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No. 52

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MESSER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 13, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LUKE MESSER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

The work of the Congress resumes after time spent by millions of Americans celebrating high holy days and spring comes to our Nation's Capital. It is a season of hope.

In this Chamber, where the people's House gathers, we pause to offer You gratitude for the gift of this good land on which we live and for this great Nation which You have inspired in developing over so many years. Continue to inspire the American people that, through the difficulties of these days, we might keep liberty and justice alive in our Nation and in the world.

Give to us and all people a vivid sense of Your presence, that we may learn to understand each other, to respect each other, to work with each other, to live with each other, and to do good to each other. So shall we make our Nation great in goodness and good in its greatness.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. TAKANO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Schock), the whole number of the House is 432.

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, March 27, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, 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 March 27, 2015 at 12:02 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1092.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1527.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 10.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 32.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 31.

That the Senate passed S. 535.

Appointments:
Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum.

Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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, March 27, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, 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 March 27, 2015 at 1:13 p.m.:

Appointments:
Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following

□ 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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H2117

enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed by Speaker pro tempore COMSTOCK on Monday, March 30, 2015:

H.R. 1092, to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building”;

H.R. 1527, to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of New York Police Department Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, and for other purposes;

H.J. Res. 10, providing the reappointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

TIME TO SIMPLIFY THE TAX CODE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, we are only 2 days away from April 15, also known as tax day. It is a day that we all dread every year.

Between mountains of paperwork, complicated codes, and the fear of fines, paying taxes every year is a huge burden for hard-working Americans. In fact, U.S. taxpayers and businesses spend about 7.6 billion hours a year complying with the filing requirements of the IRS.

But if you listen to the political discussion in our country very long, you will inevitably hear some lawmakers repeat one of their favorite lines, that all of our country's budget problems would be solved if only we increased taxes, except increasing taxes increases government spending and crowds our private sector investment, diminishing our prosperity.

Instead, it is past time to simplify the Tax Code and decrease the tax burden that Americans currently spend close to a third of the year bearing.

It is vital that we enact policies that strengthen and stabilize our economy, as well as give individuals and businesses long-term certainty.

LGBT NONDISCRIMINATION RESOLUTION

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the House resolution declaring that gay, lesbian, and transgender people should be protected from discrimination under the law.

Every day, LGBT Americans are denied housing and public accommodations. In 29 States, someone can be fired because they are gay, and in 32 States, someone can be fired because of their gender identity. In several States, there is an organized push to deny LGBT Americans their rights.

However, dozens of States have taken action and passed nondiscrimination laws, as have hundreds of cities; yet

this body has not. Congress is sworn to uphold the Constitution, the same Constitution that says no State shall “deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

It is time for Congress to uphold the Constitution and take action. Support this resolution and protect these Americans—all Americans.

HONORING JIM CALLAHAN

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the heart of my congressional district lies Chester County, a community that relies on groundbreaking, thoughtful, probative reporting for its residents, a responsibility that the Daily Local News has filled for generations.

For 20 years, Jim Callahan has served the Daily Local News and Chester County as a newsman. He calls himself an “adjustable wrench” in the news business, which means he has served a multitude of functions to make sure that our Republic, as locally constituted in Chester County, is well informed.

Indeed, the hallmark of an engaged, robust democracy requires a well-informed citizenry; and to my constituents, as a journalist, Jim Callahan has served this function in exemplary fashion.

One of his colleagues calls Jim an “old school journalist, who enjoys teaching and working with young reporters,” a breaking news junkie, and political nut.

I would add that Jim possesses a great sense of humor, and he is as pugnacious a journalist as he is witty an observer. At his core, Mr. Speaker, Jim Callahan greatly values the importance of local journalism, and for that, Chester County is better off for it.

Here in the United States House of Representatives—the people's House—and across Chester County, we want to thank you, Jim.

Stay strong, my friend.

LAW ENFORCEMENT USING THEIR GUNS INSTEAD OF THEIR HEADS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it feels like open season on black men in America, and I am outraged. In fact, all Americans are at risk when bad actors in law enforcement use their guns instead of their heads.

Despite bipartisan, nationwide calls for action and despite my bills to reform the broken grand jury process, hold police accountable, and end militarization and despite my colleagues' bills to encourage body cameras, this Congress does nothing—no hearings, no blue ribbon commissions—nothing.

Mr. Speaker, here are just a few names of our colleagues, neighbors, and relatives killed by police, so my colleagues will no longer ignore this crisis: Walter Scott, North Carolina; Michael Brown, Missouri; Anthony Hill, Georgia; Tony Robinson, Wisconsin; Kevin Davis, Georgia; Nicholas Thomas, Georgia; Daniel Elrod, Nebraska; Antonio Zambrano-Montes, Washington; David Kassick, Pennsylvania; Jessica Hernandez, Colorado; Kevin Davis, Georgia; Dennis Grigsby, Texas; Romain Brisson, Phoenix; Tamir Rice, Ohio; Akai Gurley, New York; Carlos M. Perez, Nevada; Kajieme Powell, Missouri; Ezell Ford, California; Dillon Taylor, Utah; John Crawford III, Ohio; Naeschylus Vinzant, Colorado; Charly Leundeun Keunang, California; and the list goes on.

THE SENATE MUST ACT

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, April 1, just a few days ago, most people don't realize it, but the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reduced physician reimbursement for Medicare patients by 21 percent.

This occurred as a matter of law. This is a deadline that we have been up against before, a drama that we have seen played out in this House multiple times during my tenure here.

This time, it is different because the House of Representatives, right before the end of March, chose to act and passed, by a vote of 392 individuals, to repeal this formula that crops up every year and threatens our Medicare patients and those that provide care for them.

This bill is sitting over in the other body. The Chaplain talked about this being a season for renewal, and indeed, it is. It is my hope that in the other body that spirit of renewal will take hold, and they will take up and pass the bill that passed this House with an overwhelming majority some 2 weeks ago.

It is time to do it. The other body can act.

□ 1415

EASTER FEED

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding work of Dr. Merlin Augustine and his wife, Beverly, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, and the event his foundation has sponsored for 22 years—the annual Easter Feed, held the Saturday before Easter.

This year, a record 6,741 people enjoyed a meal fit for kings, served by men and women of all walks, including a number of local, State, and Federal officials and scores of volunteers.

Years ago, Mr. Speaker, Dr. Augustine's parents left their compassionate son an inheritance of \$10,000 with which he established a foundation purposed in helping the less fortunate. The Easter Feed is its signature event. It is the kind of event that warms the heart, reminding all of us of our duty to care for those around us.

I want the Nation to know how much I appreciate this beautiful couple for their kindness and their decency and their dedication to our community. My wife, Terri, and I always look forward to helping at the event. Few things in life give us more pleasure than the Easter Feed.

Thanks, Merlin and Beverly. Can't wait till next year.

U.S. GOVERNMENT OKAYS OIL EXPORTS FOR IRAN BUT NO OIL EXPORTS FOR AMERICA?

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the United States is now the largest crude oil producer in the world, but instead of exporting excess oil like other nations, the United States oil producers are forced to leave oil in the ground. The solution is clear—lift the crude oil ban. We should follow the Blue Bell Ice Cream philosophy: use all you can and sell the rest—here, in this case, abroad.

Exports will improve our national security by increasing United States influence around the world. We can make Middle Eastern oil, politics, and their turmoil irrelevant. Europe gets 40 percent of its oil from Russia, and our exports will give Europeans an alternative to Putin's monopoly and will thwart his aggression. Japan and South Korea rely on crude oil from Iran to satisfy their growing energy consumption.

Speaking of Iran, Mr. Speaker, because of the deal, it is now U.S. Government policy to eventually allow Iran to export crude oil, but it is U.S. policy to prohibit U.S. producers to do the same. How nutty is that?

Lifting the ban will create thousands of jobs, inject billions of dollars into the economy, and help advance our national interests abroad. Make the same deal with America the Government made with Iran—allow oil exports.

And that is just the way it is.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALKER) at 4 p.m.

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, April 13, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
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 April 13, 2015 at 2:42 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 11.
With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CAPITAL ACCESS FOR SMALL COMMUNITY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACT OF 2015

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 299) to amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to authorize privately insured credit unions to become members of a Federal home loan bank, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 299

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 "Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. PRIVATELY INSURED CREDIT UNIONS AUTHORIZED TO BECOME MEMBERS OF A FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4(a) of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (12 U.S.C. 1424(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) CERTAIN PRIVATELY INSURED CREDIT UNIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the requirements of subparagraph (B), a credit union shall be treated as an insured depository institution for purposes of determining the eligibility of such credit union for membership in a Federal home loan bank under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3).

