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of America

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No. 169

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 3 p.m.

## House of Representatives

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

Pastor Timothy McLaurin, First Missionary Baptist Church, Frederick, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

Father, I thank You for these elected officials whom You have allowed to serve in their current capacities. As they gather to serve, I pray, Lord, that You would be in the midst.

Be active in the debates and discussions that shall be a part of their decisionmaking process. Grant these Members wisdom to make decisions that will promote and provide for the welfare of all.

Be active in causing this collection of individuals, with diverse backgrounds and ideologies, to embody a spirit of partnership and solidarity that creates an atmosphere of purposeful productivity that produces a period of prosperity for all.

Be active in this group to help them promote peace and foster unity in this season that is filled with anxiety and that finds our Nation divided. Cause these public servants to be united in their passions, in their pursuits, and in Your providential purposes.

In Jesus' name, we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

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

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas 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.

### WELCOMING PASTOR TIMOTHY McLAURIN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Pastor Timothy McLaurin.

As I stand on the floor of the U.S. House, I realize that our Nation faces a troubling path ahead, but we all must recognize a higher purpose: to leave a better world for our children and our grandchildren.

We must all realize our role as public servants: to serve those in need, those suffering from addiction and mental health issues, and our systemically racist criminal justice system.

A son of Baltimore, Pastor McLaurin answered the call to serve his community over two decades ago. He has empowered his congregants with the lessons of God, the compassion of Jesus, and the guidance of profound faith.

Pastor McLaurin and his wonderful wife, Kimberly, and their three beautiful daughters have stood as pillars of the community through easy days and tough times.

Mr. Speaker, I thank him and his family for being here with me today and for sharing his wisdom.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODEN of Texas). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER MONTH

(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 November as National Family Caregiver Month.

Every day, more than 48 million family caregivers provide essential care to loved ones who are aging, ill, or living with a disability.

As a former healthcare professional, I have seen these caregivers often go above and beyond to support their families, sacrificing their own time, energy, and well-being to ensure that those that they care for receive the support and the love that they need.

Family caregivers are often the unsung heroes of our communities. Many

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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balance caregiving with full-time jobs, raising children, and managing their own health.

They deserve our support and recognition, which is why I am proud to support legislation like the Lowering Costs for Caregivers Act to help ensure these caregivers have the financial resources to continue providing care for their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, let this month be a reminder of our shared responsibility to support these caregivers who give so much to others. By showing our appreciation and lending a hand where we can, we can honor the work that they do every day.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MARIE FLICKINGER

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Marie Flickinger, a remarkable woman who passed away this week after leading a life of excellence.

A journalist and publisher by trade, Marie is perhaps best known for her work in her newspaper, the Leader, where she exposed the impact of toxic waste from a Pasadena plant at the Brio Superfund site, earning her the title of South Belt's own Erin Brockovich.

Fighting for the people didn't stop in the pages of the Leader. She also became the first woman elected to the San Jacinto College District Board of Trustees. Marie served for three decades, transforming the college into a place where students felt supported and where education was accessible to all.

Marie led a life of honesty, integrity, and service, and despite her humble demeanor, she left an enormous legacy.

Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out to the entire Flickinger family. May she rest in peace.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF A LONG-TIME PILLAR OF SOUTHEAST HOUSTON, MARIE FLICKINGER

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a longtime pillar of the southeast Houston community, Marie Flickinger, who passed away on November 11, 2024.

After becoming the first woman elected to the San Jacinto College District Board of Trustees in 1995, Marie served as chair from 2007 to 2013 and again from 2017 until her retirement on November 4, 2024.

She spent these nearly 30 years devoted to ensuring the institution's success, achieving numerous awards along the way. Many have referred to Marie as the honorary mayor of the South Belt, due to her involvement in practically every aspect of the community,

an extensive list that includes the founding of the South Belt-Ellington Chamber of Commerce, the local newspaper, and Saint Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church as well as the organization of countless community events. She was a friend, and a friend of mine.

As a cofounder and publisher of the South Belt-Ellington Leader, Marie became known for her work shedding light on the impact of the Brio Superfund site in the 1980s, which eventually led to its remediation.

Marie also delved into the political arena, serving on two mayoral transition committees for the great city of Houston, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that Marie's legacy will be long remembered and my prayers are with her family, her San Jacinto College family, and the South Belt community during this difficult time.

#### 49 MILLION AMERICANS TURN TO FOOD BANKS FOR ASSISTANCE

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the work done by our food banks, food pantries, and other community-based organizations in Orange County and across the country.

In recent years, almost 49 million Americans have turned to food banks for assistance. Back home in Orange County, over 300,000 of our neighbors don't know where their next meal is going to come from, and over 20 percent are children.

Every day during the holiday season, I joined with my community to make sure that these individuals have a meal.

Today, I am proud to be leading a bipartisan resolution with over 50 of our Members acknowledging the essential work these groups do throughout our great country. They deserve the support of Congress, and I call on Members of this Congress to join us in cosponsoring this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the food banks and pantries and other community-based organizations across the country for their good work. They are appreciated.

#### THE UNITED STATES' EXISTENTIAL THREAT REPRESENTED BY \$36 TRILLION IN NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I must bring attention, once again, to our Nation's existential threat represented by \$36 trillion in national debt and another \$2 trillion deficit this year.

Yet in this very Chamber just a couple of days ago, every Democrat joined two-thirds of Republicans in adding \$200 billion in new mandatory spending.

So is our debt and our spending just campaign talking points?

Is it just a slogan, or does it really matter?

Do we really care about it?

I will commend Senator RAND PAUL from Kentucky who just yesterday had the courage to stand alone and block emergency spending because he said it needs to be paid for. What a concept, that we would pay for the new spending on top of the layers and layers of debt that is causing so much inflation, higher interest rates, and threatening the financial future of our kids and our grandkids.

Why not cut the expansion of the IRS?

Why not cut a trillion dollars in climate credits?

Why not cut the tens of billions of dollars of COVID funds that are still not covered for?

Why not cut the spending for the U.N. or UNRWA or the WHO?

Mr. Speaker, there is so much low-hanging fruit. I am so thankful that we will have Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy looking at that in the new administration.

#### CONGRATULATING DR. BRITTNEY F. MOBLEY NAMED THE 2024 NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL OF GEORGIA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Brittney F. Mobley, who was named the 2024 National Distinguished Principal of Georgia.

This award was administered by the National Association of Elementary School Principals' National Distinguished Principals program, an annual award that honors the exemplary leadership of principals across each State.

In 2020, while educators across the country were facing challenges with remote teaching due to the pandemic, Ms. Mobley was working to open the county's newest elementary school, Frances Meeks Elementary School. Frances Meeks is in Richmond Hill, Georgia, and serves its students with unique learning experiences, such as the elementary agriculture program that provides students with hands-on learning experiences pertaining to agriculture and creates longstanding community partnerships.

Thanks to Dr. Mobley, the school boasts a 95 percent curriculum mastery rate and a growing number of students qualifying for its gifted programs.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Mobley on this award, and we greatly appreciate the work she has dedicated to the students of Georgia's First Congressional District.

□ 0915

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, November 14, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
The 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 November 14, 2024, at 4:20 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1316.

That the Senate passed S. 4716.

That the Senate passed S. 5314.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5464.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5861.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6324.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7333.

Appointments:

The National Council on Disability  
United States Semiquincentennial Commission

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCUMBER,  
Acting Clerk.

