seen a lot of wild and extreme antics from across the aisle.

I have seen some of my colleagues try to chip away at our civil rights and roll back decades of progress.

I have seen the chaos and the division that Donald Trump has infused into our politics, including violent rhetoric and extreme policies that are completely beyond the pale of anything that has ever tried to pass for conservatism.

However, in this entire time, I have never seen anything that compares to the threat to our democracy, to our individual rights, and to the well-being of most Americans, the threat that is posed by Trump's Project 2025.

□ 1915

I encourage people to look it up and to read it because anyone who familiarizes themself with Trump's Project 2025 can see for themselves what an unprecedented takeover plan this is, to gut critical checks and balances that hold our democracy together, to roll back fundamental rights, to erode church-state separation, impose draconian policies that are deeply unpopular with most Americans, all so that MAGA politicians can take unprecedented governmental control over the lives of every person who calls America home.

Most Americans want nothing to do with this dystopic authoritarian scheme, but our House Republican colleagues are so excited about it that the majority is not even waiting for a potential second Trump Presidency. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle are moving ahead right now to implement many parts of his Project 2025.

Everywhere we turn in this Congress, extreme MAGA Republicans are working straight out of the Project 2025 playbook. We are seeing it in committees, in press conferences, and every single day right here on the House floor.

Climate action, protections for the middle class, social safety nets, and abortion rights, these have all been on the chopping block in this Republican majority. It is like the majority lifted their legislative agenda right out of the pages of Project 2025.

Mr. Speaker, we believe sunlight is the best disinfectant, and that is one of the most important parts of our task force's work. Our Stop Project 2025 Task Force and many other Members of the House Democratic Caucus, as well, have been focused on doing something very simple but very important: showing people what Project 2025 actually says, bringing it out of the shadows, making sure every American knows the truth about what Trump and his allies here in Congress are planning and, in many cases, already trying to do.

It is important to think about how a potential second Trump Presidency would be very different. He now has absolute immunity, thanks to his extreme radical Supreme Court. We know that he will not have adults in the room next time around. His administration would not have any institutionalists pushing back against his dangerous agenda or his authoritarian impulses.

Unlike the chaos and lack of planning that marked his first Presidency, he now has Project 2025, a detailed, strategic blueprint for not only advancing extreme policies, but for clearing away all checks and balances and guardrails that might stand in his way.

Mr. Speaker, as disturbing as all of this is, it is important to remember we have only seen the tip of the Project 2025 iceberg because, on top of the 922 pages that they have actually published, which everyone can look up on the internet, they also have an extensive personnel program, including a resume database chock full of MAGA loyalists, a training academy to indoctrinate their self-described army of political operatives.

These are the people that they hope to repopulate the Federal workforce with after they have purged tens of thousands of civil servants. These things are happening right now.

Perhaps the most concerning part is the secret fourth pillar of Project 2025 that acknowledged its existence. Members of The Heritage Foundation have described it as being too controversial to actually share it with the public, so they haven't published it. It is the unreleased playbook outlining the steps that Trump would take in his first 180 days in office.

Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY and I have reached out to Heritage in recent weeks demanding that they come before Congress to discuss this secret part of their plan and release it so that the American people can actually read it. To no one's surprise, the architects of Project 2025 have ignored our request. We think the public deserves to know what executive orders, emergency declarations, and other Presidential directives have been secretly prepared for Trump to make good on with respect to his vow to be a dictator on day one.

Today, our Stop Project 2025 Task Force has launched a tip line to gather any and all information we can about the hidden fourth pillar of Project 2025. Given the extremism we have already seen in the published parts of this plan and the evasiveness of Heritage and its coalition, we think it is important to turn to the public to get more information on this.

Anyone who may have seen or authored or come across any part of the secret fourth pillar of Project 2025 is encouraged to share what information that they may have access to through our dedicated tip line.

We are going to keep doing everything that we can to uncover their full agenda and to stop this government takeover scheme on behalf of the majority of Americans who want nothing to do with this dystopic plan.

I yield to my colleague, the assistant Democratic leader, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE).

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, let me just say a word of gratitude to my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN), for founding and chairing the Stop Project 2025 Task Force. His determined leadership on this particular issue has been incredibly important, and I and so many of my colleagues on the House Democratic Caucus are grateful for it.

Right now, Mr. Speaker, Americans across the country are looking to leaders in Washington to solve problems, to address issues of critical importance facing our families and our communities across this great Nation. They are looking to us to lower costs, to grow the middle class, to build safer communities, and to put people over politics.

Unfortunately, Project 2025 calls for the very opposite. As H. Res. 1386 makes perfectly clear, extreme MAGA Republicans have authored a radical playbook that would harm middle-class families by raising taxes, allowing employers to stop paying overtime, repealing the Affordable Care Act, ending Medicare as we know it, opening the door for disastrous cuts to Social Security, and raising the retirement age, making workers work longer for less.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague from California said it so well. The American people do not want this plan. They don't support it. That much is clear.

I would encourage my House Republican colleagues to abandon the reckless plans articulated in Project 2025, which the majority has attempted to legislate on the floor over the course of these last several months, often throwing the House into chaos during the course of the 118th Congress.

I would encourage them to, instead, work with us collaboratively on policies that put people over politics, on policies that create an opportunity economy, on policies that ultimately ensure that our brighter days are ahead.

The stakes are simply too high, and, of course, Mr. Speaker, a great way to do precisely that would be to work with us on a bipartisan path forward to keep the government funded, to keep the government open, so that we can get back to the business that the American people expect us to consider on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) again for his leadership on this task force.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE) and agree with him. Many of our Republican colleagues have been trying to disown Project 2025. Certainly their nominee, Donald Trump, has been trying to do that in ways that are quite implausible, but it seems to me that anyone who wants to show that they do not support this radical authoritarian scheme, Project 2025, we are giving them a chance to do that with this resolution. We invite them to join us.

At this point, I yield to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) for yielding and for convening us here. I also thank the gentleman for not being swayed by the rhetoric that is happening outside, that is pulling people's attention away from this dire threat to our democracy that is Project 2025.

This is, in fact, a blueprint, as the gentleman has said and so many others have said, to the culmination of years of planning by Washington, D.C.'s, shadiest conservative groups, shadiest individuals, to upend the structures, institutions, and, indeed, the basic rights that actually make America great.

Project 2025 is a playbook for Donald Trump's second term and a plan for the destruction of America as we know it. Despite flashy headlines printed over American flags and men who give loud speeches about their love of freedom, this plan is, in fact, a destruction of our freedoms.

This is a plan, in many ways, related to the great replacement theory, a means to say that America should be a homogenous society, not recognizing that what makes this country so great is, in fact, not just our diversity, but our willingness to have the tug and pull of different ideas.