"(B) CERTIFICATION BY APPROPRIATE SUPERVISOR.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph and subject to clause (ii), a credit union which lacks Federal deposit insurance and which has applied for membership in a Federal home loan bank may be treated as meeting all the eligibility requirements for

Federal deposit insurance only if the appropriate supervisor of the State in which the credit union is chartered has determined that the credit union meets all the eligibility requirements for Federal deposit insurance as of the date of the application for membership.

"(ii) CERTIFICATION DEEMED VALID.—If, in the case of any credit union to which clause (i) applies, the appropriate supervisor of the State in which such credit union is chartered fails to make a determination pursuant to such clause by the end of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the application, the credit union shall be deemed to have met the requirements of clause (i).

"(C) SECURITY INTERESTS OF FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK NOT AVOIDABLE.—Notwithstanding any provision of State law authorizing a conservator or liquidating agent of a credit union to repudiate contracts, no such provision shall apply with respect to—

"(i) any extension of credit from any Federal home loan bank to any credit union which is a member of any such bank pursuant to this paragraph; or

"(ii) any security interest in the assets of such credit union securing any such extension of credit.

"(D) PROTECTION FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK ADVANCES.—Notwithstanding any State law to the contrary, if a Bank makes an advance under section 10 to a State-chartered credit union that is not federally insured—

"(i) the Bank's interest in any collateral securing such advance has the same priority and is afforded the same standing and rights that the security interest would have had if the advance had been made to a federally insured credit union; and

"(ii) the Bank has the same right to access such collateral that the Bank would have had if the advance had been made to a federally insured credit union."

(b) COPIES OF AUDITS OF PRIVATE INSURERS OF CERTAIN DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED TO SUPERVISORY AGENCIES.—Section 43(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831t(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by inserting at the end the following new clause:

"(iii) in the case of depository institutions described in subsection (e)(2)(A) the deposits of which are insured by the private insurer which are members of a Federal home loan bank, to the Federal Housing Finance Agency, not later than 7 days after the audit is completed."

SEC. 3. GAO REPORT.

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and submit a report to Congress—

(1) on the adequacy of insurance reserves held by a private deposit insurer that insures deposits in an entity described in section 43(e)(2)(A) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831t(e)(2)(A)); and

(2) for an entity described in paragraph (1) the deposits of which are insured by a private deposit insurer, information on the level of compliance with Federal regulations relating to the disclosure of a lack of Federal deposit insurance.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STIVERS), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. STIVERS. I would like to thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 299, the Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act.

I would like to thank Chairman HENSARLING and the other bill sponsors—Mrs. BEATTY from Ohio, Mr. TIBERI from Ohio, and Mr. CARSON from Indiana.

As you can hear, I lost my voice last night, but I am the voice for 1.2 million people who are currently denied access to the liquidity that the Federal Home Loan Bank system offers inside financial transactions.

This bill would simply make a small statutory change that would allow nonfederally insured credit unions to apply for membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank system. It would not guarantee their memberships. They would go through the normal underwriting process like any other applicant. The irony here is that every other credit union can join the Federal Home Loan Bank system, and every other bank and many nonbank entities, like insurance companies, are allowed to join the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Only privately insured credit unions are denied.

Currently, there are 128 small credit unions in nine States representing 1.2 million people, including firefighters and teachers and church workers and small business people, with total assets of \$13 billion, people who are not insured by the Federal Government but who are insured by a mutual private insurance company and so are denied access to the Federal Home Loan Bank system. This bill would simply change that and fix it.

Some important points are: one, there is no risk to the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Two, no more than \$4 billion of that \$13 billion could be pledged to the Federal Home Loan Bank system at any one time, and that is if all 128 credit unions joined the Federal Home Loan Bank system. Three, there is no concentration risk. There is no disproportionate risk with these institutions.

I think it is really important that we give these 1.2 million people the access to the liquidity that the Federal Home Loan Bank system would offer them.

I would ask my colleagues to support this legislation, which would give community financial institutions the ability to apply for membership in the Fed-

eral Home Loan Bank system and which would provide important liquidity to these 1.2 million people who might want to buy a home or live the American Dream.

Again, I want to thank my cosponsor, who helped so hard to get this bill done, Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY from Ohio; and I want to thank Chairman NEUGEBAUER, Chairman HENSARLING, and the other cosponsors of the bill.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), who is the cosponsor of this bill.

Mrs. BEATTY. Thank you, Mr. CAPUANO, for yielding me time.

Thank you, Mr. NEUGEBAUER and Mr. STIVERS.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2015, H.R. 299.

I join Congressman STEVE STIVERS in support of H.R. 299. My colleagues on both sides of the aisle supported this bill in a bipartisan fashion, a bill on which I am very proud to be the lead Democrat. We have worked together to have H.R. 299 reported out of the House Financial Services Committee with a vote of 56-1. In fact, last year, the same bill passed unanimously on this House floor by 395-0.

Mr. Speaker, as you have heard, H.R. 299 would permit privately insured credit unions to apply for membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank system. A primary benefit of the Federal Home Loan Bank membership is having access to low-cost secured funding, which is a tremendous benefit to consumers. H.R. 299 would not, however, mandate the privately insured credit unions to become members of a Federal Home Loan Bank. Therefore, under this legislation, a Federal Home Loan Bank would maintain the discretion to accept or to reject a privately insured credit union's application for membership based on its risk tolerance and underwriting guidelines.

Why do we need this bill?

H.R. 299 is an extremely important piece of legislation for these privately insured credit unions because it would help give members and businesses greater access to credit in a tight credit market. Currently, there are approximately 6,400 credit unions across the country, including some 128 to 130 privately insured credit unions. Of that number of those privately insured credit unions, Mr. Speaker, 57 of them are actually in Ohio. Both I and Mr. STIVERS, the sponsor of the bill, are from the great State of Ohio. These 57 privately insured credit unions in Ohio serve more than 333,000 members in Ohio, and, roughly, 145,000 of those members are actually in my district.

Indeed, the Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2015, or H.R. 299, comes to the floor today because of the very important role we believe that credit unions play in consumer lending and homeownership across this country.

For instance, this bill would improve access to home mortgage loans for members of three privately insured credit unions that are actually based in my district, the Third Congressional District of Ohio. Those are the Whitehall Credit Union, Producers Employee Credit Union, and the Central Credit Union. Additionally, this legislation has garnered support from the exclusive insurers of privately insured credit unions across the country—American Share Insurance, or ASI. ASI, which is based in central Ohio, which is just north of my district, continues to provide employment for many Ohioans, and it has never previously had a privately insured credit union depositor lose money.

Therefore, I urge the support of H.R. 299 because this bipartisan legislation is good policy, is good for small credit unions, and may spur the growth of small credit unions, which serve the needs of their members, both individuals and businesses. Importantly, H.R. 299 has bipartisan, nationwide support for local communities and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I believe this legislation is a perfect example of the type of regular order, committee-driven actions that we should use, actually, as a template for bipartisan cooperation in the House and which, indeed, if enacted, would bring real benefits to the national housing market. I urge Members to vote "yes" on H.R. 299.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers at this time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers. I would just like to add my voice in support of this bill. It is a very commonsense bill, and I am proud to be able to support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to echo the remarks that have been made.

This is a commonsense bill. It helps Main Street, and it helps consumers. There was a little glitch here in the marketplace when these privately insured credit unions were not able to access the Federal Home Loan Banks. It just makes sense that they do that. This bill passed out of our committee 56-1. With that, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 299.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELIMINATE PRIVACY NOTICE CONFUSION ACT

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 601) to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual privacy notice requirement.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 601

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 "Eliminate Privacy Notice Confusion Act".

SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO ANNUAL PRIVACY NOTICE REQUIREMENT UNDER THE GRAMM-LEACH-BLILEY ACT.

Section 503 of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6803) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) EXCEPTION TO ANNUAL NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—A financial institution that—

"(1) provides nonpublic personal information only in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b)(2) or (e) of section 502 or regulations prescribed under section 504(b), and

"(2) has not changed its policies and practices with regard to disclosing nonpublic personal information from the policies and practices that were disclosed in the most recent disclosure sent to consumers in accordance with this section, shall not be required to provide an annual disclosure under this section until such time as the financial institution fails to comply with any criteria described in paragraph (1) or (2)."