## FAFSA DEADLINE ACT

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1568, I call up the bill (H.R. 8932) to establish an earlier application processing cycle for the FAFSA, 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 1568, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce, printed in the bill, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 8932

*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 “FAFSA Deadline Act”.*

**SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLIER APPLICATION PROCESSING CYCLE.**

*Section 483(d)(4) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090(d)(4)) is amended by striking “not later than January 1 of the applicant’s planned year of enrollment, to the maximum extent practicable, on or around October 1 prior to the applicant’s planned year of enrollment” and inserting “not later than October 1 prior to the applicant’s planned year of enrollment”.*

**SEC. 3. CERTIFICATION AND TESTIMONY REQUIREMENTS.**

*Section 483(d)(4) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090(d)(4)) is further amended—*

*(1) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:*

*“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and  
(2) by adding at the end the following:*

*“(B) CERTIFICATION AND TESTIMONY REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall, with respect to each application processing cycle, prior to the initiation of such processing cycle—*

*“(i) on a date that is not later than September 1—*

*“(I) certify to the authorizing committees that the Department will meet the October 1 deadline specified in subparagraph (A) for such processing cycle; or*

*“(II) certify to such committees that the Department will not meet such deadline; and*

*“(ii) in the case of a certification described in clause (i)(II), on a date that is not later than September 30, testify before the authorizing committees on—*

*“(I) the anticipated failure to meet such deadline; and*

*“(II) the financial impact such failure will have on students and families.”.*

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 on 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).

## 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. 8932.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act, and I start by highlighting the critical role the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, plays in the lives of many American students and families. For them, FAFSA isn’t just a form, it is a path to postsecondary education.

In recent years, bipartisan efforts were made to simplify this complex, daunting process. The FAFSA Simplification Act, passed in 2020, was intended to make applying for financial aid more accessible and less overwhelming. That is what this country needs, an effective, user-friendly system that lowers barriers to education and increases access for students of all backgrounds.

Unfortunately, we are here because the Biden-Harris administration is failing to provide this vital tool to the very students and families it was designed to help. Instead of the smooth rollout we planned, the Biden-Harris administration’s execution of the new simplified FAFSA has led to widespread frustration, delays, and costly errors.

Imagine being a high school senior working hard to qualify for scholar-

ships and planning your future, only to be met with glitches, incomplete forms, and endless processing errors. That was the reality for too many students.

Last year, the Department of Education delayed the FAFSA release until late December, 3 full months after its recommended October 1 release date, due to administrative incompetence.

The soft launch that followed was chaotic, resulting in millions of errors and little clarity regarding the form’s actual functionality. Delays in the Department’s failure to communicate effectively left families in a state of uncertainty, scrambling to understand what aid they would receive, or even if they would receive aid at all.

As we sit here, the FAFSA is delayed for a second straight year, and some capabilities are still unavailable, forcing students, schools, and State agencies to wait again.

The FAFSA Deadline Act introduced by Representative ERIN HOUGHIN is the answer. This legislation seeks to hold the Department of Education accountable by requiring the FAFSA to be available by October 1 each year, and it does so with broad, bipartisan support. The bill passed through committee 34-6, sending a clear signal that both sides of the aisle believe families deserve better.

In short, today’s conversation is about restoring the promise of FAFSA, fulfilling our obligation to students, and making sure the Department’s failure is not a new normal.

It is our job to ensure that the Department of Education rolls out FAFSA each year with clear timelines and accurate data so American families can rely on this process.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on the FAFSA Deadline Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act, which would set a firm October 1 deadline for the Department of Education to roll out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, form starting in 2025. This bill will help millions of students and families access Federal financial aid in a timely manner.

We know that higher education is a pathway to opportunity, but the rising cost of college has made it out of reach for a lot of students. Federal student aid, including Pell grants and student loans, is essential to making college affordable.

That is why in 2020, I worked with Senator Lamar Alexander to pass the FAFSA Simplification Act, to make Federal student aid easier to access.

Regrettably, last year, technical problems with the newly redesigned FAFSA form delayed the students’ access to this vital aid, and as a result, too many students could not submit their applications on time, and many

struggled to get the support they needed to resolve those issues.

When the committee first considered this bill in July, I voted in opposition because I had serious concerns that the implementation deadline may have forced the Department of Education to roll out an incomplete form on October 1 of this year. However, because we are now considering the bill after October 1, the deadline will apply next year, 2025, and that gives the Department ample time to make improvements and fix any lingering issues.

We now have helpful information from the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office that provided specific recommendations in how the Department can continue to improve the rollout and implementation of FAFSA.

H.R. 8932 sets a clear, firm deadline for rolling out FAFSA while still giving the Department of Education time to ensure the application functions properly for all students. The bill strikes a balance between ensuring timely access to financial aid and not compromising the quality of the application process.

We have made significant progress in simplifying the FAFSA and expanding financial aid in recent years. According to the Department of Education, despite the ongoing FAFSA challenges, roughly half a million more students received a Pell grant this year than last year due primarily to the changes in the formulas used.

Under the leadership of President Biden and congressional Democrats, the maximum Pell grant has increased by \$900 over the last several years, giving students additional financial support to cover college costs. This bill will help ensure that even more students have the information they need in a timelier manner to access Pell grants and other vital student aid.

Mr. Speaker, I support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN), the author of the bill.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, as the mother of two college students, I am all too familiar with the concerns voiced by the nearly 18 million students and their families who attempted to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid this year and who are dreading a failed rollout again this year.

I am here today to speak on their behalf.

I am especially frustrated considering the Department of Education has had 3 years to simplify the FAFSA as Congress has dictated.

This clear misplacement of priorities led the 2024 FAFSA to be delayed by 3 months with continuous technical issues. A scathing report from the Government Accountability Office found not only did the Biden-Harris Department of Education repeatedly fail to release FAFSA, when they finally released it, it didn't work. Then they left

millions of calls from American families unanswered. Three-quarters of calls to the Department of Education about the broken FAFSA were not answered, and when they did answer the phone, they told parents to just keep trying.

It is as if we need to take the Department of Education, unplug it, plug it back in, and hope that it might work, but it is not going to. They are still unprepared.

The Department of Education has already failed students again this year with the expectation that the form will now again be 2 months late.

My bill, the FAFSA Deadline Act, sets a firm October 1 deadline to publish FAFSA consistent with what has been expected for years.

Thankfully, this wasn't an issue under President Trump. We can look forward to prioritizing FAFSA once again in this next administration.

It is imperative that we do not allow this to become precedent and that we work together to make sure that American families are taken care of when applying for the FAFSA.

We want this program to work. We want to make sure that families that want to send their kids to college have the availability to do that and that the FAFSA is available and workable.

For parents and students across the country, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. LEE CARTER).

Mrs. LEE CARTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act. I thank Chairwoman FOXX and Ranking Member SCOTT for their collaboration and efforts on this bill. I thank President Biden and Vice President HARRIS for working with the Department of Education and the great workers there to address the issues that occurred earlier.

This crucial legislation would set a firm October 1 deadline for the Department of Education to roll out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, form to ensure students' access to Federal student aid in a timely manner.

For many students, FAFSA is a gateway to realizing their dreams of higher education.

In 2022, financial aid through grants or loans provided vital support to over 700,000 undergraduates in Texas in my district.

At Lone Star College, 100 percent of students receive financial aid, while 97 percent receive it at Texas Southern University, 66 percent at the University of Houston, and 39 percent at Houston Community College benefited from these essential resources.

As the cost of college continues to rise, it is crucial that we provide students with every opportunity to apply for financial aid in a timely manner, ensuring their applications are processed without delay.

As a mother, and like many parents here today, I look forward to the implementation of this legislation, which represents more than a deadline. It is a commitment to ensuring that students and parents have access to the resources they need to pursue higher education.

Access to affordable education should not be hindered by delays, and setting this October 1 deadline is a crucial step to make the FAFSA process more predictable and accessible for millions of students and families across our country.

Let us help all students focus on their studies and pursue their academic goals leading to the American Dream today.

I urge and encourage all my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act.

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FAFSA Deadline Act.

This legislation will formally set October 1 as the annual publication date for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA.

A formal, set deadline will ensure that students, parents, and schools have adequate time to apply for, process, and evaluate their financial aid packages.

In 2023, instead of releasing the FAFSA on the traditional existing deadline of October 1, the Department of Education waited until the last possible moment and then published a faulty application that was 3 months late.

The next several months were spent fixing numerous technical issues, and this debacle led to a 12 percent reduction in the FAFSA form completion.