I can remember when this House was a place where people compromised, where people negotiated, where we did not think that one was right or the other, that we tried to work together. Those days are long gone, and those of us who want to stick our heads underground and pretend that Project 2025 is not a reality, shame on you.

Many of my colleagues who want to pretend that they don't know what this is, that they haven't read it, just because you haven't read it doesn't mean it is not real.

This is a manifesto to ensure that Donald Trump has the ability to do what he wants to be, which is to be a king, to take away the rights that so many of us have, to restrict free speech

in schools, to only allow far-right-approved agendas and curricula, to make sure that schools are a place where children are indoctrinated to one idea, not to many ideas and let parents go back and have discussions with their children about those various ideas and instill in them what they believe is right.

I am a parent of five children. I do not have the fear that my children can hear other ideas because I know what I am putting in them and that that is what they are going to do.

These parents who are afraid of their children hearing about slavery, but also not recognizing that we have moved beyond that and are still moving forward and correcting ourselves are doing a disservice to their children. It will cut title I funding that supports low-income schools and results in budget cuts at over 60 percent of public schools across our country.

Project 2025 and its tenets will eliminate Head Start, a program that currently supports 800,000 children across our country, increasing the number of Americans living in childcare deserts. It will erode our freedoms under the vague guise of making America great.

Yes, because it is a Republican plan, Project 2025 calls for severe cuts to Medicare and Social Security. We can't have a Republican plan without a cut to Social Security and Medicare. Then they hide their hand and pretend that that was not a cut that they wanted.

Project 2025 even calls for the elimination of the National Weather Service, making Americans effectively blind when preparing for potentially disastrous hurricanes and tornadoes. I know the people in my district in the Virgin Islands, and I know even those who were dealing with wildfires in the district of the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) need to have this weather service to be able to predict these things.

Republicans know that these ideas are not popular with real people of America. That is why my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are hiding from the facts, obfuscating the truth, distracting the public's attention with wild claims right now to vilify minorities.

That is why the former President and Senators, his running mate, are distracting the media with bigoted, racist tropes about legal immigrants in this country, so that we are not talking about this, Project 2025.

It is a playbook, and it is authored by individuals who worked very closely with Donald Trump in his last administration and want to execute this within 100 days to ensure that he has the full authority.

I am an alumni of the Department of Justice as a political appointee. The idea that the Department of Justice would have to answer to the President is obscene, and we know that the Supreme Court has set the stage for him to be able to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much for allowing us to illuminate and share just some of the things that are in this playbook for the first 100 days of a Trump administration.

The more we let the cronies and individuals who have run this across without giving light to it and letting Americans know, the more we are likely to lose our democracy.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for her support.

As I prepare to yield to the gentlewoman from Vermont (Ms. BALINT), I will just observe that my colleague's comments caused me to think about the fact that we are gathered here on what our Republican friends have dubbed Anti-Woke Week. Nothing is more Project 2025 than demagoguing and using wokeness as a pretext to try to roll back individual freedoms and civil rights and take away decades of progress.

□ 1930

Our Republican colleagues can't seem to figure out how to fund the government and do the basics of governing, but they sure are good at finding time to demagogue on wokeness.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Vermont (Ms. BALINT).

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HUFFMAN for convening us to discuss this very important topic.

Mr. Speaker, when I was in leadership in the Vermont State Senate, I saw the writing on the wall. I knew that Republicans were absolutely determined to overturn Roe v. Wade.

We knew it was time to act to codify reproductive rights, not just in statute but in our State's constitution. At that time, some colleagues said I was overreacting. They said I was being paranoid, that I was being hysterical. They said the Supreme Court would never overturn Roe v. Wade because it was settled law.

I could say it was not at all satisfying to be right, but, in fact, overturning Roe v. Wade was just the beginning. The GOP is preparing for a possible second Trump term with a plan to end all access to abortion and contraception, all spelled out in the playbook, Project 2025.

Trump's Project 2025 lays out plans to purposely misinterpret an outdated law known as the Comstock Act and use it to ban mailing drugs used in medication abortions and any equipment or any materials used in surgical abortions. They even want to make it illegal to mail any information, period, about abortion.

That is why House Democrats are taking action with a bill that I introduced this year with some very strong cosponsors.

The Stop Comstock Act would take outdated and unconstitutional aspects of the Comstock laws off of the books and protect a woman's access to abortion no matter what town she lives in across this Nation.

We have to use every tool at our disposal to protect access to abortion and all birth control options.

This 150-year-old law was the result of one man's moralistic crusade against everything that he determined to be obscene, including information on abortion and contraception. Republicans know that voters don't support a nationwide abortion ban, so they will misuse this law and bypass Congress to get their way.

Make no mistake, Project 2025 is not about building a future that Americans want or that they have asked for or that they need. It is about taking us back to the 1870s.

Congressional Republicans and their allies in statehouses across the Nation are out of step with Americans. Americans want the freedom to make decisions about their own bodies, and they want these freedoms guaranteed.

No matter how much the former President and House Republicans pretend that their views are moderate, their actions tell us something very different. They have shown us through legislative action that they will continue to enact extreme policies that the vast majority of the American people do not want and that put women's lives at risk.

Overturning Roe v. Wade was the next step in their plan to ban abortion in this country, and they don't appear to care how this hurts women or families.

Donald Trump has repeatedly bragged about being the guy who ended Roe v. Wade, a decision that has cost lives and left women desperate for urgent medical care.

One of the masterminds behind Project 2025 is a man named Jonathan Mitchell. My colleagues may not know this name, but they certainly know his work. Mitchell helped develop Texas' strict anti-abortion law, SB 8. He concocted the very disturbing ''enforcement mechanism'' that allows private citizens to bring lawsuits against those who violate the statute. It is a law that encourages neighbors to spy on each other and calls upon Americans to turn in healthcare providers who rightly and bravely put women's health and safety above extremist policies.

I can't even believe I am saying this in this country in this year. I can't believe that this is where we are.

His intent to misuse Comstock could not be clearer. He said, ''We don't need a Federal [abortion] ban when we have Comstock on the books.'' He said, ''There's a smorgasbord of options.''

These plans spelled out in Project 2025 are sinister, and they have very real consequences, which is why it is so important that we gather tonight to shine a light on this extreme plan.

Mr. Speaker, it is time Republicans abandon their obsession with controlling women's bodies and stop using legislative action to slip parts of Project 2025 into House bills today. The American people do not want that.

Democrats see this. We are standing up for the American people.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

I am mindful of the fact that many are saying that the American people this year are facing a choice of going forward or backward. Nothing speaks more to that than the fact that Trump's Project 2025 would dust off the old morality codes of the 1870s and impose them against the popular will on all Americans. It just tells us everything.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from southern California (Mr. TAKANO), my colleague who has been a great champion for civil rights and many other core values.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HUFFMAN, my colleague from the north coast of California, for yielding.