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER), the original author of this bill and one who has done a lot of work in this area.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, year after year, millions of dollars are spent on privacy notices that are either disregarded or are confusing to consumers. Let's think about the cost of this.

This outdated requirement doesn't cost in postage alone, but it also adds its compliance costs, the cost of supplies, printing fees, and man hours. Under current law, financial institutions are required to provide annual privacy notices explaining information-sharing practices to customers. Banks and credit unions have had to give these notices each year even if the privacy policies have not changed. This creates not only waste for financial institutions but confusion and increased costs to consumers.

I talked to one community bank in my district recently that said they spend, roughly, 70 cents per disclosure. With a minimum of 250,000 accounts and customers, this one bank spends at least \$175,000 on this one requirement. It may not seem like a lot of money to my colleagues, but I can tell you that \$175,000 is a lot of money for a small institution like the one in my district. By the way, this is an institution with less than \$10 billion in assets, so it will not be helped by the recent changes implemented by the CFPB.

I want to be completely clear on what exactly this bill will do. This legislation will only remove the Gramm-Leach-Bliley annual privacy notice requirement if an institution has not in any way changed its privacy policies or procedures. This legislation does not exempt an institution from an initial privacy notice, nor does it allow a loophole for an institution to avoid using an updated notice.

The language is not controversial; it does not jeopardize consumer privacy; and it does not exempt any institution from having to produce an initial or an amended privacy notice. This legislation does eliminate millions of costly, confusing, and often ignored mailings; and with the passage of this bill, information included in these mailings would likely become more significant to the consumer because it would come only when a change in the privacy notice policy is effected.

□ 1615

I would like to remind my colleagues that similar language passed the House by a voice vote in the 111th, 112th, and 113th Congresses.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. In March of this year, this legislation passed the Committee on Financial Services by a voice vote of 57-0. This legislation is supported by a litany of trade associations representing banks and credit unions.

I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), my good friend across the aisle, for his bipartisan work on this bill.

I ask my colleagues for their support.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

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

I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) for his tireless work on this bill. This bill has passed virtually unanimously this House in the 111th, 112th, and 113th Congresses. Now it has passed our committee 57-0.

I want to commend Director Cordray of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau for moving in the direction of this bill as far as they could, but now it is time to codify this important change. This will not only save money

for the small- and medium-sized institutions and the entire financial services industry; it is going to get the consumer to focus on changes that are important.

There is no better way to hide a tree than to put it in the forest, and there is no better way to trivialize and cause consumers to ignore important legally required notification than to deluge them with unnecessary, meaningless, and repetitive notifications.

This bill will make our system more efficient. It is not only consistent, I believe, with what the regulators would like to do; it has passed, overwhelmingly, every time Members of the House have had a chance to deal with it.

I commend the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER).

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any other speakers, so I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to add my voice to those who support this bill, another commonsense bill that hopefully won't take us three more Congresses to get our friends on the other side to actually take action on something that is relatively simple and straightforward. I personally throw out six or seven of these notifications every month, so I would assume that millions of people are doing the same.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to add my support as well to this bill. This is a commonsense bill. This bill passed 57-0 in our committee. It ends a lot of confusion. You get those privacy notices when you open those accounts, and then all of a sudden next year you get another one, and you are trying to figure out whether you should have gotten one, if you should read that. What we have found is that probably a lot of people aren't reading those. This is a very commonsense bill, and I encourage people to support that.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 601.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HELPING EXPAND LENDING PRACTICES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1259) to provide for an application process for interested parties to apply for an area to be designated as a rural area, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1259

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 “Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act”.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF RURAL AREA.

(a) **APPLICATION.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall establish an application process under which a person who lives or does business in a State may, with respect to an area identified by the person in such State that has not been designated by the Bureau as a rural area for purposes of a Federal consumer financial law (as defined under section 1002 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010), apply for such area to be so designated.

(b) **EVALUATION CRITERIA.**—When evaluating an application submitted under subsection (a), the Bureau shall take into consideration the following factors:

(1) Criteria used by the Director of the Bureau of the Census for classifying geographical areas as rural or urban.

(2) Criteria used by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to designate counties as metropolitan or micropolitan or neither.

(3) Criteria used by the Secretary of Agriculture to determine property eligibility for rural development programs.

(4) The Department of Agriculture rural-urban commuting area codes.

(5) A written opinion provided by the State’s bank supervisor, as defined under section 3(r) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(r)).

(6) Population density.

(c) **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after receiving an application submitted under subsection (a), the Bureau shall—

(A) publish such application in the Federal Register; and

(B) make such application available for public comment for not fewer than 90 days.

(2) **LIMITATION ON ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Bureau, during the public comment period with respect to an application submitted under subsection (a), to accept an additional application with respect to the area that is the subject of the initial application.

(d) **DECISION ON DESIGNATION.**—Not later than 90 days after the end of the public comment period under subsection (c)(1) for an application, the Bureau shall—

(1) grant or deny such application, in whole or in part; and

(2) publish such grant or denial in the Federal Register, along with an explanation of what factors the Bureau relied on in making such determination.

(e) **SUBSEQUENT APPLICATIONS.**—A decision by the Bureau under subsection (d) to deny an application for an area to be designated as a rural area shall not preclude the Bureau from accepting a subsequent application submitted under subsection (a) for such area to be so designated, so long as such subsequent application is made after the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date that the Bureau denies the application under subsection (d).

(f) **SUNSET.**—This section shall cease to have any force or effect after the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous materials on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR), one of the primary authors of this bill.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit for yielding and for his support of this legislation. I also want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have joined together to support this bipartisan legislation that makes a small but sensible legislative correction to a regulatory policy that we have all heard from our constituents does not work as intended.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have worked with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) to reintroduce H.R. 1259, the Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act, or HELP Rural Communities Act, in this Congress. This legislation has now cleared the Committee on Financial Services in two consecutive Congresses with overwhelming bipartisan support. Furthermore, this Chamber approved identical legislation just 11 months ago by voice vote under suspension of the rules.

Our Federalist system of limited government enshrines in the law the idea that State and local entities know their communities better than any centralized bureaucracy in Washington. The HELP Rural Communities Act reaffirms this commitment by addressing a bizarre situation resulting from the imposition of a one-size-fits-all government regulation that fails to consider the diversity of the cities, towns, and rural areas across America.

The genesis of this legislation was a conversation that I had with a constituent, a third generation banker in rural Bath County, Kentucky. This constituent, Thomas Richards, was bewildered to learn that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau had designated Bath County, population 11,591—yes, that is the entire county—as nonrural. His family’s bank had survived the Great Depression, the stagflation of the late 1970s and early 1980s, and the Great Recession of 2008; and yet his testimony, Thomas Richards’ testimony, this third generation Kentucky community banker, was that his small community bank in rural Kentucky was being imperiled by an avalanche of red tape coming out of Washington bureaucracy. There are similar stories from rural communities across this country.

This nonrural designation matters because the Dodd-Frank Act acknowledges that rural areas may be underserved credit markets and so should be treated differently under financial regulations, thus an improper nonrural designation by the Bureau, such as Bath County, puts constraints on financial products, specifically responsibly underwritten balloon loans that a bank or credit union can offer in its community, reducing access to credit in rural America. Balloon loans are common throughout rural America because they offer flexibility to consumers whose incomes are often cyclical and dependent on commodities, while helping small community banks and credit unions mitigate interest rate risk.

H.R. 1259 fixes the problem by ensuring that rural areas are treated under the law as intended, by allowing entities that feel that they have been improperly designated to appeal that decision. Here is what the bill does:

H.R. 1259 creates a petition process in which individuals within a State could petition the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to have that area redesignated and to have the Bureau reconsider its improper designation of “nonrural” for the area that is plainly rural. The legislation specifies a number of commonsense factors that the Bureau must consider when evaluating an application. Upon receiving an application, the Bureau is to provide for a 90-day public comment period, and then grant or deny such an application within an additional 90 days. Whatever the outcome, the Bureau shall publish in the Federal Register an explanation of the factors it relied on in making its determination. The bill allows appellants to identify the area that is improperly designated. We don’t want to lock people into using counties or ill-fitting census tracts that don’t accurately represent the boundaries of their communities.