At least the Department of Education is consistent in their failures, however, as once again, this year they missed the October deadline from 45 days ago.

Before the incompetent and woke-obsessed Biden-Harris administration, Congress could depend on the Department of Education to do its job on time, but the Biden-Harris focus has been on the illegal student loan transfer scheme, rather than implementing the required programs.

□ 0930

We need accountability to end this perpetual cycle of incompetence. I offered an amendment that is now included in the bill that requires the Department of Education to certify to Congress 1 month in advance whether or not the FAFSA form will, in fact, be ready by the October 1 deadline.

If the Department certifies in the negative or fails to certify at all, phase two of the accountability kicks in, and within the month, the Secretary of Education would have to testify before Congress regarding their latest failure to meet the deadline. In this testimony, the Secretary would be required

to provide details regarding the financial impact this delay will have on students that it is supposed to be serving.

When Congress sets a deadline, we expect it to be followed. If agencies can't meet that expectation, they need to explain why to the American people, and I hope Members from both parties who express disappointment, if not surprise, at the most recent FAFSA rollout can all join the ranking member, my friend from Virginia, in supporting this simple reform of the FAFSA Deadline Act.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that this year's FAFSA process was a debacle. However, we are missing part of the story if we don't at least mention the work the Department has already done to get FAFSA back on track. The college support strategy deployed experts to colleges across the country to help financial aid officers navigate the new processing system.

The system provided one-time grants to school districts, States, and non-profit organizations to scale up their ability to provide support to students. They had workshops, advising sessions, and media campaigns funded through the strategy to help produce a significant increase in FAFSA submissions throughout the summer.

Additionally, as the Department prepares for the launch of this year's FAFSA form, they are taking great strides in improving transparency and fixing technological issues.

I will include in the RECORD a document from the Department of Education titled: "A focus on Improving the FAFSA Experience: Updates, actions, and a path forward for the 2025-26 cycle." This document outlines 10 core areas to focus on, making improvements to the FAFSA process for both students and colleges.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, which says, in part, that "cementing an October launch date only addresses a piece of the puzzle; consistency is another. Students must be able to trust that the financial aid application process will function as intended and that they will receive clear communication along the way," and they wrote otherwise in support of the legislation.

[From NASFAA, July 10, 2024]

NASFAA STATEMENT ON FAFSA DEADLINE ACT

WASHINGTON, DC.—Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate have introduced a pair of bills that would ensure the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, is made available to students on October 1 each year, ahead of their planned year of enrollment.

The FAFSA form has typically been made available on October 1 each year since 2016, months earlier than the legally mandated January 1 launch date. This discrepancy between common practice and law came into play during this year's turbulent FAFSA rollout, during which the updated "Better

FAFSA" became available to students in a limited and incomplete fashion at the end of December 2023.

In response to this news, NASFAA Vice President of Public Policy & Federal Relations Karen McCarthy issued the following statement:

"Codifying the October 1 FAFSA launch date into law has been a top priority for NASFAA for many years because, when operating as intended, an earlier release date allows colleges and universities to provide financial aid information to students much sooner.

But cementing an October launch date only addresses a piece of the puzzle; consistency is another. Students must be able to trust that the financial aid application process will function as intended and that they will receive clear communication along the way.

This past year has shown us just how critical it is that all students are able to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible. Even today, there are aspects of the 2024-25 FAFSA system that are not yet functional or working as intended.

However, in the absence of a clear timeline or understanding from the Department of Education about when the entire FAFSA system will be available—including the application itself, the transfer of applicant data to schools, and the ability for applicants and schools to make corrections—forcing an October 1 deadline this year does not guarantee a fully functioning form, and may in fact work against efforts to release a product that has been tested and found to run smoothly. We need all stakeholders to work together in good faith to ensure this year's mistakes are not repeated.

We continue to urge the Department of Education to ensure that the entire FAFSA system is up and running as intended as soon as possible and at the same time the application goes live and to promptly communicate that timeline."

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from The Hope Center at Temple University. They said: "Students and their families deserve a form that is available all hours of the day, for all types of applicants, and results in the swift transfer of their information to the States and colleges that will develop their financial aid packages."

They were "concerned that implementing a rigid deadline less than 3 months away will force additional technical issues for applicants. Therefore, we request that you amend H.R. 8932 to start the new deadline on October 1, 2025." That is exactly what we have done in this underlying bill.

THE HOPE CENTER,

July 9, 2024.

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,

*Chairwoman, Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,

*Ranking Member, Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN FOXX AND RANKING MEMBER SCOTT: The last nine months have been challenging for students and their families. Problems associated with implementing the overhaul of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) have created significant confusion, frustration, and uncertainty for many of those applying for the financial aid they need to succeed in college. Therefore, we thank your Committee for its

continued interest in getting the FAFSA back on track, especially for the upcoming 2025-26 cycle launching this fall. We write to comment on H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act.

In normal years, we agree that the FAFSA should be required to launch no later than nine months before the start of the next award year—or by October 1—a timeline now made possible with the use of prior-year tax data. Therefore, we have also joined in coalition requests to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) asking the agency to do everything possible to launch a fully functional FAFSA on time this year. However, it has become clear in recent weeks that ED continues to confront technical issues that could interrupt the usability of the 2025-26 FAFSA.

Students and their families deserve a form that is available at all hours of the day, for all types of applicants, and results in the swift transfer of their information to the states and colleges that will develop their aid packages. We must rebuild trust with applicants, college access professionals, and financial aid administrators, all of whom need to see a reliable FAFSA for them to have confidence in the entire system of financial aid.

Therefore, we believe it is preferable to have the 2025-26 FAFSA launch be slightly delayed but be fully functional, over an on-time October 1 launch that comes with technical issues and glitches, if such a tradeoff is at hand for the upcoming award year. After the 2025-26 cycle, we support an October 1 launch date requirement, but we are concerned that implementing a rigid deadline less than three months away will force additional technical issues for applicants. Therefore, we request that you amend H.R. 8932 to start the new deadline on October 1, 2025 (for the 2026-27 award year) and avoid legislative changes for the 2025-26 cycle.

Additionally, we request that the Committee require a public comment process for the 2026-27 award year and beyond by amending the applicable language in Section 483(a)(4) of the Higher Education Act (HEA). The public comment process is a vital opportunity for stakeholders, practitioners, and students to offer feedback on the design, wording, and format of the questions and help text. However, on June 17 of this year, ED announced that no public comment would be offered for the 2025-26 FAFSA and that the form would instead "remain consistent" with the prior year. Given the outstanding issues that remain with the FAFSA, we understand this short-term decision, and we acknowledge a more open-ended Request for Information (RFI) process is expected this summer. However, an RFI does not have the same requirements for ED to review each comment, and it should not be the standard in future years.

One result of legislating an October 1 launch date for 2026-27 and beyond may be that the agency again declines to offer public comment. We hope that such a result can be prevented by requiring a public comment process like the one that exists for other ED forms and significant rules for the Title IV programs. The Committee may also wish to examine and strengthen the consumer testing language in Section 483(b)(2) of the HEA to ensure that it is conducted more frequently, transparently, and effectively—including by requiring information on who is involved in such testing and how it results in updates to the form.

Finally, we note other legislative opportunities to increase the awareness and uptake of federal financial aid. The recipients of public and tax benefit programs—such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

and Earned Income Tax Credit—would benefit from receiving information about financial aid and vice versa. The FAFSA Simplification Act supported such interagency coordination to raise awareness of federal resources under Sections 483(c)(3) and 485E(c) of the HEA. Additionally, Section 485E(d) requires a public awareness campaign about Title IV aid involving entities such as institutions of higher education, organizations involved in college access and student financial aid, local educational agencies, public libraries, community centers, businesses, employers, workforce investment boards, and organizations that provide services to individuals who are or were homeless, in foster care, or are disconnected youth. However, these sections could benefit from additional requirements for these plans and campaigns, including legislative deadlines and additional funding.