Whether north or south, we Californians value things like a woman's right to choose, basic civil rights, human rights, and LGBTQ rights, so I thank him for hosting this Special Order hour to bring attention to the most antidemocratic agenda in the history of this country.

I don't want to be too hyperbolic, but it certainly is the most antidemocratic that I have known in my lifetime. I can think back to the last century when we had far less democratic institutions. We had slavery, of course, and that was way more antidemocratic, but it is very disturbing what I see in Project 2025.

Let us not mince words here. Donald Trump's Project 2025 is a manifesto for a potential Trump administration to undermine our democracy, to roll back our rights and freedoms, and to enrich large corporations at the expense of working-class Americans.

This 900-page document outlines specific extremist policies that include criminalizing abortion nationwide, ending overtime pay, repealing the Affordable Care Act, ending Medicare as we know it, and putting Social Security on the chopping block.

As the ranking member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am deeply alarmed by the disastrous impacts that Project 2025 would have on America's veterans and the care they get from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The very first proposal in the VA section of Project 2025 would prohibit VA clinicians from performing abortions to protect the health and life of women veterans. It is the very first thing that was put into that section, and I know the person who wrote this section. As much as the President is trying to run away from ownership, the very person who wrote this was somebody who worked in a very responsible position in the VA at the time and reported directly to the Secretary under Donald Trump, Secretary Wilkie.

This section is unconscionable. We have Republicans all across the country now claiming that they are for the exceptions, but the very first part of Project 2025 on the veteran section says that they would make it illegal or reverse Secretary McDonough's rulemaking on allowing for abortions to be available at the VA to the very women who wore the uniform of our country.

Women veterans fought for our rights and freedoms. They fought for the rights and freedoms of all of us, but the very first thing that Republicans want to do is take their freedom to make decisions about their own bodies away.

Trump's Project 2025 will hurt veterans and reduce VA to ruins. I have already mentioned our women veterans. In order to execute its mission of serving America's heroes, VA needs to keep wait times low. In order to keep wait times low, they need to hire sufficient medical staff and offer employees competitive salaries.

The Honoring our PACT Act, which I was proud to author, has already seen nearly 1.2 million claims approved in just 2 years. Yet, instead of bolstering the VA with the necessary resources to ensure that all veterans get the world-class healthcare that they were promised, Trump's Project 2025 would push more veterans out to for-profit care, which is far more expensive than VA's direct care, to further a far-right agenda.

Already, over a third of the Veterans Health Administration's budget goes to referring veterans into very costly for-profit, private-sector care. As more veterans get referred out, the VHA will be forced to spend more money out of their budget.

I am not opposed to referring veterans out to care when VA is not able to provide certain specialty care inside the VA. It is a very necessary part, but it has to be in the right balance, and we are reaching a tipping point right now where for-profit care is going to seriously jeopardize VA's ability to provide direct care. That will mean reduced staffing, increased wait times, fewer upgrades to VA's aging infrastructure, and fewer new VA facilities.

Many of our VA facilities date back to World War II, and that will mean worse care for our veterans. The VA would become a skeleton or a shell of its former self if Project 2025 is enacted.

That is not all. Republicans on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, in order to get a head start on Project 2025 initiatives, are working to weaponize VA by politicizing nonpartisan jobs, to undermine congressional oversight of veterans' healthcare, and to prohibit VA from providing gender-affirming care to our trans veterans.

Under Trump's Project 2025, the VA will become nothing more than a payment processor for large corporations focused on maximizing profits rather than an institution that keeps America's promise to those who have served.

This is an unacceptable outcome for veterans. We cannot allow Project 2025 to be implemented. I will work tirelessly with my Democratic colleagues to fight back on this radical, extremist manifesto.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is exactly right about what Project 2025 calls for with respect to the VA, but it is more than just the VA.

If you read this 922-page manifesto, this theme of privatizing and monetizing runs throughout their authoritarian scheme. It applies to our public schools, our public lands, the National Weather Service, and so many other things.

The American people don't want this exploitation, this privatization, enrichment, and monetization obsession that the architects of Project 2025 have.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield for the purpose of a colloquy?

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. TAKANO. We could just call this give America over to private equity. The whole thing is designed to enrich a small group of people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HUFFMAN for his dedication.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I now am proud to yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania, MARY GAY SCANLON.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to discuss Project 2025, the extremist playbook to impose a radical, rightwing agenda upon Americans. It is called Project 2025 because it is designed to be implemented by Trump and his allies if he returns to the White House next year.

The authors of Project 2025 have even begun recruiting people to apply for jobs to help implement this scheme because, as they detail in Project 2025, they plan to fire career civil servants and replace them with partisans who swear loyalty to Trump rather than to our country or our Constitution, a move, by the way, that the former President tried to implement by executive order before he left office.

□ 1945

When the authors of Project 2025 decided to publish their radical agenda, they must not have realized that their ideas are so extreme that Americans would reject them as being, frankly, un-American.

That is why the former President and many of those allies are now trying to distance themselves from Project 2025, but they can't because their fingerprints are all over Project 2025.

Nowhere is that clearer than in Project 2025's plan to ban abortion and restrict women's reproductive freedom. The truth is the extremists who plotted with Trump to overturn Roe v. Wade were never going to stop there.

Chapter 14 of Project 2025 outlines their plans. It was written by a member of the Trump administration, and you can read it yourself on pages 449 through 502.

Project 2025 would impose a nationwide ban on medication abortion by revoking FDA approval of that drug.

It would resurrect a 19th century law, the Comstock Act, to ban the mailing of abortion care materials and criminalize their use.

Project 2025 would rip away access to basic contraception. It would end emergency room reproductive healthcare for women whose health and lives are at risk.

Project 2025 would end IVF as it is currently practiced. It would require the government to monitor women's pregnancies and miscarriages.

Project 2025 is beyond extreme. It is dangerous. Democrats will continue to stand firm and united against this radical agenda and to stand up for Americans' reproductive freedom because we trust women to make decisions about their own bodies, not politicians.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman very much, and I am glad she spoke to the so-called civil service reform element of Project 2025.

They call it Schedule F. It is an innocuous-sounding thing, but again, like so many parts of Project 2025, when you understand what it actually calls for, it is far more extreme than anything we have ever seen in this country.

It calls for going through the entire Federal workforce to root out anyone who has been associated with a DEI program in our Federal Government.

Climate scientists and others are going to be purged, anyone who somewhere in their life maybe donated to a Democrat.