I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) for his important contribution to this feature of the legislation. This element is important because county sizes and census definitions of statistical areas can vary significantly throughout the country, particularly in Western States.

Recognizing the issue with its designation process, on January 29, the Bureau proposed a rule to expand its formula to include census tracts in addition to county lines in its rural designation process. Unfortunately, this administrative correction that was prompted by this legislation is still inadequate because census tracts are only updated once every 10 years and were designed for demographic data collection, not regulatory purposes. The result is that the Bureau’s formula may now consider most of a rural county primarily farmland or wilderness to be rural, but the small town that would be home to the actual community bank or credit union may remain nonrural.

I have already heard from Kentucky bankers in rural counties who would

not be covered by this expanded designation. There are plenty of similar examples throughout the country of the Bureau oddly designating manifestly rural areas as “nonrural.” Furthermore, the Bureau still has not implemented an appeals process for improperly designated communities.

Mr. Speaker, in summary, this legislation is about inviting individuals—the American people—to participate in their government and provide input on matters of local knowledge. It is about making the Federal Government more accessible, more accountable, and more responsive to the people who know their local communities best.

I am pleased that this legislation enjoys bipartisan support and, again, want to thank Representative HINOJOSA for joining me as a cosponsor of this legislation. I want to thank Chairman NEUGEBAUER for his cosponsorship and stewardship of the legislation in committee, as well as my friend Congressman FRENCH HILL for joining as a cosponsor.

This legislation is endorsed by a broad coalition, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the National Association of Realtors, the American Bankers Association, the Independent Community Bankers of America, the Credit Union National Association, and the National Association of Federal Credit Unions.

This is a commonsense and narrowly focused bill to address a real problem imposed by Washington on rural America. I appreciate the opportunity to present it here today, and I urge my colleagues to support this simple, bipartisan reform.

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), my friend.

Mr. HINOJOSA. I want to thank Congressman MIKE CAPUANO for yielding time to me on this important bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1259, the Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act. This commonsense legislation would provide much-needed relief to rural Americans not just in my district, but in districts all over the country.

I especially would like to thank my esteemed colleague from Kentucky, Representative ANDY BARR, for introducing this very important piece of legislation once again. I fully agree with Congressman BARR's examples which he gave affecting his district and all of the State of Kentucky because in the great State of Texas, we have examples that will mirror those that you gave us.

All across my district—and I represent approximately 80 communities in my congressional district that expands 250 miles geographically—many rural communities are having trouble getting access to credit, while credit unions and small banks are also finding it difficult to service their members and clients.

The designation of a county as rural has many implications for lenders in those areas, especially with regard to the credit products that they can offer. For example, under the new qualified mortgage rules, balloon mortgage payments, which are a common credit product offered in rural communities, would expose small creditors to increased legal liability. Because of this, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau established a safe harbor to allow for small creditors in counties as I have described designated as rural to continue offering this financial product which serves so many of the people in those areas; but if not designated as rural, many of those communities I have mentioned will not qualify for the safe harbor exemption.

That is why we are here today, trying to fix something that needs to be fixed in terms of home mortgage lending. This bill gives those who do business in rural communities all over the country the ability to petition the CFPB to reverse an improper designation of nonrural for a county that is clearly rural. It will give lenders in many areas throughout my district the flexibility they need to offer the credit products that their members depend on, while still keeping in place the very important consumer protections established under the new QM rules.

I would like to once again thank Representative BARR for his outstanding work on this bill and in our committee. It has been wonderful collaborating with him to bring the concerns of rural communities to the forefront.

I respectfully request that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle vote “yes” on passage of H.R. 1259.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any other speakers at this time, so I will reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, we have no further speakers on this bill.

I would like to add my voice to supporting this bill as well.

I will tell you unequivocally, my definition of rural is whatever ANDY BARR and RUBÉN HINOJOSA say it is. 11,591 people in a county? I have that on a street; I have that in a building. I will tell you that I understand full well that there are underserved communities in rural areas, as there are even in some of the most urban areas in the country.

I thank the gentleman for this bill.

I will tell you that my definition of rural is anyplace that would take me more than 15 minutes to drive to some good Italian food. If you can't do that, it must be rural.

I am glad that this bill is about to pass, and I thank the gentleman for offering it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I just want to close by saying I appreciate Mr. BARR's and Mr. HINOJOSA's work on this very important issue.

One of the reasons we are here and bringing these bills today is because we have had a tremendous reduction in the number of community-based financial institutions that serve rural America. In the last 4 or 5 years, we have lost over a thousand community banks and we have lost over a thousand credit unions. That is a real problem for our smaller communities. One of the things that this bill helps to do is that in many communities there is one bank, there is one financial institution, and without the ability to have flexibility to make these kinds of mortgages, in many cases there would not be mortgages available in those communities. This is a commonsense bill. It passed 56-2 out of our committee. I would urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1259.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. 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.

BUREAU ADVISORY COMMISSION TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1265) to apply the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1265

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 “Bureau Advisory Commission Transparency Act”.

SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF FACA.

Section 1013 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5493) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) APPLICATION OF FACA.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), such Act shall apply to each advisory committee of the Bureau and each subcommittee of such an advisory committee.”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within

which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous materials on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY), the primary author of this bill, who has worked tirelessly to make sure that these advisory committees have transparency.

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman for yielding to me. I thank him for his support in regard to my legislation and for all the work he does on Financial Services, as well as the support from the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Financial Services. I am grateful to them as well.

As we gather in this Chamber, I don't think it is very often that we come in in a kumbaya moment in regard to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. I think those who follow our committee would recognize that there are a few differences in how the CFPB is structured and how it should move forward. We have had that debate. All of us agree that consumers should be protected, and they should have a strong advocate in that protection.

Though we have disagreed on some elements of the CFPB, I am proud today that we have a bipartisan group coming in talking about some straightforward reforms that make some of the rules from the CFPB work a lot better and help consumers out, help Americans out, help our constituents out.

In regard to my bill, in the last Congress, I tried to go to one of the advisory committees at the CFPB. Now, most of these are usually open in government. There are only a couple of exceptions. If you work at the CIA, the CIA doesn't open up their advisory committee meetings for obvious purposes and reasons; and the Fed, with the FOMC, when they are setting monetary policy, they too don't open up their meetings, community advisory meetings, for obvious purposes.

But when I tried to go to a CFPB meeting in the last Congress, I was told by the CFPB that they would not accommodate my request because their meetings were closed. That concerned me because the CFPB has said that "transparency is at the core of our agenda, and it is the key part of how we operate." On their Web site, they say that "you deserve to know what we're doing for the American public and how we are doing it."

So I had some concern that when the rest of government opens up their meetings, the CFPB wouldn't open up their meetings and allow the public to hear the conversation and the dialogue that was going on. I highly doubt the information is as sensitive as what is taking place at the CIA or setting monetary policy, and if we are protecting consumers, that should be an open conversation and debate.

When I introduced a similar bill in the last Congress, I actually received a phone call from the Director, who said: You know what? This is a good bill. You know, we have had some disagreement on how the CFPB is run, but we will open up our meetings.

Well, I don't know if in that phone call we had we weren't on the same page or what. I am not going to say it was trickery on the Director's part, but what happened was the CFPB opened up only a small portion of their advisory committee meetings, about an hour and a half, and in the other vast majority of the meetings, they moved them into what was called a subcommittee so they wouldn't be open. What my bill today does is make sure these meetings are open to the public, that we as a community, as an American family, get to see the conversation that is taking place in the advisory committees to the CFPB. It makes complete sense.

I am proud and honored that my friends across the aisle were supportive of this measure. The ranking member, Ms. WATERS, actually spoke kind of in favor of my proposal. I mean, I took it that way. She voted for it and recommended a vote in favor of it. I appreciate her bipartisanship.

I think this is about making good work, making it accountable, making it transparent, and that is a start, at least in the advisory meetings that our government takes part in.

I am grateful for the support; I am grateful for the time, and I urge my colleagues to support this great piece of bipartisan, transparent legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill. As Mr. DUFFY just said, on occasion, we can come to an agreement. This is the second CFPB bill we have done in a row. There are many things we would like to work together on.

We do wish, however, that on some of the other items on the CFPB, some of the members of the Financial Services Committee would kind of get off the horse a little bit and come on down and work with us.