Again, we thank the Committee for working to fix the FAFSA. With amendments to delay the effective date and require public comment, we could support H.R. 8932, but we have concerns in its current form. Given the importance of a functional financial aid system for all students, we also hope that the FAFSA remains a nonpartisan topic and that the Committee searches for consensus on this legislation. We would be happy to discuss the bill further or provide additional information that may be useful to your efforts, including suggested legislative language. We look forward to continuing this critical conversation as you consider other legislative proposals for the FAFSA and federal financial aid.

Sincerely,

BRYCE MCKIBBEN,

*Senior Director of Policy & Advocacy,  
The Hope Center at Temple University.*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter in support from the American Council on Education, a consortium of several national college organizations that are also in support.

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,  
*Washington, DC, July 9, 2024.*

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,  
*Chairwoman, Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Education and Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN FOXX AND RANKING MEMBER SCOTT: On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, we write to offer our support for H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act, which the committee will mark up tomorrow. This bill would move up the statutory date for the annual release of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from Jan. 1 to Oct. 1 each year. Making such a change would have significant benefits for students applying or returning to college each year and is a priority of the higher education community.

Giving students additional time to fully understand the financial aid available to them is critical for a number of reasons. As we noted in our May 22, 2024, letter to your committee, “moving the statutory deadline to October 1st would ensure that students have ample time to complete the form; give college access organizations and counselors time to support student completion; and allow institutions to process aid awards in time for students to make the best college decisions.” This year, we have also seen the unfortunate consequences of delays in that information reaching students, with a current 11.6 percent decline in completed FAFSA applications at this point in the process.

We appreciate the effort and attention your committee has paid to improving the FAFSA process and to meeting the needs of low-income students. We strongly support the FAFSA Deadline Act and encourage your members to vote for it in a bipartisan manner when it is marked up tomorrow.

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. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS).

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act.

This bill addresses the urgent need for predictability and transparency in release of FAFSA, the form that helps so many American families to plan and afford college.

For years, students and parents could rely on the October 1 release date for FAFSA, giving families time to understand their aid options and make informed decisions about the future, but under the Biden-Harris administration, we have seen a pattern of delays, poor planning, and, worse: indifference to the impact these failures have on Americans.

After years of groundwork laid by the bipartisan FAFSA Simplification Act, the Department of Education had every reason to be prepared, but in 2023, they missed their mark, and not just by days or weeks. They delayed the form's release until the end of December, leaving families in the lurch and scrambling to meet a last-minute deadline.

The consequences of these delays are real. It isn't just about dates on a calendar. It is about futures on hold. The Department of Education's dysfunction means 430,000 fewer students filed a FAFSA this year. That is not a small number. It is hundreds of thousands of young people who have abandoned their plans for college simply because they couldn't get the information they needed.

Beyond the missed opportunities for students, these delays burdened schools and States, preventing them from processing aid packages on time and creating even more uncertainty in an already challenging time for higher education.

The FAFSA Deadline Act isn't just a fix. It is a promise, a promise that our Department of Education will be held to an October 1 release date, giving students, families, and schools the clarity and predictability they deserve.

This bill would end the needless confusion. It says that future administra-

tions won't be able to move the goalposts or let the deadline slip through their fingers, all while families are left paying the price.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to make college more accessible for our kids. H.R. 8932 will ensure that students don't lose the chance to pursue their higher education just because of bureaucratic missteps.

It is a commonsense reform that will bring accountability and order to a system that desperately needs it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, not just for us but for the millions of young Americans counting on us to keep the doors of opportunity wide open.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that frustrates so many Americans is that our government has gotten involved in doing many things that it really shouldn't be doing, so many excessive regulations and outsized bureaucracies. Then, all too often, it fails to competently perform the basic functions the people actually expect from the government and that they are entitled to as taxpayers. The FAFSA fiasco is a very clear example of that.

Every year, high school students across the country fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA opens doors for millions of students nationwide, ensuring that postsecondary education is accessible and affordable.

Traditionally, the form is released by October 1, giving students and their families plenty of time to decide what postsecondary option is right for them. Unfortunately, the Department of Education has neglected its core responsibility to these students.

The Department's failure to meet deadlines has created unnecessary uncertainty for students and families already struggling with the college application process, which is already stressful to begin with.

The FAFSA Simplification Act passed in 2020 was supposed to make the application process easier to navigate. The Department was even given an extra year to ensure a smooth roll-out of the revised form. However, despite that extended timeline, it failed to deliver on time, and the ones who suffered the most were the students who could least afford it.

The Department knew as early as August 2022 that they would miss the October 1, 2023, deadline but then failed to inform the public. Eight months later, they announced a delay until “sometime in December,” and we had to wait until the last day of the year for a so-called soft launch. This incomplete rollout left critical parts of the form completely unusable.

Even more troubling, the Department abused the statutory gap that allows the release by January 1 by not

even being fully prepared for that hard cutoff. When processing finally began, millions of applications were riddled with calculation errors, forcing reprocessing and causing chaos for students and institutions.

The consequences were devastating. About 430,000 fewer students filed a FAFSA this year compared to last year. To make matters worse, millions of calls for help went unanswered. Families were left in the dark, scrambling for answers with no support during one of the most critical periods in a child's academic journey.

This is why I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act. This bill would hold the Department of Education accountable by setting a hard deadline of October 1 for releasing the FAFSA and requiring an accountability check-in each September to ensure they stay on track.

Mr. Speaker, I urge colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 22 minutes remaining. The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 18½ minutes remaining.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as my colleague from Virginia said, several organizations have announced public support for the FAFSA Deadline Act. Here are some of the things that they are saying.

The American Council for Education said: "Given the issues institutions of higher education faced during the 2024–2025 FAFSA processing cycle, it is critically important to avoid future problems. For this academic year, overall first-year enrollment is down by 5 percent, at least in part due to issues with the 2024–2025 FAFSA. In addition, universal access to the 2025–2026 FAFSA is already delayed, and some campus officials have expressed concerns about whether the FAFSA will be fully available by December 1. We offer our full support for this piece of legislation and hope to see it pass the House."

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

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

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act, and I commend Congresswoman HOUSHIN for her leadership on this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it isn't too often that we get to say this, but there is bipartisan agreement in recognizing the Department of Education's rollout of FAFSA has been nothing short of an

embarrassment. Sadly, it is an embarrassment that negatively impacted students across the country, teachers, professors, and especially lower income students who need financial assistance the most.

I was proud to be part of the bipartisan effort to overhaul FAFSA and make it simpler, but after 3 long years to implement the reforms, the Department dropped the ball numerous times. As a result, over 430,000 fewer students submitted a FAFSA form, according to GAO.

Additionally, there have been numerous reports from across the country about how this botched rollout has affected institutions. This fall semester, institutions experienced the steepest drop in first-year enrollment since the pandemic, pushing many institutions to the financial brink.

This is unacceptable. H.R. 8932 is a commonsense bill to provide students, families, and institutions much-needed clarity by ensuring the FAFSA is released and fully operational on October 1 of each year. Doing so will ensure schools and counselors are able to conduct outreach efforts as needed. Colleges will be able to get their financial aid offers processed in a timely manner, and students will be able to make informed decisions about their academic future.

Mr. Speaker, under the Biden-Harris administration, the Department of Education has become a bloated arsenal of bureaucracy, more focused on woke policies than its core mission. I look forward to working with the incoming Trump administration on rightsizing the Department of Education, if that is even possible, and putting American students and their families first.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support H.R. 8932.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this bill is about improving the process going forward. Obviously, the FAFSA rollout was a debacle, but even though it was a debacle, the FAFSA Simplification Act has resulted in over half a million more students receiving financial aid. We need to make sure that students and families have the information they need to make informed decisions about their futures.

Since H.R. 8932 will be implemented for next year's form, 2025 and onward, I believe it strikes the right balance between setting a clear deadline and providing the flexibility for the Department of Education to fix any lingering issues as they finish implementing the bipartisan FAFSA Simplification Act this year.