It is a complete scorched earth political purge that they described as involving more than 50,000 people in the Federal workforce and then to repopulate the government.

If their problem is political people in government, they are going to repopulate with even more political people from these training academies.

As the gentlewoman concludes, I just want to ask her if she thinks that this is something that the people of Pennsylvania want to see?

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I don't think so. I mean, it doesn't matter what aspect of our Federal Government you are concerned about.

If you are concerned about clean air and clean water, the idea that they are just going to take out all the scientists and have political hacks deciding how many parts per million of poison can be in our water and air, that is just frightening.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, food inspectors, air traffic controllers.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, absolutely.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, maybe a nonpolitical civil service is actually a good idea, just like Teddy Roosevelt concluded that it was a century ago.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, that is the whole purpose is to have experts making those decisions. I thank the gentleman for organizing this Special Order.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman very much.

I now yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), a man who you might say has civil rights and social justice in his blood. I am sure he has some things to say about Trump's Project 2025.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congressman HUFFMAN who also shares that lineage of being a fighter for the people. I thank him for convening us, bringing us together for this Project 2025 that we must discuss.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because we cannot allow the agenda of MAGA Republicans to go unaddressed and quietly into the night.

On page 4 of Project 2025, it explicitly states that the goal is to get rid of terms like inclusion, equity, and diversity, so that no governmental policy can consider these things when determining who gets a contract, who gets hired, what management looks like, or who gets helped by a particular policy or administrative agency.

I find this to be as tragic as it is interesting because in a perfect world, we would not need diversity, equity, and inclusion, but that is not where we live.

We live in the United States of America, and we also live in a material universe where it is impossible to undo 300 years of legal exclusion with just 50 years of making this country do what is right.

For those who say America is different now, let me remind you that America didn't include Black people in the inherent opportunities that come along with being born into this great Nation because she magically wanted to.

It was those persons, the abolitionists and the civil rights workers and Black Americans, who made America do it.

That is why the civil rights movement enacted laws and policies and protections because of the whimsical nature of America.

America's commitment to our own principles cannot always be trusted. It, indeed, can be thick on ideals and thin on deeds.

Let us not forget that during the Reconstruction in the late 1860s, Black people were given access to the mechanisms of power in this country.

Then in the 1890s, America took it all back with the imposition of Jim Crow and segregation. Some people in this institution need to know America's history.

Here again, in the 1960s, African Americans made significant political and economic gains. Yet, here we are in 2024, living under the tyranny of a Supreme Court determined to roll it all back.

Affirmative action on college campuses, gone.

A women's right to determine what can happen with her body, gone.

The tragedy of our current situation is we don't know what is coming next.

Laws and policies that require the inclusion of Black people are not there to give us an advantage. They are here to make sure that we are not once again excluded because of the color of our skin by American law.

Project 2025 was created by the same people who formed the so-called intellectual brain trust around the candidacy of Donald Trump. These are his advisers, and here is what we know.

We know that Project 2025 wants to impose a national ban on abortion, prosecute political enemies, and eliminate the Department of Education.

Just think about it. What would we do without a public education policy?

Project 2025 wants to continue to ban books about slavery and the civil rights movement and prosecute teachers and librarians for assigning them.

This is insanity. Just think about the insanity that we are living in.

MAGA Republicans believe that books are dangerous for children, but automatic rifles are not.

Project 2025 openly declares that it wants to get rid of school lunches and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for families and children.

Both of these are part of the social safety net that ensures that millions of people will continue to have dignity in old age and access to clean food and water. Project 2025 wants to get rid of it.

Now, if it is okay to spend billions of dollars on bombs but making sure millions of people don't starve to death is somehow completely out of the question, something is wrong.

Please note that Project 2025 doesn't say anything, nothing, about getting rid of poverty, but they have no problem with getting rid of the programs that help people deal with the fact that they are tragically poor in a country that has excessive wealth. They want to leave poverty alone, but they want to undermine how people survive it.

Project 2025 wants to allow employers to no longer pay overtime. If your employer can demand that you work overtime, but they don't have to pay you for the extra time you put in, to put additional money into their pockets and making them rich, something is tragically wrong.

Can you imagine being required to work extra hours without extra compensation? That too is in Project 2025.

Essentially, Project 2025 says that you should be happy to have a job and that whatever your employer asks you to do, you should be happy to do it.

We don't owe you anything beyond the minimum requirement of your basic paycheck. That is un-American. This is ridiculous, but this is what Donald Trump and the people around him want to do.

Project 2025 is a complete disavowal of workers' rights. If you think they are going to stop at eliminating overtime, then you are completely delusional and drastically out of touch with reality.

This is not the language in the document, but I bet you all the money in my pocket against all the money in your pocket that healthcare will be next.

They have been trying to get rid of the Affordable Care Act, also known as

ObamaCare, for the last 12 years. Project 2025 wants to give wealthy corporations another tax break.

It is not enough that multibillion dollar corporations got the biggest tax break in American history under Donald J. Trump. They want to give corporations more.

Notice how one-sided this is. They want to give corporations a big tax break, where Project 2025 says nothing about increasing wages.

Follow the wickedness of the logic. Corporations get bigger tax breaks so they can keep more of the money workers made for them, but the workers don't get to participate in the success of the corporation by having an increase in their wages.

Project 2025 calls for an end to Social Security, our great safety net program. Goal 3 of Project 2025 says that only a nuclear family should receive governmental support. This is a part of the ill-fated logic of J.D. VANCE and Donald J. Trump.

If you are a single mother raising your children or a grandparent raising your grandchildren, Project 2025 says that the government should not make you a priority, and basically, you are not a family.

The policies and prescriptions of Project 2025 would lead to the greatest assault on Medicaid and Medicare in the history of this Nation.

This is what we are up against. This is why we are determined not to let it happen. We are determined to fight for what is right. We are determined to resist.

Once again, I thank the Honorable Congressman HUFFMAN from the great State of California for championing this cause and for calling us out here tonight. I thank him for his undying commitment to our American democracy and his fight for what is right.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for speaking to the extremism and cruelty of Trump's Project 2025 so eloquently, and he is exactly right. Healthcare is in the crosshairs.

One of the many ways in which Project 2025 would take us backward on healthcare is by mandating that the default for Medicare would be Medicare Advantage.

They like that because they can monetize it, make a lot of money on it, right, but it absolutely is expensive. It is accelerating the demise of the Medicare trust fund.

They want to repeal the prescription drug reforms that we have been able to pass, the first time we have been able to stand up to Big Pharma in decades.

We are saving Medicare billions and billions of dollars. We are saving consumers so much money already, and those savings are going to grow and grow in the years ahead.