These two bills are very good bills, as far as I am concerned. The CFPB already does some of the things this act would impose, but they should do them all. There is no question about it. That is why this is an easy bill to support. I thank Mr. DUFFY for offering it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Wisconsin's work on this. Some of the points that he made is that this is about transparency. Why that is important is because this agency, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, is making the important decisions about the kinds of financial products that American families can access.

Quite honestly, some people think that, in many ways, the actions of this

agency have been beginning to reduce some of the availability of some of those financial products.

I think it is important to have these advisory groups. I want to commend the agency for having those, but I think it is important, also, for the American people to hear the comments and the discussions that are going on that could inevitably affect the kinds of financial products that they are going to be able to access in the future.

Now, the fact is that many of the other agencies have to fall under the FACA, but because this agency is tucked inside the Federal Reserve—and the Federal Reserve currently is exempt—but, quite honestly, the only other agencies that are exempt from it are the CIA, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Federal Reserve as they are talking about monetary policy. I hardly believe that the CFPB falls in the same category of any of these other agencies that are exempt.

This is a commonsense piece of legislation. It allows that same transparency available in all other agencies across the government and allows the American people to hear those important discussions about their future and about the financial products that they are going to be able to access in the future.

Again, I want to remind everybody this was a bipartisan bill that passed 56-2 out of our committee.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1265.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPEDITED FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1367) to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1367

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

SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF THE EXPEDITED FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Expedited Funds Availability Act (12 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 602(20) (12 U.S.C. 4001(20)) by inserting “, located in the United States,” after “ATM”;

(2) in section 602(21) (12 U.S.C. 4001(21)) by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”;

(3) in section 602(23) (12 U.S.C. 4001(23)) by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”; and

(4) in section 603(d)(2)(A) (12 U.S.C. 4002(d)(2)(A)), by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2016.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous materials on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this is a noncontroversial, bipartisan bill. It was carried by the Democratic Representative from American Samoa last Congress.

This is a proconsumer measure that would improve the check clearing wait times in American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands. Other noncontiguous U.S. States and territories are already subject to this act. This bill provides parity and helps improve financial services in American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.

This bill passed the House on suspension last Congress.

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

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

I rise in support of this bill as well. Again, it is a simple, straightforward bill that simply says that American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands are part of America, as is every other part of America. They should be treated the same.

This bill corrects a law that currently does not allow them to be treated the same in financial services matters. It should be passed immediately.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I will read a statement that Mrs. RADEWAGEN of American Samoa submitted to me in reference to this. She is the primary sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1367, to amend the Expedited Funds Avail-

ability Act to clarify the application of that act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.

I would first like to thank Chairman Hensarling and Ranking Member Waters, as well as the House Financial Services Committee staff, who worked so hard to get this bill to the floor. I appreciate their dedication, as do the people of American Samoa and the CNMI.

As you know, the isolation of American Samoa, both geographically and economically, lends itself to difficulties in financial transactions that take place between American Samoa and those off island.

Many times, our citizens and businesses must wait an exorbitant amount of time before they can receive off-island funds that have been sent to them. These delays often cause hardships that are both unnecessary and unfounded.

H.R. 1367 will eliminate the excessive delays that the people of American Samoa must currently deal with in order to receive funds sent to them from off-island.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman Hensarling and Ranking Member Waters for their consideration of this measure that will greatly improve the lives of the people of American Samoa.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to vote in favor of this bill that will bring American Samoa and the CNMI into the fold financially in regards to off-island transactions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLON. Mr. Speaker, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands deserve the same protections of federal law as other Americans. Making sure my people get equal treatment is one of the reasons I came to Congress and equivalent treatment brings me to the floor today in support of H.R. 1367.

As we have heard, H.R. 1367 extends the protections of the Expedited Funds Availability Act to the people of the Northern Marianas and American Samoa. This would mean that account holders in the Northern Marianas and American Samoa would have timely access to their money when they deposit a check in their bank.

The same banking rules would apply in the Northern Marianas and American Samoa as apply in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—the areas of our nation not directly connected to the contiguous forty-eight states.

It may be that in 1987, when the Expedited Funds Availability Act was first adopted, the Northern Marianas and American Samoa seemed remote from the rest of America. Back then, paper checks may have been bundled up and sent through the mail. So delays were inevitable.

But today banking is handled electronically. With a smart phone many banking customers can take a picture of a check and deposit it in their account without even going to the bank.

I have checked with the major banks in my district; none has any problem with having this federal law apply to their operations—because they all do business electronically and make deposits quickly available.

So, clearly, it is time to update federal banking laws with respect to the Northern Marianas and American Samoa and join the 21st century.

I want to thank my friend, Congresswoman AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN, for introducing H.R. 1367. And I want to congratulate

her for getting her bill moved through the Financial Services Committee and brought to the floor quickly and early in the 114th Congress.

This same language has passed the House before, but died in the Senate. But the quick start that Congresswoman RADEWAGEN has given her bill will allow the Senate more time—and, we hope, enough time—to make this simple correction to the way federal law applies in two of our nation's insular areas.

I would also like to thank Chairman JEB HENSARLING, Ranking Member MAXINE WATERS, and all the members of the Financial Services Committee for recognizing that creating a uniform application of federal banking law—at least with respect to how quickly depositors have access to their funds—is an area of bipartisan consensus.

I ask all Members of the House to agree and vote today in favor of H.R. 1367.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1367, to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.

I would first like to thank Chairman HENSARLING, and Ranking Member WATERS as well as the House Financial Services Committee staff who worked so hard to get this bill to the floor. I appreciate their dedication as do the people of American Samoa and the CNMI.

As you know, the isolation of American Samoa, both geographically and economically, lends itself to difficulties in financial transactions that take place between American Samoa and those off island.

Many times, our citizens and businesses must wait an exorbitant amount of time before they can receive off-island funds that have been sent to them. These delays often cause hardships that are both unnecessary and unfounded.

H.R. 1367, will eliminate the excessive delays that the people of American Samoa must currently deal with in order to receive funds sent to them from off-island.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman HENSARLING and Ranking Member WATERS for their consideration of this measure that will greatly improve the lives of the people of American Samoa.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to vote in favor of this bill that will bring American Samoa and the CNMI into the fold financially in regards to off island transactions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1367.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1645

SAFE ACT CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1480) to ensure access to certain information for financial services

industry regulators, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1480

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 “SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act”.

SEC. 2. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION SHARED BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORS.

Section 1512(a) of the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5111(a)) is amended by inserting “or financial services” before “industry”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

The SAFE Act is a simple, bipartisan bill that encourages information-sharing between Federal and State regulators.

Ensuring the confidentiality of information provided to the National Mortgage Licensing System encourages its uses, which better protects consumers from bad actors who switch States for licensing purposes to evade scrutiny.

This legislation provides assurance for financial institutions that privileged information shared between Federal banking regulators and State regulatory agencies will be protected and remain confidential.

This will encourage a greater amount of sharing between institutions and their regulators, and will allow our Nation's financial regulators to do their jobs to ensure that our financial institutions are operating lawfully, while, at the same time, able to offer consumer credit products that are critical to Americans to finance their everyday purchases and start small businesses.

The NMLS is used by regulators in all 50 States, and it is supported by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors.

This bill passed the House on suspension last Congress, and it passed the Senate by unanimous consent.

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

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, on most social issues, I consider myself a liberal. On most fiscal matters, I consider myself a conservative in the true sense

of the word, not the new sense of the word, meaning that you should pay for those things that you want.

When it comes to privacy matters, I consider myself a proud Libertarian. There is absolutely no reason for anyone who doesn't need information that I don't want them to have to get, period. It is my information, my information to share only with those with whom I wish to share it.

This bill takes one step further towards keeping my information private and confidential between me and those people I seek to share it with. It is a great bill. I look forward to voting for it.

This information is necessary to be shared to simply keep our financial services system going, but there is no reason whatsoever to allow it to be nonconfidential and to be spread around and be available to anybody who might want to look at it.

I support the passage of this bill. I congratulate Mr. DOLD for putting this forward for us to vote on, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DOLD), the primary author of this bill, who has worked tirelessly in this area.

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to thank the chairman for his leadership. I want to thank my good friend from Massachusetts, and I also want to comment on the fact that we are delighted that you are a Libertarian on some of these things.