□ 0945

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation to help ensure financial aid is distributed promptly and effectively. I look forward to continuing to improve the FAFSA form and expanding access to financial aid as originally in-

tended in the FAFSA Simplification Act.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the FAFSA is a cornerstone of America's commitment to educational opportunity. When we fail to uphold this promise, we jeopardize the dreams and hard work of students who look to postsecondary education as a pathway to a better future.

The FAFSA Deadline Act is a necessary measure to protect that future by enforcing deadlines, ensuring transparency, and making certain that families receive the aid they depend on to make college accessible.

This is about delivering the basic functionality students deserve and safeguarding their ambitions against bureaucratic failure.

Students have enough on their plates as they prepare for college. It is up to us to make sure that the Federal Government isn't adding to that burden.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1568, 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

Ms. FOXX. 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 for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0950

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOODEN of Texas) at 9 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.

#### FAFSA DEADLINE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 8932) to establish an earlier application processing cycle for

the FAFSA, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 381, nays 1, not voting 50, as follows:

[Roll No. 465]

YEAS—381

Adams	Davis (IL)	Johnson (SD)
Aderholt	Davis (NC)	Jordan
Aguilar	De La Cruz	Joyce (PA)
Alford	DeGette	Kaptur
Allen	DeLauro	Kean (NJ)
Allred	DelBene	Keating
Amo	Deluzio	Kelly (IL)
Amodei	DeSaulnier	Kelly (MS)
Arrington	DesJarlais	Kelly (PA)
Auchincloss	Dingell	Kennedy
Babin	Doggett	Khanna
Bacon	Duarte	Kiggans (VA)
Baird	Duncan	Kildee
Balderson	Dunn (FL)	Kiley
Balint	Edwards	Kilmer
Banks	Ellzey	Kim (CA)
Barr	Emmer	Kim (NJ)
Barragán	Escobar	Krishnamoorthi
Bean (FL)	Eshoo	Kuster
Beatty	Espallat	Kustoff
Bentz	Estes	LaHood
Bera	Ezell	LaLota
Bergman	Fallon	LaMalfa
Bice	Feenstra	Landsman
Bilirakis	Finstad	Langworthy
Bishop (NC)	Fischbach	Larsen (WA)
Blumenauer	Fitzgerald	Larson (CT)
Blunt Rochester	Fitzpatrick	Latta
Boebert	Fleischmann	LaTurner
Bonamici	Fletcher	Lawler
Bost	Flood	Lee (CA)
Boyle (PA)	Fong	Lee (FL)
Brecheen	Foster	Lee (PA)
Brown	Foushee	Lee Carter
Brownley	Foxx	Leger Fernandez
Buchanan	Franklin, Scott	Lesko
Buchson	Frost	Letlow
Budzinski	Fry	Levin
Burchett	Fulcher	Lieu
Burgess	Garamendi	Lopez
Burlison	Garcia (IL)	Loudermilk
Bush	Garcia (TX)	Lucas
Calvert	Garcia, Robert	Luetkemeyer
Cammack	Gimenez	Luttrell
Caraveo	Golden (ME)	Mace
Carbajal	Gomez	Magaziner
Carey	Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis
Carl	Gonzalez, V.	Maloy
Carson	Good (VA)	Mann
Carter (GA)	Gooden (TX)	Manning
Carter (LA)	Gosar	Mast
Carter (TX)	Graves (LA)	Matsui
Casar	Graves (MO)	McBath
Case	Green (TN)	McCaul
Casten	Green, Al (TX)	McClain
Castor (FL)	Greene (GA)	McClellan
Castro (TX)	Griffith	McClintock
Chavez-DeRemer	Grothman	McCollum
Cherfilus-	Guest	McCormick
McCormick	Guthrie	McGarvey
Chu	Hageman	McGovern
Ciscomani	Harder (CA)	McIver
Clark (MA)	Harris	Meeks
Clarke (NY)	Harshbarger	Menendez
Cleaver	Hayes	Meng
Cline	Hern	Mfume
Cloud	Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)
Clyburn	Hill	Miller (OH)
Clyde	Himes	Miller (WV)
Cohen	Hinson	Miller-Meeks
Cole	Horsford	Mills
Collins	Houchin	Moolenaar
Comer	Houlihan	Mooney
Correa	Hoyer	Moore (AL)
Costa	Hoyle (OR)	Moore (UT)
Courtney	Hudson	Moore (WI)
Craig	Huffman	Moran
Crane	Huizenga	Morelle
Crawford	Issa	Moskowitz
Crockett	Ivey	Moulton
Crow	Jackson (IL)	Mrvan
Cuellar	Jackson (NC)	Mullin
Curtis	Jacobs	Murphy
D'Esposito	Jayapal	Nadler
Davidson	Jeffries	Neal
Davidson	Johnson (GA)	Neguse

Nehls	Salinas	Thompson (MS)
Newhouse	Sarbanes	Thompson (PA)
Nickel	Scalise	Tiffany
Norman	Scanlon	Timmons
Nunn (IA)	Schakowsky	Titus
Obenolte	Schneider	Tlaib
Ocasio-Cortez	Scholten	Tokuda
Ogles	Schrier	Tonko
Omar	Schweikert	Torres (CA)
Owens	Scott (VA)	Torres (NY)
Pallone	Scott, Austin	Trahan
Palmer	Self	Trone
Panetta	Sessions	Turner
Pappas	Sewell	Underwood
Pelosi	Sherman	Valadao
Peltoia	Sherrill	Van Drew
Pence	Simpson	Van Dуйne
Perez	Slotkin	Van Orden
Perry	Smith (MO)	Vargas
Peters	Smith (NE)	Vasquez
Pettersen	Smith (NJ)	Veasey
Pfluger	Smith (WA)	Velázquez
Phillips	Smucker	Wagner
Pocan	Sorensen	Walberg
Posey	Soto	Wasserman
Pressley	Spanberger	Schultz
Quigley	Stansbury	Waters
Raskin	Stanton	Watson Coleman
Reschenthaler	Staubert	Weber (TX)
Rogers (AL)	Steel	Webster (FL)
Rogers (KY)	Stefanik	Wenstrup
Rose	Steil	Westerman
Rosendale	Steube	Wied
Ross	Stevens	Williams (GA)
Rouzer	Strickland	Williams (TX)
Roy	Strong	Wilson (FL)
Ruiz	Suozzi	Wilson (SC)
Rulli	Swalwell	Wittman
Ruppersberger	Sykes	Womack
Rutherford	Takano	Yakym
Ryan	Thanedar	Zinke
Salazar	Thompson (CA)	

NAYS—1

Lofgren  
NOT VOTING—50

Armstrong	Garcia, Mike	Molinaro
Beyer	Goldman (NY)	Napolitano
Biggs	Gottheimer	Norcross
Bishop (GA)	Granger	Pingree
Bowman	Grijalva	Porter
Cárdenas	Hunt	Ramirez
Cartwright	Jackson (TX)	Rodgers (WA)
Connolly	James	Sánchez
Crenshaw	Joyce (OH)	Schiff
Dean (PA)	Kamlager-Dove	Scott, David
Diaz-Balart	Lamborn	Spartz
Donalds	Lee (NV)	Tenney
Evans	Luna	Waltz
Ferguson	Lynch	Wexton
Frankel, Lois	Massie	Wild
Gallego	McHenry	Williams (NY)
Garbarino	Meuser	

□ 1019

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. DOGGETT changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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:

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Madam Speaker, due to travel delays, I was not able to be present to vote on the passage of H.R. 8932, the FAFSA Deadline Act. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 465.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I missed the following vote, but had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 465.

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, my vote was not recorded today. Had it been recorded, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 465.

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 465.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 465.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024, TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Mr. LUTTRELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

LAYING ON THE TABLE H. RES. 1410

Mr. LUTTRELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that H. Res. 1410 be laid on the table.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING FLORA LEAMER'S LASTING LEGACY

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Flora Leamer, who was the heart and soul of Clarence, New York.