All of that goes away under Project 2025. It is bad for the pocketbooks of the American people, bad for healthcare, and bad for the Medicare trust fund and Medicare itself. The gentleman is exactly right.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his outstanding leadership.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, House Democrats are going to continue to shine a bright light on this document. The American people don't need to take our word for it when we talk about the extremism and cruelty and other impacts that Trump's Project 2025 would have. They can read it themselves.

It is online. Look it up. The more people read it, the more they understand it, the more we know they are going to want nothing to do with it. The best way to stop this terrible agenda is to just make sure people know about it and understand it.

We are grateful for this opportunity to discuss it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward nominees for the office of President.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 9468. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 20, 2024, at 9 a.m.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE A COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024.

To the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XV, I, Garret Graves, move to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 1410, entitled, a resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 82) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions, which was referred to said committee August 6, 2024, in support of which motion the undersigned Members of the House of Representatives affix their signatures, to wit:

1. Garret Graves.
2. Abigail Davis Spanberger.
3. Greg Landsman.
4. Hillary J. Scholten.
5. Jill N. Tokuda.
6. Suzanne Bonamici.
7. Gabe Amo.
8. Clay Higgins.
9. Marilyn Strickland.
10. Chrissy Houlahan.
11. Valerie P. Foushee.
12. Steve Cohen.
13. Mike Garcia.
14. Betty McCollum.
15. Salud O. Carbajal.
16. Kathy E. Manning.
17. Lizzie Fletcher.
18. Kim Schrier.
19. Lois Frankel.
20. Delia C. Ramirez.
21. Nikki Budzinski.
22. Michael Lawler.
23. Shontel M. Brown.
24. Becca Balint.
25. Brittany Pettersen.
26. Yadira Caraveo.
27. Jennifer Wexton.
28. Troy A. Carter.
29. Mike Carey.
30. Jennifer L. McClellan.
31. Emilia Strong Sykes.
32. Mark DeSaulnier.
33. Sydney Kamlager-Dove.
34. Joyce Beatty.
35. Emanuel Cleaver.
36. Lisa Blunt Rochester.
37. Marcy Kaptur.
38. Ted Lieu.
39. C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger.
40. Yvette D. Clarke.
41. Jared F. Golden.
42. Haley M. Stevens.
43. Pete Stauber.
44. Mary Gay Scanlon.
45. Stephen F. Lynch.
46. Gregory W. Meeks.
47. Mike Quigley.
48. Zoe Lofgren.
49. Sanford D. Bishop Jr.
50. Bill Foster.
51. Julia Letlow.
52. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
53. Thomas R. Suozzi.
54. Paul Tonko.
55. William R. Keating.
56. Sara Jacobs.
57. Dina Titus.
58. Steven Horsford.
59. Raul Ruiz.
60. Chellie Pingree.
61. Val T. Hoyle.
62. Frank Pallone Jr.
63. Deborah K. Ross.
64. Donald S. Beyer Jr.
65. Robin L. Kelly
66. Elissa Slotkin.
67. Lori Trahan.
68. Lori Chavez-DeRemer.
69. Derek Kilmer.
70. Danny K. Davis.
71. Melanie A. Stansbury.
72. Seth Magaziner.
73. Glenn Ivey.
74. Bonnie Watson Coleman.
75. Grace Meng.
76. Jamie Raskin.
77. Michelle Steel.
78. Wiley Nickel.
79. Donald Norcross.
80. Jonathan L. Jackson.
81. Josh Gottheimer.
82. Daniel S. Goldman.
83. Lauren Underwood.
84. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick.
85. Jefferson Van Drew.
86. Maxwell Frost.
87. Eric Sorensen.
88. Timothy M. Kennedy.
89. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott.
90. Jake Auchincloss.
91. Kevin Mullin.
92. Sean Casten.
93. Jahana Hayes.
94. Jasmine Crockett.
95. Robert Menendez.
96. Collin Z. Allred.
97. Patrick Ryan.
98. J. Luis Correa.
99. Ami Bera.
100. Jimmy Panetta.
101. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.
102. Teresa Leger Fernandez.
103. Vicente Gonzalez.
104. Henry Cuellar.
105. Juan Vargas.
106. André Carson.
107. Brad Sherman.
108. Morgan McGarvey.
109. Alma S. Adams.
110. Tony Cárdenas.
111. Susan Wild.
112. Gerald E. Connolly.
113. Shri Thanedar.
114. Brendan F. Boyle.
115. Dean Phillips.
116. Mike Levin.
117. Doug LaMalfa.
118. Janice D. Schakowsky.
119. Mark Takano.
120. Donald G. Davis.
121. Robert Garcia.
122. Carlos A. Gimenez.
123. Susie Lee.
124. John R. Carter.
125. Ro Khanna.
120. Katie Porter.
127. David G.Valadao.
128. Barbara Lee.
129. Josh Harder.
130. Don Bacon.
131. Chris Pappas.
132. Mark Pocan.
133. Sylvia R. Garcia.
134. Greg Stanton.
135. Nanette Diaz Barragán.
136. Jennifer A. Kiggans.
137. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez.
138. Morgan Luttrell.
139. Jerry L. Carl.
140. Mike Ezell.
141. Derrick Van Orden.
142. Andrea Salinas.
143. Ruben Gallego
144. Angie Craig.
145. Al Green.
146. Debbie Dingell.
147. Mikie Sherrill.
148. Seth Moulton.
149. Adriano Espaillat.
150. John P. Sarbanes.
151. Ayanna Pressley.
152. Kelly Armstrong.
153. Nikema Williams.
154. Raja Krishnamoorthi.
155. John James.
156. Ritchie Torres.
157. Gabe Vasquez.
158. Summer L. Lee.
159. James P. McGovern.
160. Joe Neguse.
161. Joe Courtney.
162. Andy Kim.
163. Rosa L. DeLauro.
164. Jason Crow.
165. Tracey Mann.
166. Mariannette Miller-Meeks.
167. Jim Costa.
168. Darren Sota.
169. Kweisi Mfume.
170. Bradley Scott Schneider.
171. Juan Ciscomani.
172. Michelle Fischbach.
173. Veronica Escobar.
174. John H. Rutherford.
175. Debbie Wasserman Schultz.
176. Frank J. Mrvan.
177. Lucy McBath.
178. Julia Brownley.
179. John Garamendi.
180. Grace F. Napolitano.
181. Mary Sattler Peltola.
182. Rick Larsen.
183. Diana DeGette.
184. Terri A. Sewell.
185. Matt Cartwright.
186. Christopher R. Deluzio.
187. Maxine Waters.
188. Dan Newhouse.
189. David Scott.
190. Norma J. Torres.
191. Jake LaTurner.
192. Bill Posey.
193. Nancy Mace.
194. Madeleine Dean.
195. Jeff Jackson.
196. Greg Pence.