As we look, Mr. Speaker, at H.R. 1480, the SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act, it preserves the ability of the State and Federal financial regulators to share information regarding consumer financial services businesses that are licensed at the State level in the National Mortgage Licensing System without losing the privilege and confidentiality protections provided by State and Federal law.

This is a bipartisan bill that promotes smart and efficient regulation among State regulators. It ensures that State regulators can talk to their colleagues across State lines regarding multistate financial service entities without losing traditional privilege and constitutionality protections.

These amendments are needed due to the unintended gap in the existing National Mortgage Licensing System statute. As State regulators have expanded their use of the NMLS in order to enhance consumer protections, to combat fraud, increase uniformity, and reduce regulatory burdens in licensing processes, privacy protections have not kept up.

This is a commonsense bill that provides regulators with the certainty that they can continue to share information and collaborate with their colleagues across State lines.

Protecting the integrity of the National Mortgage Licensing System is

important because it better protects consumers from bad actors who switch States for licensing purposes to evade scrutiny.

This is ensuring, Mr. Speaker, smart regulations.

Again, I talk to people all around my district. The fact is that we are not against regulations. We just want our regulations to be smart and tailored, and this is one of those things that, again, working across the aisle and trying to find common ground, this is one that I believe that we can agree on.

H.R. 1480 does not create any new privilege or confidentiality rights. It merely ensures that the existing privilege and confidentiality protections are retained when information is shared through the National Mortgage Licensing System so that regulators can share information and communicate.

H.R. 1480 has received support from the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the Credit Union National Association, and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, in my home State.

The SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act passed out of this committee, out of the Financial Services Committee, 58-0. I certainly urge my colleagues to support this bill, and look forward to its passage.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, this truly is a bipartisan bill. It is a commonsense bill. I think the whole group of bills that we have seen this afternoon will go a long way to helping keep commonsense regulations; at the same time, making sure the consumers are protected. So I urge my colleagues to support passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1480.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock 52 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DOLD) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 650, PRESERVING ACCESS TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING ACT OF 2015, PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 685, MORTGAGE CHOICE ACT OF 2015, AND PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF S. CON. RES. 11, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2016

Mr. SESSIONS from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-65) on the resolution (H. Res. 189) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 650) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 685) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction, and providing for adoption of the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 11) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1259, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1265, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 1480, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

HELPING EXPAND LENDING PRACTICES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1259) to provide for an application process for interested parties to apply for an area to be designated as a rural area, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 1, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 145]

YEAS—401

Abraham	Aderholt	Allen
Adams	Aguilar	Amash

Amodei	Duckworth	Labrador	Reichert	Serrano	Vargas
Ashford	Duffy	LaMalfa	Renacci	Sessions	Veasey
Babin	Duncan (SC)	Lamborn	Ribble	Sewell (AL)	Vela
Barletta	Duncan (TN)	Lance	Rice (NY)	Shimkus	Wagner
Barr	Ellmers (NC)	Langevin	Rice (SC)	Shuster	Walberg
Barton	Emmer (MN)	Larsen (WA)	Richmond	Simpson	Walden
Bass	Engel	Larson (CT)	Rigell	Sinema	Walker
Beatty	Eshoo	Latta	Roby	Sires	Walorski
Becerra	Esty	Lawrence	Roe (TN)	Slaughter	Walters, Mimi
Benishek	Farenthold	Lee	Rogers (AL)	Smith (MO)	Walz
Bera	Farr	Levin	Rogers (KY)	Smith (NE)	Wasserman
Beyer	Fattah	Lewis	Rohrabacher	Smith (NJ)	Schultz
Bilirakis	Fitzpatrick	Lieu, Ted	Rokita	Smith (TX)	Waters, Maxine
Bishop (GA)	Fleischmann	Lipinski	Ros-Lehtinen	Speier	Watson Coleman
Bishop (MI)	Fleming	LoBiondo	Roskam	Stefanik	Weber (TX)
Bishop (UT)	Flores	Lofgren	Ross	Stewart	Webster (FL)
Black	Forbes	Long	Rothfus	Stivers	Welch
Blackburn	Fortenberry	Loudermilk	Rouzer	Stutzman	Wenstrup
Blum	Foster	Love	Roybal-Allard	Takal	Westerman
Blumenauer	Fox	Lowenthal	Royce	Takano	Whitfield
Bonamici	Frankel (FL)	Lowe	Ruppersberger	Thompson (CA)	Williams
Bost	Franks (AZ)	Luetkemeyer	Russell	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (FL)
Boustany	Frelinghuysen	Lujan Grisham	Salmon	Thompson (PA)	Wilson (SC)
Boyle, Brendan F.	Fudge	(NM)	Sánchez, Linda T.	Thornberry	Wittman
Brady (PA)	Gabbard	Luján, Ben Ray	Sanford	Tiberi	Womack
Brady (TX)	Gallego	(NM)	Sarbanes	Tipton	Woodall
Brat	Garamendi	Lummi	Scalise	Titus	Yarmuth
Brooks (AL)	Garrett	Lynch	Schakowsky	Tonko	Yoder
Brooks (IN)	Gibbs	MacArthur	Schiff	Torres	Yoho
Brown (IN)	Gibson	Maloney, Carolyn	Schrader	Trott	Young (AK)
Brownley (CA)	Goodlatte	Maloney, Sean	Schweikert	Tsongas	Young (IA)
Buchanan	Gosar	Marino	Scott (VA)	Turner	Young (IN)
Buck	Gowdy	Massie	Scott, Austin	Upton	Zeldin
Bucshon	Graham	Matsui	Scott, David	Valadao	Zinke
Burgess	Granger	McCarthy	Sensenbrenner		
Bustos	Graves (GA)	McCaul			
Butterfield	Graves (LA)	McClintock			
Byrne	Graves (MO)	McCollum			
Calvert	Green, Al	McDermott			
Capps	Green, Gene	McGovern			
Capuano	Griffith	McHenry			
Cárdenas	Grothman	McKinley			
Carney	Guinta	McMorris			
Carson (IN)	Guthrie	Rodgers			
Carter (GA)	Hahn	McNerney			
Carter (TX)	Hardy	McSally			
Cartwright	Harper	Meadows			
Castor (FL)	Harris	Meehan			
Castro (TX)	Hartzer	Meeks			
Chabot	Hastings	Messer			
Chaffetz	Heck (NV)	Mica			
Chu, Judy	Heck (WA)	Miller (FL)			
Cicilline	Hensarling	Miller (MI)			
Clark (MA)	Herrera Beutler	Moolenaar			
Clawson (FL)	Hice, Jody B.	Mooney (WV)			
Clay	Higgins	Moore			
Cleaver	Hill	Moulton			
Clyburn	Himes	Mullin			
Coffman	Hinojosa	Mulvaney			
Cohen	Holding	Murphy (FL)			
Cole	Honda	Murphy (PA)			
Collins (GA)	Hoyer	Nadler			
Collins (NY)	Hudson	Napolitano			
Comstock	Huelskamp	Neal			
Conaway	Huffman	Neugebauer			
Connolly	Huizenga (MI)	Newhouse			
Conyers	Hultgren	Noem			
Cook	Hunter	Nolan			
Costa	Hurd (TX)	Norcross			
Costello (PA)	Hurt (VA)	Nunes			
Courtney	Israel	O'Rourke			
Cramer	Issa	Olson			
Crenshaw	Jackson Lee	Palazzo			
Crowley	Jeffries	Pallone			
Cuellar	Jenkins (KS)	Palmer			
Culberson	Jenkins (WV)	Pascrell			
Cummings	Johnson (GA)	Paulsen			
Curbelo (FL)	Johnson (OH)	Payne			
Davis (CA)	Johnson, E. B.	Pearce			
Davis, Danny	Johnson, Sam	Pelosi			
Davis, Rodney	Jolly	Perlmutter			
DeFazio	Jones	Perry			
DeGette	Jordan	Peters			
Delaney	Joyce	Peterson			
DeLauro	Kaptur	Pingree			
DelBene	Katko	Pitts			
Denham	Keating	Pocan			
Dent	Kelly (IL)	Poe (TX)			
DeSantis	Kelly (PA)	Poliquin			
DeSaulnier	Kennedy	Polis			
DesJarlais	Kildee	Pompeo			
Deutch	Kilmer	Posey			
Diaz-Balart	Kind	Price (NC)			
Dingell	King (IA)	Price, Tom			
Doggett	Kinziger (IL)	Quigley			
Dold	Kirkpatrick	Rangel			
Doyle, Michael F.	Kline	Ratcliffe			
	Knight	Reed			
	Kuster				