Flora was someone who always said yes when it came to helping a neighbor. Every community needs more people like Flora.

At local events, she was a familiar sight, often with a camera in hand or alongside her husband, John, riding side by side in parades decked out all in red, white, and blue.

Flora was tireless. She always went above and beyond in everything she did. From the Clarence Chamber of Commerce to the farmers market, from historical societies to Winterfest, Flora's involvement left a lasting mark on the community.

Her kindness, warmth, and boundless energy were a gift to Clarence, and she will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege to know her.

May this lasting legacy continue to inspire us all to be more like Flora.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KINSTON MAYOR BUDDY RITCH

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable life of Buddy Ritch, a true servant-leader who was not only dedicated to serving our country but also the city of Kinston.



He was a veteran, entrepreneur, and champion for the city. Buddy's legacy began with service in the 82nd Airborne Division during the Korean war.

Upon returning, he transformed his entrepreneurial spirit into an engine for community betterment, establishing the Boys and Girls Club of Lenoir County, revitalizing downtown Kinston, and serving 16 years as mayor.

His leadership brought over 20 industries into our region, and Kinston earned the All-American City Award not once but twice.

Buddy's life reminds us that service is a calling.

To his family, we extend our deepest gratitude for sharing such an extraordinary man with us.

To the city of Kinston, may Buddy's legacy inspire generations.

#### CONGRATULATING RUTH HENDERSON MCQUEEN

(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 Ms. Ruth Henderson McQueen for making it into the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

Ruth is a remarkable Tennessean who has dedicated her life to serving our communities, agriculture, and especially 4-H youth. Ruth started out in 4-H as a fifth grader in Loudon County. Back then, her family didn't even have indoor plumbing, much less a phone or a TV. Through 4-H, Ruth's world opened up.

Madam Speaker, over her 26-year career with UT Extension, Ruth accomplished a lot of firsts. She became the first female president of UT's agriculture honor society, Gamma Sigma Delta, and she organized events like Ag Day that bring our community together.

What is most special about Ruth is her dedication to people. She oversaw a program that welcomed over 850 Japanese students into Tennessee homes, where they learned about our culture and creating lifelong friendships, Madam Speaker.

Even after retirement in 2001, Ruth stayed active. She served on boards and mentored young adults. She is also very well spoken, unlike myself. She is very compassionate, and many people have said that she is the one to call when you need a speech, a mentor, or a listening ear.

Ruth's dedication and kindness have made our community a much better place. I thank her for all she has done. She deserves this honor.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF SANDY ISENBERG

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of

former Lucas County commissioner and a dear friend, Sandra "Sandy" Isenberg, a trailblazer in northwest Ohio and a shero for our community. Serving as commissioner for 17 years, Sandy was a fierce and dedicated public servant with good humor and a love of people. Her impact will be felt for generations.

She paved the way for women in government when there were few role models, and she held her ground with both strength and grace and with a fierce loyalty to our home county.

She fought tirelessly for the little gal and the little guy, bringing voice and dignity to all corners of our community.

Her relentless work brought help to thousands of people and transformative projects to our community, like Fifth Third Field, the home of the Toledo Mud Hens, a redevelopment beacon for downtown Toledo that she championed.

Personally, I will always remember her wise counsel and humor. She stood shoulder to shoulder with us in every fight that mattered for our working families. Truly, northwest Ohio has lost a true advocate, friend, and formidable force.

Madam Speaker, today, we remember Sandy Isenberg with gratitude, and our community must carry forward her legacy of courage, compassion, and unyielding service.

May our love and gratitude help heal her beloved family, her sister, Barbara; Barbara's husband, Alan; her sons, Michael and Dennis; and her grandchildren, Madison, Morgan, Max, and Maris.

For all of us, Sandy was a rock of strength. Her indomitable spirit accompanies us always.

□ 1030

#### HONORING RACHEL HARRIS

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

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my chief of staff, Rachel Harris.

With my upcoming retirement, I think it is important to recognize the individuals who have supported me throughout my tenure in Congress, none more important than my staff.

Rachel joined my team as communications director in March of 2020 and has served as my chief of staff since October of 2021. Rachel is a hard worker who could always be relied upon to get things done. No matter the task, large or small, Rachel is ready to tackle it.

Originally from Russellville, Arkansas, Rachel has been committed to public service from an early age including volunteering on local political campaigns and even serving as an intern here in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Throughout her tenure, she has shown tremendous dedication to me, my staff, our constituents, the State of Arizona, and the Nation.

As I leave Congress and she leaves the House, I have no doubt she will do great things in all of her future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Rachel for her service. I truly appreciate her.

#### COMMEMORATING BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the third anniversary of the bipartisan infrastructure law which has delivered over a billion dollars and 13,000 jobs in my district.

I see the way this legislation is helping out communities. That is why I am committed to protecting it in the next administration.

Either out of misguided priorities or merely out of revenge, I know there are Members in this Chamber who have expressed eagerness to dismantle these programs.

We have already been calling out people who voted "no" but still took the dough. Now we need to be ready to highlight how these efforts to undermine these laws would harm middle-class working families.

In my role in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I will work to protect our landmark achievements every single day. I will happily remind my colleagues who may suddenly embrace government spending, again, under President Trump, who is really to thank for the communities' improved quality of life.

#### HIGH-SPEED RAIL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, California has had this boondoggle since 2008 known as high-speed rail. Now it might work good in other places—Europe, Japan, places like that. Given California's topography and the nature of the people there, they are not going to use it.

Then what do we have? What was approved back in 2008 by the voters was a project costing \$33 billion, of which \$9 billion would be done by bonds, and the rest would come from the private sector. The private sector stayed away in droves because it is a big money loser.

They have instead had to go to other methods of getting funding including cap and trade, which is taxing people basically on fuel. As you see, California fuel prices are going up more and more, a buck and a half a gallon, maybe two bucks a gallon by the time the next round of taxation hits drivers in California.

They still have ideas about coming back and getting more Federal money. In the so-called stimulus act of 2009,

they got about \$3 billion out of that. They want to come back for another \$3 billion on top of the \$3 billion they already got out of the so-called Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

So this thing continues to be a rat-hole for money. We should not send any more Federal dollars there. We should not send any more State dollars or cap and trade or automobile driver dollars towards it because it isn't going to work.

Instead, let people invest in their highways and their airports, something that people actually use and can afford.

#### PREMATURITY AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Madam Speaker, November is Prematurity Awareness Month and November 17 is Prematurity Awareness Day. It is an opportunity for us to come together and commit to address the United States' horrific preterm birth rate.

This is an issue that is personal to me. My daughter, Samantha, was born by emergency C-section 9 weeks early when my placenta ruptured because I had placenta previa. I was one of the lucky ones. After 6 weeks in the NICU, she was able to come home. When she stood with me when I took the oath of office, no one would ever know that she started less than 5 pounds. Not everyone is as lucky.

The March of Dimes just issued its annual report card for preterm birth rates; and the United States earned a D-plus once again, remaining the worst grade in the report's history. Chronic conditions, inadequate prenatal care, and racial disparities fueled these historic preterm birth rates.

The preterm birth rate remains at 10.4 percent with significant disparities among racial and ethnic groups. We have more work to do. Please stay tuned because next week I will be proposing a bipartisan measure to help bring this birth rate down.

#### COMMEMORATING LOUIS BENNETT, JR.

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

Mr. MOONEY. Madam Speaker, the national World War I Memorial here in Washington was recently completed with a sculpture known as "A Soldier's Journey."

In the spirit of honoring our World War I veterans, I rise to commemorate Louis Bennett, Jr. of Weston, West Virginia. Bennett realized the power aviation could bring to the war effort and formed the West Virginia Flying Corps. When the corps failed to achieve military status, Bennett chose commend-

ably to interrupt his studies at Yale and enlist in the British Royal Flying Corps.