197. Frederica S. Wilson.
198. Jerrod Nadler.
199. Cathy McMorris Rodgers.
200. Anna Paulina Luna.
201. Lance Gooden.
202. Paul A. Gosar.
203. Jared Moskowitz.
204. Maria Elvira Salazar.
205. Marc A. Veasey.
206. Brandon Williams.
207. Troy Balderson.
208. Brian K. Fitzpatrick.
209. Ashley Hinson.
210. Mike Kelly.
211. James A. Himes.
212. Jimmy Gomez.
213. David P. Joyce.
214. Ken Calvert.
215. Judy Chu.
216. Zachary Nunn.
217. Christopher H. Smith.
218. Marcus J. Molinaro.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–5384. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, USD(A&S)(A)/DPCAP, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Technical Amendments [Docket DARS-2024-0001] received September 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 Armed Services.

EC–5385. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Grant Policy Office, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Education Department General Administrative Regulations and Related Regulatory Provisions [Docket ID: ED-2023-OPEPD-0110] (RIN: 1875-AA14) received September 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 Education and the Workforce.

EC–5386. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0231; Project Identifier AD-2023-01037-T; Amendment 39-22779; AD 2024-13-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5387. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Bishop Airport, Bishop, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2422; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AWP-48] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5388. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1286; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00017-T; Amendment 39-22788; AD 2024-14-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5389. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1001; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01129-T; Amendment 39-22787; AD 2024-14-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5390. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1008; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00080-T; Amendment 39-22783; AD 2024-14-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5391. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yabora Industria Aeronautica S.A.; Embraer S.A.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0772; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01203-T; Amendment 39-22789; AD 2024-14-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5392. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1009; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01221-T; Amendment 39-22782; AD 2024-14-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5393. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1006; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01222-T; Amendment 39-22781; AD 2024-13-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5394. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2017; Project Identifier AD-2024-00204-T; Amendment 39-22820; AD 2024-16-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5395. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; White Sulphur Springs Airport, White Sulphur Springs, MT [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1265; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-85] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5396. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Jet Route J-183, United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes Q-4 and T-254, and Very High Frequency Omnidirctional Range (VOR) Federal Airways V-76, V-161, V-565, and V-568; Establishment of RNAV Route T-499; and Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V-558 in the Vicinity of Llano, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0485; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASW-16] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5397. A letter from the Management Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Multiple United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0144; Airspace Docket No. 23-ASO-34] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5398. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — System Safety Assessments [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1544; Amdt. No.: 25-152] (RIN: 2120-AJ99) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5399. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2061; Amendment No.: 71-56] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5400. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31560; Amdt. No.: 4126] received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5401. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31559; Amdt. No.: 4125] received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5402. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Utopia, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0732; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ASW-5] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5403. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Akiachak Airport, Akiachak, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1076; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AAL-55] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5404. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Alaskan Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Federal Airway V-477 in the Vicinity of Ambler, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0697; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AAL-54] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5405. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Jet Route J-133 and Establishment of Area Navigation Route Q-801 in the Vicinity of Anchorage, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1957; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AAL-28] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5406. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-399 in the Vicinity of Clear, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0438; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AAL-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5407. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes T-328 in the Vicinity of Deer Park, Washington [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2086; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ANM-64] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 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 Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–5408. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison, Publications and Regulations Section, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure Modifying Rev. Proc. 2024-23 for Certain Research & Experimental Expenditure Method Changes received September 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 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:

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5526. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the application of the in-office ancillary services exception to the physician self-referral prohibition for drugs furnished under the Medicare program; with amendments (Rept. 118–691, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 6319. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to review and make certain revisions to the Standard Occupational Classification System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118–692). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 2941. A bill to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118–693). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 2574. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to revise the Standard Occupational Classification System to accurately count the number of emergency medical services practitioners in the United States; with an amendment (Rept. 118–694). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5526 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 9673. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to develop a national strategy regarding artificial intelligence consumer literacy and conduct a national artificial intelligence consumer literacy campaign; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 9674. A bill to make certain antidiscrimination laws applicable to the judicial branch of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Ways and Means, and Veterans' Affairs, 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. ARMSTRONG (for himself, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 9675. A bill to delay the application of a certain rule for members of the Armed Forces stationed in a foreign country and for individuals with service animals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 9676. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish National Plastics Recycling Standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER (for himself, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 9677. A bill to clarify the Department of State's exclusive regulatory authority over the au pair cultural exchange program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BACON, Mr. BARR, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FONG, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GUEST, Mr. HILL, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. STEIL, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 9678. A bill to address the public safety issues and environmental destruction currently impacting Federal lands along the southern border, enhance border security through the construction of navigable roads on Federal lands along the southern border, provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection access to Federal lands to improve the safety and effectiveness of enforcement activities, allow States to place temporary barriers on Federal land to secure the southern border, reduce the massive trash accumulations and environmental degradation along the southern border, reduce the cultivation of illegal cannabis on Federal lands, mitigate wildland fires caused by illegal immigration, and prohibit migrant housing on Federal lands; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, the Budget, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 9679. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to address certain issues relating to the extension of consumer credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BABIN (for himself and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 9680. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to expand eligibility for individual and public assistance to certain areas and to include cumulative damage from multiple natural catastrophes in the definition of major disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI):

H.R. 9681. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to establish a priority for accommodation in places with policies relating to severe forms of human trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 9682. A bill to mitigate environmental degradation and wildland fires caused by illegal immigration along the southern border of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 9683. A bill to amend the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Establishment Act to expand the boundary of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in the State of Vermont, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

H.R. 9684. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate peer-to-peer mental health support programs for secondary school students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. BOST (for himself, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER):

H.R. 9685. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to establish procedures for post offices that suspend operations due to an emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself and Mr. BURGESS):

H.R. 9686. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to codify the Panel of Health Advisors within the Congressional Budget Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER):

H.R. 9687. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself and Ms. CARAVEO):

H.R. 9688. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for continuous eligibility for certain children under the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 9689. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. CROCKETT (for herself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. DELUZIO):

H.R. 9690. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the limitations period during which an action may be commenced for judicial review of a final rule; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. CLYBURN, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 9691. A bill to establish the Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. WALTZ, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 9692. A bill to increase the maximum reward amount for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Nicolás Maduro Moros to $100,000,000, which shall be paid out by the Federal Government from all assets being withheld from Nicolás Maduro Moros, officials of the Maduro regime and their co-conspirators; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 9693. A bill to promote the economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, House Administration, Oversight and Accountability, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FROST:

H.R. 9694. A bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to repeal the Thurmond amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 9695. A bill to support Tribal co-stewardship, restore and protect bison, grizzly bear, and wolf populations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Ms. HAGEMAN):