NAYS—1

Velázquez

NOT VOTING—29

Bridenstine	Gutiérrez	Ruiz
Clarke (NY)	Hanna	Rush
Cooper	King (NY)	Ryan (OH)
Crawford	Loeb sack	Ryan (WI)
Edwards	Lucas	Sanchez, Loretta
Ellison	Marchant	Sherman
Fincher	Meng	Smith (WA)
Gohmert	Nugent	Visclosky
Grayson	Pittenger	Westmoreland
Grijalva	Rooney (FL)	

□ 1900

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 145, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

BUREAU ADVISORY COMMISSION TRANSPARENCY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1265) to apply the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 2, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 146]

YEAS—401

Abraham	DeSaulnier	Kelly (IL)
Adams	DesJarlais	Kelly (PA)
Adersholt	Deutch	Kennedy
Aguilar	Diaz-Balart	Kildee
Allen	Dingell	Kilmer
Amash	Doggett	Kind
Amodei	Dold	King (IA)
Ashford	Doyle, Michael	Kinzing (IL)
Babin	F.	Kirkpatrick
Barletta	Duckworth	Kline
Barr	Duffy	Knight
Barton	Duncan (SC)	Kuster
Bass	Duncan (TN)	Labrador
Beatty	Ellmers (NC)	LaMalfa
Becerra	Emmer (MN)	Lamborn
Benishkek	Engel	Lance
Bera	Eshoo	Langevin
Beyer	Esty	Larsen (WA)
Bilirakis	Farenthold	Larson (CT)
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Latta
Bishop (MI)	Fattah	Lawrence
Bishop (UT)	Fitzpatrick	Lee
Black	Fleischmann	Levin
Blackburn	Fleming	Lewis
Blum	Flores	Lieu, Ted
Blumenauer	Forbes	Lipinski
Bonamici	Fortenberry	LoBiondo
Bost	Foster	Lofgren
Boustany	Fox	Loudermilk
Boyle, Brendan	Frankel (FL)	Love
F.	Franks (AZ)	Lowenthal
Brady (PA)	Frelinghuysen	Lowe
Brady (TX)	Fudge	Luetkemeyer
Brat	Gabbard	Lujan Grisham
Brooks (AL)	Gallego	(NM)
Brooks (IN)	Garamendi	Lujan, Ben Ray
Brown (FL)	Garrett	(NM)
Brownley (CA)	Gibbs	Lummis
Buchanan	Gibson	Lynch
Buck	Goodlatte	MacArthur
Bucshon	Gosar	Maloney,
Burgess	Gowdy	Carolyn
Bustos	Graham	Maloney, Sean
Butterfield	Granger	Marino
Byrne	Graves (GA)	Massie
Calvert	Graves (LA)	Matsui
Capps	Graves (MO)	McCarthy
Capuano	Green, Al	McCaul
Cárdenas	Green, Gene	McClintock
Carney	Griffith	McCollum
Carson (IN)	Grothman	McDermott
Carter (GA)	Guinta	McHenry
Carter (TX)	Guthrie	McGovern
Cartwright	Hahn	McMorris
Castor (FL)	Hardy	Rodgers
Castro (TX)	Harper	McNerney
Chabot	Harris	McSally
Chaffetz	Hartzer	Meadows
Chu, Judy	Hastings	Meehan
Cicilline	Heck (NV)	Meeks
Clark (MA)	Heck (WA)	Messer
Clawson (FL)	Hensarling	Mica
Clay	Herrera Beutler	Miller (FL)
Cleaver	Hice, Jody B.	Miller (MI)
Clyburn	Higgins	Moolenaar
Coffman	Hill	Mooney (WV)
Cohen	Himes	Moore
Cole	Hinojosa	Moulton
Collins (GA)	Holding	Mullin
Collins (NY)	Honda	Mulvaney
Comstock	Hoyer	Murphy (FL)
Conaway	Hudson	Murphy (PA)
Connolly	Huelskamp	Nadler
Conyers	Huffman	Napolitano
Cook	Huizenga (MI)	Neal
Costa	Hultgren	Neugebauer
Costello (PA)	Hunter	Newhouse
Courtney	Hurd (TX)	Noem
Cramer	Hurt (VA)	Nolan
Crenshaw	Israel	Norcross
Crowley	Issa	Nunes
Cuellar	Jackson Lee	O'Rourke
Culberson	Jeffries	Olson
Cummings	Jenkins (KS)	Palazzo
Curbelo (FL)	Jenkins (WV)	Pallone
Davis (CA)	Johnson (GA)	Palmer
Davis, Danny	Johnson (OH)	Pascarell
Davis, Rodney	Johnson, E. B.	Paulsen
DeFazio	Johnson, Sam	Payne
DeGette	Jolly	Pearce
Delaney	Jones	Pelosi
DeLauro	Jordan	Perlmutter
DelBene	Joyce	Perry
Denham	Kaptur	Peters
Dent	Katko	Peterson
DeSantis	Keating	

[Roll No. 147]

YEAS—401

Abraham	DesJarlais	Kennedy
Adams	Deutch	Kildee
Adersholt	Diaz-Balart	Kilmer
Aguilar	Dingell	Kind
Allen	Doggett	King (IA)
Amash	Dold	Kinzing (IL)
Amodei	Doyle, Michael	Kirkpatrick
Ashford	F.	Kline
Babin	Duckworth	Knight
Barletta	Duffy	Kuster
Barr	Duncan (SC)	Labrador
Barton	Duncan (TN)	LaMalfa
Bass	Ellmers (NC)	Lamborn
Beatty	Emmer (MN)	Lance
Becerra	Engel	Langevin
Benishkek	Eshoo	Larsen (WA)
Bera	Esty	Larson (CT)
Bilirakis	Farenthold	Latta
Bishop (GA)	Farr	Lawrence
Bishop (MI)	Fattah	Lee
Bishop (UT)	Fitzpatrick	Levin
Black	Fleischmann	Lewis
Blackburn	Fleming	Lieu, Ted
Blum	Flores	Lipinski
Blumenauer	Forbes	LoBiondo
Bonamici	Fortenberry	Lofgren
Bost	Foster	Long
Boustany	Fox	Loudermilk
Boyle, Brendan	Frankel (FL)	Love
F.	Franks (AZ)	Lowenthal
Brady (PA)	Frelinghuysen	Lowe
Brady (TX)	Fudge	Luetkemeyer
Brat	Gabbard	Lujan Grisham
Brooks (AL)	Gallego	(NM)
Brooks (IN)	Garamendi	Lujan, Ben Ray
Brown (FL)	Garrett	(NM)
Brownley (CA)	Gibbs	Lummis
Buchanan	Gibson	Lynch
Buck	Goodlatte	MacArthur
Bucshon	Gosar	Maloney,
Burgess	Gowdy	Carolyn
Bustos	Graham	Maloney, Sean
Butterfield	Granger	Marino
Byrne	Graves (GA)	Massie
Calvert	Graves (LA)	Matsui
Capps	Graves (MO)	McCarthy
Capuano	Green, Al	McCaul
Cárdenas	Green, Gene	McClintock
Carney	Griffith	McCollum
Carson (IN)	Grothman	McDermott
Carter (GA)	Guinta	McGovern
Carter (TX)	Guthrie	McHenry
Cartwright	Hahn	McKinley
Castor (FL)	Hardy	McMorris
Castro (TX)	Harper	Rodgers
Chabot	Harris	McNerney
Chaffetz	Hartzer	McSally
Chu, Judy	Hastings	Meadows
Cicilline	Heck (NV)	Meehan
Clark (MA)	Heck (WA)	Meeks
Clawson (FL)	Hensarling	Messer
Clay	Herrera Beutler	Mica
Cleaver	Hice, Jody B.	Miller (FL)
Clyburn	Higgins	Miller (MI)
Coffman	Hill	Moolenaar
Cohen	Himes	Mooney (WV)
Cole	Hinojosa	Moore
Collins (GA)	Holding	Moulton
Collins (NY)	Honda	Mullin
Comstock	Hoyer	Mulvaney
Conaway	Hudson	Murphy (FL)
Connolly	Huelskamp	Murphy (PA)
Conyers	Huffman	Nadler
Cook	Huizenga (MI)	Napolitano
Costa	Hultgren	Neal
Costello (PA)	Hunter	Neugebauer
Courtney	Hurd (TX)	Newhouse
Cramer	Hurt (VA)	Noem
Crenshaw	Israel	Nolan
Crowley	Issa	Norcross
Cuellar	Jackson Lee	Nunes
Culberson	Jeffries	O'Rourke
Cummings	Jenkins (KS)	Olson
Curbelo (FL)	Jenkins (WV)	Palazzo
Davis (CA)	Johnson (GA)	Pallone
Davis, Danny	Johnson (OH)	Palmer
Davis, Rodney	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarell
DeFazio	Johnson, Sam	Paulsen
DeGette	Jolly	Payne
Delaney	Jones	Pearce
DeLauro	Jordan	Pelosi
DelBene	Joyce	Perlmutter
Denham	Kaptur	Perry
Dent	Katko	Peters
DeSantis	Keating	Peterson
DeSaulnier	Kelly (IL)	Pingree
	Kelly (PA)	