Bennet flew combat missions in Western Europe. Over the course of only 9 days, he amassed a remarkable high number of 12 kills of enemy aircraft. Lieutenant Bennett became known as the balloon buster for shooting down nine German surveillance balloons, which is dangerous because, when the balloons blow up, they sometimes take the plane down with them.

On August 14, 1919, he was shot down and killed by German anti-aircraft artillery. In honor of her only son, in 1992, Mrs. Sallie Bennett donated her stately home to Lewis County for a war memorial and library. Mrs. Bennett used her considerable wealth to fund memorials of World War I veterans. I am pleased we have a place to memorialize them here in our Nation's Capital.

#### BIPARTISANSHIP

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

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act.

This legislation will finally repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, mistakes which have unfairly reduced or eliminated Social Security benefits for millions of Americans who have devoted their years to public service. I am proud that a strong bipartisan majority came together to protect their hard-earned benefits.

As we celebrate this historic vote, it is also important to recognize that, were it not for the discharge petition, this bill, despite its strong bipartisan support, would never have even come to the floor for a vote.

Too often the extreme flanks of both parties are calling the shots, leaving the majority of Members who are seeking bipartisan and thoughtful policy-making absolutely hamstrung.

As we look forward to the 119th Congress, it is my hope that we can strengthen the discharge petition, allowing us to bring more meaningful bipartisan pieces of legislation to the floor and more bipartisan productivity back to this Chamber.

#### A GRATEFUL NATION SALUTES AL OLIVER

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the life of Ohio Second District native and Major League Baseball star, Al Oliver of Portsmouth, Ohio.

Born in 1946, Al learned from a young age what it means to be a leader. After his mother passed away when he was

11, he took on the incredible responsibility of caring for his two younger siblings. A standout baseball and basketball player at Portsmouth High School, he would later sign with the Pittsburgh Pirates at just 17 years old and would make his major league debut just 3 years later.

Oliver's career lasted 18 years including stops with seven baseball teams. Most notably, Oliver was part of the September 1, 1971, Pirates lineup that featured the first all-Black lineup in Major League Baseball history. That 1971 team would later go on to win the World Series.

In 1986, Oliver retired as a seven-time all-star, a three-time Silver Slugger, and World Series champion. Much like the story of our Nation, Oliver's is a story of overcoming challenges.

Al Oliver's story of fighting through adverse odds is an example to our Nation's children in America, through hard work, and perseverance, one can accomplish anything they set their mind to. Al Oliver did that.

We thank Al Oliver. A grateful Nation salutes him.

Play ball.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT OF 2023

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Madam Speaker, for 40 years an unfair law has cut the Social Security benefits of millions of police officers, firefighters, first responders, public school teachers, and other government employees, even though they pay just as much into the Social Security system as other Americans.

These people, our friends and neighbors who keep us safe and teach our children, should not be penalized for pursuing years in public service.

That is why I proudly voted this week for the Social Security Fairness Act, to end the GOP and WEP rules that have unfairly reduced the earned Social Security benefits of public servants.

This is a matter of basic fairness. All Americans deserve to retire with dignity but especially those who serve our communities in education, law enforcement, public safety, and other service roles.

It is time to right this wrong. Now that the House has passed this bill, I urge the Senate to take it up immediately and to restore full Social Security benefits for the millions of Americans who have been treated so unfairly.

#### HONORING EMS DIVISION CHIEF STEPHANIE WINEGAR

(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 Stephanie Winegar, the

EMS division chief of the Washington Township/Avon Fire Department and for winning the 2024 Indiana Emergency Response Conference EMS Officer of the Year Award.

As is displayed on this poster, Stephanie won this award for exceptional leadership, professionalism, and dedication to serving our central Indiana communities. She began her EMS career in 1988 as a volunteer EMT with the Wayne Township Fire Department. She tirelessly worked for Wishard Ambulance Service, while pursuing her paramedic certification from St. Vincent Hospital.

In 2023, she became Washington Township/Avon Fire Department's first female EMS chief. Thanks to Stephanie's leadership, her teams are always well-equipped when responding to emergency situations and excel in patient care.

We are so grateful for her service to our central Indiana communities for over two decades. She is to be congratulated on her outstanding achievement.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1510.—An act to amend provisions relating to the Office of the Inspector General of the Government Accountability Office, and for other purposes.

S. 2143.—An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 South 2nd Avenue in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, as the “Staff Sergeant Robb Lura Roofing Post Office Building”.

S. 2274.—An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 112 Wyoming Street in Shoshoni, Wyoming, as the “Dessie A. Bebout Post Office”.

S. 3267.—An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Dakota Avenue South in Huron, South Dakota, as the “First Lieutenant Thomas Michael Martin Post Office Building”.

S. 3419.—An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1765 Camp Hill Bypass in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, as the “John Charles Traub Post Office”.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, November 18, 2024, at noon for morning-hour debate.

#### OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Members executed the oath for access to classified information:

Tony Wied.  
Erica Lee Carter.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-6068. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6069. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Nicaragua that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6070. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 7034(k)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024, pursuant to Public Law 118-47, Sec. 7034(k)(5); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6071. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 7034(k)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2024, pursuant to Public Law 118-47, Sec. 7034(k)(5); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6072. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Notarial and Related Services [Public Notice: 12553] (RIN: 1400-AF89) received October 29, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6073. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6074. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT Case 24-10362; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6075. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a memorandum of justification for the exercise of authority under section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6076. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination under section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-6077. A letter from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the report, “HHS Continues to Make Progress Toward Compliance With the Geospatial Data Act”, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 2802(c)(11)(C); Public Law 115-254, Sec. 753(c)(11)(C); (132 Stat. 3417) and 43

U.S.C. 2802(c)(12)(B); Public Law 115-254, Sec. 753(c)(12)(B); (132 Stat. 3417); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-6078. A letter from the General Counsel to Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General, United States Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a change of status of Inspector General, pursuant to section 5241 of Public Law 117-263; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-6079. A letter from the Biologist, Migratory Bird Program, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Permits for Incidental Take of Eagles and Eagle Nests; Correction and Technical Amendment [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2020-0023; FF09M30000-245-FXMB1232090000] (RIN: 1018-BE70) received October 25, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6080. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; Final 2024 and 2025 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish [Docket No.: 240304-0068] (RTID: 0648-XD454) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6081. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Framework Adjustment 38 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan [Docket No.: 240314-0080] (RIN: 0648-BM78) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6082. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; 2024 and 2025 Summer Flounder and Scup, and 2024 Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Measures [Docket No.: 240419-0114] (RIN: 0648-BM83) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6083. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — PIRO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Pacific Island Fisheries; Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures for Main Hawaiian Islands Kona Crab for Fishing Years 2024-2026 [Docket No.: 240501-0123] (RIN: 0648-BM65) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6084. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Two Groundfish Species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 230306-0065; RTID 0648-XD525] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6085. A letter from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting a

decision by the Department of Justice to not appeal “United States v. Castillo Guerrero, No. 21-cr-20132 (S.D. Fla. Aug. 14, 2023)”, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D(a)(1); Public Law 107-273, Sec. 202(a); (116 Stat. 1771); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6086. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Medicare Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG) Demonstration Evaluation Final Report to Congress, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395l note; Public Law 112-242, Sec. 101(f) (as amended by Public Law 116-260, Sec. 104(b)); (134 Stat. 2943); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

EC-6087. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting the Biennial Report on Americans with Disabilities Act Public Services and Accommodations Inspections — 117th Congress, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1331(f)(2); Public Law 104-1, Sec. 210(f)(2); (109 Stat. 13); jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and the Workforce.