H.R. 9696. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Mineral Leasing Act to require reports on rejected bids, to clarify timelines for the issuance of leases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HOUCHIN:

H.R. 9697. A bill to reallocate funds from the Internal Revenue Service to the Secret Service, for purposes of providing protection equivalent to that afforded the President to Vice Presidents, major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, and former presidents; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 9698. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for school infrastructure finance and innovation tax credit bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 9699. A bill to make continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. MACE (for herself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 9700. A bill to prohibit bilateral economic assistance, including assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to foreign governments that abridge the right to free speech that would be speech protected by the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York):

H.R. 9701. A bill to provide for the reallocation of certain grant funds from jurisdictions that do not allow for consideration the danger, risk, or threat an individual poses to the community when determining bail or pretrial release or that have in effect a policy providing for the sealing of certain criminal records; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 9702. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Wildfire Science and Technology Advisory Board; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 9703. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. MOLINARO, and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 9704. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out a quadrennial fire review, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 9705. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Oyster Reef Restoration and Conservation Program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 9706. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the Congress with respect to Federal homelessness programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 9707. A bill to establish a reporting requirement for cases of transnational repression against United States persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SEWELL:

H.R. 9708. A bill to ensure affordable health insurance coverage for low-income individuals in States that have not expanded Medicaid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SHERMAN:

H.R. 9709. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to issue rules that prohibit officers and directors of certain companies from trading securities in anticipation of a current report, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. STRONG (for himself, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. ADERHOLT):

H.R. 9710. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to support a program to advance the research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of small modular reactors and micro-reactors in order to accelerate the availability of United States-based technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 9711. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to direct the Congressional Budget Office to publish a schedule of the availability of certain publications by the Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. VALADAO (for himself and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 9712. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and for other purposes; to the

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 9713. A bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to expand and reauthorize the United States-Israel Energy Cooperation program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Homeland Security, 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. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 205. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to ''Representation Case Procedures: Election Bars; Proof of Majority Support In Construction Industry Collective-Bargaining Relationships''; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 206. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to ''Required Minimum Distributions''; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H. Res. 1469. A resolution ensuring accountability for key officials in the Biden-Harris administration responsible for decisionmaking and execution failures throughout the withdrawal from Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H. Res. 1470. A resolution expanding the jurisdiction of the Task Force on the Attempted Assassination of Donald J. Trump; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H. Res. 1471. A resolution countering disinformation, propaganda, and misinformation in Latin America and the Caribbean, and calling for multi-stakeholder efforts to address the significant detrimental effects that the rise in disinformation, propaganda, and misinformation in regional information environments has on democratic governance, human rights, and United States national interests; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CORREA (for himself and Ms. SALINAS):

H. Res. 1472. A resolution recognizing the heritage, culture, and contributions of Latinas in the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. FROST (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK):

H. Res. 1473. A resolution to condemn racism and bigotry towards Haitian people, to celebrate the vast contributions of people of Haitian descent to the United States, to condemn the spread of misinformation, and to call on Americans to affirm our shared humanity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself and Ms. ADAMS):

H. Res. 1474. A resolution supporting the designation of September 19, 2024, as ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'', recognizing tens of thousands of families in the United States that have endured a stillbirth, and seizing the opportunity to keep other families from experiencing the same tragedy; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 1475. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2024 as ''Peace Month'' and calling on Congress to take action to promote peace; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

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

H. Res. 1476. A resolution encouraging the Department of State and civil society to further the Abraham Accords by encouraging peace and tolerance in education; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. STEEL:

H. Res. 1477. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of the month of September 2024 as ''Boat People Awareness Month'' to honor the hundreds of thousands of boat people who fled Vietnam's oppressive Communist regime during the decades following the Vietnam war; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. BUSH, and Mr. BOWMAN):

H. Res. 1478. A resolution recognizing access to water, sanitation, electricity, heating, cooling, broadband communications, and public transportation as basic human rights and public services that must be accessible, safe, justly sourced and sustainable, acceptable, sufficient, affordable, climate resilient, and reliable for every person; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

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

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 9673.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance consumer awareness and confidence in the use of AI by directing the Department of Commerce to develop a national strategy to increase consumer knowledge, create use case guidance, and disseminate guidance and information through a national media campaign.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 9674.

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

Article I Section 1.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This is a bill to make certain anti-discrimination laws applicable to the judicial branch of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:

H.R. 9675.

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

Article I, Clause 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To delay the application of a certain rule for members of the Armed Forces stationed in a foreign country and for individuals with service animals, and for other purposes

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 9676.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Environment

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER:

H.R. 9677.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To clarify the Department of State's exclusive regulatory authority over the au pair cultural exchange program, and for other purposes

By Mr. CISCOMANI:

H.R. 9678.

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

Article I of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To address the public safety issues and environmental destruction currently impacting federal lands along the southern border.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 9679.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Truth in Lending Act to address certain issues relating to the extension of consuemr credit, and for other purposes

By Mr. BABIN:

H.R. 9680.

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 protect and support communities impacted by major disasters.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 9681.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Human Trafficking

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 9682.

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

Article 1, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To mitigate environmental degradation and wildland fires caused by illegal immigration along the southern border of the United States, and for other purposes.

By Ms. BALINT:

H.R. 9683.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 9684.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To facilitate peer-to-peer mental health support for school students
By Mr. BOST:
H.R. 9685.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 7
The single subject of this legislation is:
The USPS Act will establish timelines and procedures for post office emergency suspensions, require community input, and mandate annual reports to Congress on postal suspensions.
By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:
H.R. 9686.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to codify the Panel of Health Advisors within the Congressional Budget Office, and for other purposes.
By Mr. CASTEN:
H.R. 9687.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
The single subject of this legislation is:
To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis, and for other purposes.
By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:
H.R. 9688.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to ''provide for the common Defense and general Welfare'' of Americans.
The single subject of this legislation is:
Continuous health coverage for children
By Ms. CLARKE of New York:
H.R. 9689.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
DHS cyber internship program
By Ms. CROCKETT:
H.R. 9690.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
The Administrative Procedure Act
By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 9691.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.
The single subject of this legislation is:
Parks
By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 9692.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
To increase the maximum reward amount for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Nicolas Maduro Moros to $100,000,000, which shall be paid out by the Federal Government from all assets being withheld from Nicolas Maduro Moros, officials of the Maduro regime and their co-conspirators.
By Mrs. DINGELL:
H.R. 9693.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill promotes the economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
By Mr. FROST:
H.R. 9694.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend the Fair Housing Act to repeal the Thurmond amendment.
By Mr. GRIJALVA:
H.R. 9695.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To support Tribal co-stewardship, restore and protect bison, grizzly bear, and wolf populations, and for other purposes.
By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:
H.R. 9696.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof''
The single subject of this legislation is:
This legislation amends title 44, United States Code, to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes.
By Mrs. HOUCHIN:
H.R. 9697.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To reallocate funds from the Internal Revenue Service to the Secret Service, for purposes of providing protection equivalent to that afforded the President to Vice Presidents, major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, and former presidents.
By Mr. HUDSON:
H.R. 9698.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Tax
By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:
H.R. 9699.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sect. 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To appropriate unobligated funds for FY25 towards paying members of the Armed Forces, the Coast Guard, and certain civilian employees and contractors at the Department of Defense until the passage of a Continuing Resolution or Defense Appropriations bill for FY25.
By Ms. MACE:
H.R. 9700.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To prohibit bilateral economic assistance to foreign governments that abridge the right to free speech that would be speech protected by the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. MOLINARO:
H.R. 9701.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section VIII
The single subject of this legislation is:
Crime
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 9702.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Establish a Wildfire Science and Technology Advisory Board.
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 9703.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Initiate a GAO study on the barriers to cross-boundary wildfire mitigation.
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 9704.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Require an intergovernmental quadrennial review and report to Congress of the wildfire environment.
By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:
H.R. 9705.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Oyster Reef Restoration and Conservation Program.
By Mr. SCHIFF:
H.R. 9706.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the US Constiution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Housing
By Mr. SCHIFF:
H.R. 9707.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
Foreign Affairs.
By Ms. SEWELL:
H.R. 9708.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
US Constitution Article I, Section 9, Clause 7
The single subject of this legislation is:
To ensure affordable health insurance coverage for low-income individuals in States that have not expanded Medicaid.
By Mr. SHERMAN:
H.R. 9709.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill requires certain publicly traded companies to create policies reasonably designed to prevent executive officers and directors from trading their securities after a significant corporate event but before disclosing that event through a public filing. Certain companies required by regulation to adopt a code of ethics are exempt from this requirement.

By Mr. STRONG:

H.R. 9710.

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

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to support a program to advance the research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of small modular reactors and micro-reactors in order to accelerate the availability of United States-based technologies, and for other purposes.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 9711.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would direct the Congressional Budget Office to publish a schedule of the availability of certain publications by the Office

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 9712.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law, and for other purposes.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 9713.

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

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Providing for the reauthorization of the BIRD Energy Program

By Mr. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 205.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To disapprove of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to ''Representation Case Procedures: Election Bars; Proof of Majority Support In Construction Industry Collective-Bargaining Relationships''.

By Mr. PALMER:

H.J. Res. 206.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To disapprove of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to ''Required Minimum Distributions''.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 82: Mr. PENCE and Mr. FONG.
H.R. 191: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 472: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 549: Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 703: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 913: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 936: Mr. WENSTRUP.
H.R. 1083: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 1202: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. MOONEY, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 1325: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 1465: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1477: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 1491: Mrs. PELTOLA.
H.R. 1572: Mr. BEYER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 1584: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 1605: Mr. KILEY.
H.R. 1668: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 1740: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 1763: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2370: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2414: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2432: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2441: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 2482: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 2534: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 2584: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 2672: Mr. KILEY.
H.R. 2689: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 2708: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 2723: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2802: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 2851: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 2880: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 2889: Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 2909: Ms. CROCKETT.
H.R. 2923: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 3036: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 3171: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 3182: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 3238: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3249: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 3332: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 3475: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 3481: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3518: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 3611: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 3651: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 3780: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 3882: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 4104: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 4326: Ms. TITUS and Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 4483: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4627: Mr. MOYLAN and Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 4713: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 4721: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 4724: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4987: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5012: Mr. BARR, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 5041: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 5406: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 5577: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 5683: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 5778: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 6159: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 6371: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 6373: Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 6376: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 6435: Mr. KILEY.
H.R. 6497: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 6592: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 6612: Mr. MORAN and Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 6672: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 6697: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6727: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 6780: Mr. MOLINARO.
H.R. 6860: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 7094: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 7101: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 7137: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 7187: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 7220: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 7234: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 7274: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 7284: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 7288: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 7623: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 7635: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 7735: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 7747: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 7770: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 7779: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 7805: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 7807: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 7891: Ms. PETTERSEN and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 7914: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 8005: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 8018: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 8061: Ms. CHU, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 8092: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 8095: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 8164: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 8185: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 8206: Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 8231: Ms. MCCLELLAN.
H.R. 8271: Mr. DELUZIO.
H.R. 8303: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 8340: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 8371: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 8426: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 8545: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.
H.R. 8639: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 8653: Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. DAVIDSON, and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 8702: Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. COLE, and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 8728: Mr. KILEY.
H.R. 8734: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 8777: Mr. PERRY and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 8811: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 8825: Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 8834: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 8859: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 8963: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 8994: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 9038: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 9096: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 9106: Ms. TENNEY, Ms. PEREZ, and Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 9137: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 9211: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 9218: Mr. BEAN of Florida.
H.R. 9251: Mr. SELF.
H.R. 9253: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 9351: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 9382: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CLINE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Mr. LOPEZ.
H.R. 9402: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 9441: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.
H.R. 9462: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 9517: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 9535: Mr. RUIZ and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 9551: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 9552: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 9561: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. GUEST, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MACE, and Mr. CISCOMANI.
H.R. 9568: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H.R. 9573: Ms. MENG and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 9617: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 9622: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 9639: Mr. KILMER, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 9649: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 9656: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 9657: Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. BEAN of Florida, and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 9662: Ms. CHU and Mr. KHANNA.
H.J. Res. 11: Mr. RULLI.
H.J. Res. 13: Ms. CHU.
H.J. Res. 136: Ms. LETLOW.
H.J. Res. 166: Mr. EZELL and Mr. ELLZEY.
H.J. Res. 193: Mr. COSTA.
H. Con. Res. 118: Mrs. BEATTY and Ms. CHU.
H. Res. 424: Mr. VAN DREW.
H. Res. 1131: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H. Res. 1272: Mr. SELF.
H. Res. 1286: Mr. PAPPAS.
H. Res. 1306: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 1348: Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of

Georgia, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. LAMBORN.

H. Res. 1394: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H. Res. 1422: Ms. SALINAS.

H. Res. 1423: Mr. CARL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H. Res. 1432: Ms. CHU and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H. Res. 1447: Mr. IVEY and Ms. STEFANIK.

H. Res. 1448: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FROST, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. HIMES, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H. Res. 1449: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey and Ms. TITUS.

H. Res. 1461: Ms. CHU and Mr. LIEU.

H. Res. 1463: Mr. BURLISON.

H. Res. 1464: Mr. SOTO and Mr. RUIZ.