## 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. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 10131. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to include fertility treatment and care as an essential health benefit; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TIMMONS (for himself and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 10132. A bill to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 10133. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require the reporting of periodic transaction reports not later than 15 days after receiving notification of the requirement to report a transaction but in no case later than 30 days after such transaction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 10134. A bill to establish a Commission on Federal Natural Disaster Resilience and Recovery to examine and recommend reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Federal Government’s approach to natural disaster resilience and recovery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 10135. A bill to improve the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of diagnosis in health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MURPHY):

H.R. 10136. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to align payment under Medicare for specified surgical procedures with high-cost supplies furnished in office-based facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently

determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 10137. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide health care for family members and other individuals who resided at or worked at locations where there is a presumption of service-connection for certain illnesses and conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 10138. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Chairman of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals to give priority to individuals with certain professional experience in recommending such individuals to serve as members of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MENG, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 10139. A bill to amend title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal renewable electricity standard for retail electricity suppliers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 10140. A bill to authorize additional funding for the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 10141. A bill to increase transparency, accountability, and community engagement within the Department of Homeland Security, to provide independent oversight of border security activities, to improve training for agents and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 10142. A bill to improve the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. PALMER (for himself, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BACON, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mrs. LUNA):

H.R. 10143. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to transfer certain amounts to the Disaster Relief Fund; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 10144. A bill to increase the percentage of authorized units that a public housing agency may use for PHA project-based assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. ISSA, Ms. BOEBERT, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. RULLI):

H.R. 10145. A bill to amend the definitions of firearm silencer and firearm muffler in section 921 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PLASKETT:

H.R. 10146. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work op-

portunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. PLASKETT:

H.R. 10147. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for a credit against tax for employers of reservists; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ (for herself and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 10148. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to entities that furnish services to homeless veterans; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. SCANLON:

H.R. 10149. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to promote access to voter registration and voting for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 10150. A bill to establish a low-income water assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Oversight and Accountability, 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. 221. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Defense relating to “Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. BARR, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. HILL, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. EMMER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. ROSE, Mr. STEEL, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GARBARINO, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mrs. HOUCHEIN, and Mr. OGLES):

H. Res. 1574. A resolution calling for the removal of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Chairman Martin J. Gruenberg from his position, effective immediately; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. ROSS:

H. Res. 1575. A resolution expressing support for designating the week of November 4 through November 10, 2024, as “Forensic Nursing Week”; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## 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. UNDERWOOD:  
H.R. 10131.

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 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to include fertility treatment and care as an essential health benefit.

By Mr. TIMMONS:  
H.R. 10132.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BURCHETT:  
H.R. 10133.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To require the reporting of periodic transaction reports not later than 15 days after receiving notification of the requirement to report a transaction but in no case later than 30 days after such transaction.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:  
H.R. 10134.

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:  
To establish a Commission on Federal Natural Disaster Resilience and Recovery to examine and recommend reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Federal Government’s approach to natural disaster resilience and recovery, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BEYER:  
H.R. 10135.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Legislating

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:  
H.R. 10136.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
This bill would realign reimbursement for certain office-based interventions with high-cost supplies under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:  
H.R. 10137.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Veterans Affairs

By Ms. BROWNLEY:  
H.R. 10138.

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

Article I Section 8

Veterans Affairs  
By Ms. CLARKE of New York:  
H.R. 10139.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Energy

By Mr. COSTA:  
H.R. 10140.

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:  
Additional funding to comply with the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act.

By Ms. ESCOBAR:  
H.R. 10141.

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

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have 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 in any department or officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
For the purpose of introducing additional transparency and accountability at the Department of Homeland Security.

By Mr. HARDER of California:  
H.R. 10142.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To improve the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes

By Mr. PALMER:  
H.R. 10143.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Directs the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to transfer certain amounts to the Disaster Relief Fund.

By Mr. PANETTA:  
H.R. 10144.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Modifying the limits on project based vouchers utilized by a public housing authority

By Mr. PFLUGER:  
H.R. 10145.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To amend the definitions of firearm silencer and firearm muffler in section 921 of title 18, United States Code.

By Ms. PLASKETT:  
H.R. 10146.

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 allow small businesses a work opportunity tax credit for hiring a member of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard. The bill also makes permanent the provisions of the credit that apply to the hiring of qualified veterans and members of the Ready Reserve and National Guard

By Ms. PLASKETT:  
H.R. 10147.

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 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for a small business tax credit for the employment of reservists.

By Mrs. RAMIREZ:  
H.R. 10148.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
This legislation expands the services that GPD providers to include prevention services, and also allows for Capital Grants to be used to convert units to permanent housing.

By Ms. SCANLON:  
H.R. 10149.

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:  
To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to promote access to voter registration and voting for individuals with disabilities.

By Ms. TLAIB:  
H.R. 10150.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
This bill establishes a permanent low-income drinking water assistance program at the EPA.

By Mr. PALMER:  
H.J. Res. 221.

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 Department of Defense relating to “Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program”.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 724: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.  
H.R. 779: Mr. BRECHEEN.  
H.R. 800: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.  
H.R. 902: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. PETERS.  
H.R. 913: Mr. AMO.  
H.R. 1077: Mr. FROST.  
H.R. 1321: Mr. VARGAS.  
H.R. 1491: Ms. SALINAS.  
H.R. 2407: Mr. KILEY and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.  
H.R. 2679: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.  
H.R. 2700: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. BRECHEEN.  
H.R. 2753: Mr. AMO.  
H.R. 2923: Mr. LANDSMAN.  
H.R. 3633: Ms. BROWNLEY.  
H.R. 4050: Mr. CARBAJAL.  
H.R. 4572: Mr. LIEU, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. BEYER.  
H.R. 5400: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.  
H.R. 5563: Mr. EVANS.  
H.R. 6751: Mr. HUIZENGA and Mr. MOOLENAAR.  
H.R. 6790: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. OBERNOLTE.  
H.R. 8028: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. JAMES.  
H.R. 8147: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota and Mr. FEENSTRA.  
H.R. 8278: Mr. HUIZENGA.  
H.R. 8596: Mr. KHANNA.  
H.R. 8621: Ms. UNDERWOOD.  
H.R. 8882: Mr. BILIRAKIS.  
H.R. 8977: Mr. STAUBER and Mr. MORELLE.  
H.R. 9337: Ms. SLOTKIN.  
H.R. 9534: Mr. CRANE.  
H.R. 9855: Mr. TONKO, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 9885: Mr. STAUBER.  
 H.R. 9922: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.  
 H.R. 9950: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. LATTA.  
 H.R. 9964: Ms. TLAIB.  
 H.R. 9972: Mr. CASE.  
 H.R. 9979: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 9982: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.  
 H.R. 10036: Mr. MOONEY and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.  
 H.R. 10058: Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 10060: Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 10073: Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GUEST, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. RYAN.  
 H.R. 10084: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. VEASEY.  
 H.R. 10099: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 10113: Mr. CUELLAR.  
 H.R. 10121: Mr. TAKANO.  
 H.J. Res. 72: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. CLYBURN.

Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. McGovern, Mr. Khanna, Ms. McClellan, Ms. McCollum, Mr. DeSaulnier, Ms. Pingree, Mr. Beyer, Ms. Kaptur, Ms. Lee of California, Ms. Lofgren, Mr. Tonko, Mr. Quigley, Mr. Cuellar, Mr. Keating, Mr. Mfume, Mr. Ivey, Mr. Doggett, Ms. Salinas, Mr. Morelle, Mr. Takano, Mr. Raskin, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Ms. Manning, Ms. DeLauro, and Mr. Sorenson.  
 Petition 19, November 14, 2024, by Mr. STEUBE on the bill (H.R. 1279), was signed by the following Members: Mr. Steube and Mr. Buchanan.

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#### DISCHARGE PETITIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XV, the following discharge petitions were filed:

Petition 18, November 13, 2024, by Mr. COHEN on House Resolution 1452, was signed by the following Members: Mr. Cohen, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Pettersen, Mr. Casten, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Porter, Mr. Frost, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Thanedar, Ms. Tlaib,

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#### DISCHARGE PETITIONS—

##### ADDITIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

The following Member added her name to the following discharge petition:

Petition 12 by Ms. MANNING on House Resolution 1240: Mrs. Lee Carter.