Pingree	Scalise	Tsongas
Pitts	Schakowsky	Turner
Pocan	Schiff	Upton
Poe (TX)	Schrader	Valadao
Poliquin	Schweikert	Van Hollen
Polis	Scott (VA)	Vargas
Pompeo	Scott, Austin	Veasey
Posey	Scott, David	Vela
Price (NC)	Sensenbrenner	Wagner
Price, Tom	Serrano	Walberg
Quigley	Sessions	Walden
Rangel	Sewell (AL)	Walker
Ratcliffe	Sherman	Walorski
Reed	Shimkus	Walters, Mimi
Reichert	Shuster	Walz
Renacci	Simpson	Wasserman
Ribble	Sinema	Schultz
Rice (NY)	Sires	Waters, Maxine
Rice (SC)	Slaughter	Watson Coleman
Richmond	Smith (MO)	Weber (TX)
Rigell	Smith (NE)	Webster (FL)
Roby	Smith (NJ)	Welch
Roe (TN)	Smith (TX)	Wenstrup
Rogers (AL)	Speier	Westerman
Rogers (KY)	Stefanik	Whitfield
Rohrabacher	Stewart	Williams
Rokita	Stivers	Wilson (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen	Stutzman	Wilson (SC)
Roskam	Swalwell (CA)	Wittman
Ross	Takai	Womack
Rothfus	Takano	Woodall
Rouzer	Thompson (CA)	Yarmuth
Roybal-Allard	Thompson (MS)	Yoder
Royce	Thompson (PA)	Yoho
Ruppersberger	Thornberry	Young (AK)
Russell	Tiberi	Young (IA)
Salmon	Tipton	Young (IN)
Sánchez, Linda	Titus	Zeldin
T.	Tonko	Zinke
Sanford	Torres	
Sarbanes	Trott	

NAYS—2

NOT VOTING—28

Nadler	Velázquez
Bridenstine	Gutiérrez
Clarke (NY)	Hanna
Cooper	King (NY)
Crawford	Loeb sack
Edwards	Lucas
Ellison	Marchant
Fincher	Meng
Gohmert	Nugent
Grayson	Pittenger
Grijalva	Rooney (FL)
	Ruiz
	Rush
	Ryan (OH)
	Ryan (WI)
	Sanchez, Loretta
	Smith (WA)
	Visclosky
	Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1907

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAFE ACT CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE ENHANCEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HURD of Texas). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1480) to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 401, nays 0, not voting 30, as follows:

Pitts	Schakowsky	Turner
Pocan	Schiff	Upton
Poe (TX)	Schrader	Valadao
Poliquin	Schweikert	Van Hollen
Polis	Scott (VA)	Vargas
Pompeo	Scott, Austin	Veasey
Posey	Scott, David	Vela
Price (NC)	Sensenbrenner	Velázquez
Price, Tom	Serrano	Wagner
Quigley	Sessions	Walberg
Rangel	Sewell (AL)	Walden
Ratcliffe	Sherman	Walker
Reed	Shinkus	Walorski
Reichert	Shuster	Walters, Mimi
Renacci	Simpson	Walz
Ribble	Sinema	Wasserman
Rice (NY)	Sires	Schultz
Rice (SC)	Slaughter	Waters, Maxine
Richmond	Smith (MO)	Watson Coleman
Rigell	Smith (NE)	Weber (TX)
Roby	Smith (NJ)	Webster (FL)
Roe (TN)	Smith (TX)	Welch
Rogers (AL)	Speier	Wenstrup
Rogers (KY)	Stefanik	Westerman
Rohrabacher	Stewart	Whitfield
Rokita	Stivers	Williams
Ros-Lehtinen	Stutzman	Wilson (FL)
Roskam	Swalwell (CA)	Wilson (SC)
Ross	Takai	Wittman
Rothfus	Takano	Womack
Rouzer	Thompson (CA)	Woodall
Roybal-Allard	Thompson (MS)	Yarmuth
Royce	Thompson (PA)	Yoder
Ruppersberger	Thornberry	Yoho
Russell	Tiberi	Young (AK)
Salmon	Tipton	Young (IA)
Sánchez, Linda	Titus	Young (IN)
T.	Tonko	Zeldin
Sanford	Torres	Zinke
Sarbanes	Trott	
Scalise	Tsongas	

NOT VOTING—30

Beyer	Grijalva	Pittenger
Bridenstine	Gutiérrez	Rooney (FL)
Clarke (NY)	Hanna	Ruiz
Cooper	Heck (WA)	Rush
Crawford	King (NY)	Ryan (OH)
Edwards	Loeback	Ryan (WI)
Ellison	Lucas	Sanchez, Loretta
Fincher	Marchant	Smith (WA)
Gohmert	Meng	Visclosky
Grayson	Nugent	Westmoreland

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1915

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed recorded votes Nos. 145–147. Had I been present: on rollcall No. 145, H.R. 1259—Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act, I would have voted “yea,” on rollcall No. 146, H.R. 1265—Bureau Advisory Commission Transparency Act, I would have voted “yea,” and on rollcall No. 147, H.R. 1480—SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act, I would have voted “yea.”

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 9, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 9

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR HOLOCAUST DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY.

Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on April 16, 2015, for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE AMERICAN FIGHTER ACES

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 34, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 34

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR CEREMONY TO PRESENT CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO AMERICAN FIGHTER ACES.

Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on May 20, 2015, for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to the American Fighter Aces collectively, in recognition of their heroic military service and defense of our country's freedom throughout the history of aviation warfare. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY SHINZO ABE, PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

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

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 978

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 978, a bill originally introduced by Representative Schock of Illinois, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprints pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

HOPE FOR THOSE WITH ALZHEIMER'S

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, there are over 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease. These patients encounter countless obstacles as they learn to live and cope with a condition that dramatically impacts their lives.

When a doctor gives the news to a patient that they have Alzheimer's, it is often difficult for those who are afflicted, as well as their loved ones, to plan the next steps.

That is why I am cosponsoring the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act that would provide Medicare beneficiaries with a care planning session to offer information about treatment options for those diagnosed with this disease and their caretakers.

By giving patients and their caretakers an opportunity to plan for the

future, we can improve outcomes and quality of life for those that are afflicted with Alzheimer's.

Mr. Speaker, for millions of Americans and their families that are affected by Alzheimer's, the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act will help give them the information and support that they need to take this disease head on.

PC NCAA HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I am absolutely thrilled to congratulate Providence College on their first ever NCAA men's ice hockey championship.

In a back-and-forth game, the Friars fell behind twice but managed to regain the lead each time. In a stunning finish, PC held off a relentless attack on their goal for over 6 minutes.

Coach Nate Leaman and the entire Providence College team have so much to be proud of this season. With a 26-13-2 season record, they came in second place in their conference behind their eventual opponent, Boston University, in the finals.

I would like to take this time to offer my congratulations to both teams, but most especially congratulations to the entire Providence College men's hockey team on a well-deserved victory and an outstanding season.

The entire Ocean State is so proud of this accomplishment.

Congratulations, and go Friars.

RECOGNIZING THE CUMBERLAND VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the 2015 Cumberland Valley High School girls basketball team for winning its second straight Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association AAAA title.

The Eagles earned an incredible 32-1 record and were the Mid Penn and District 3 Champions as well. Incredibly, this was their third State final appearance in a row.

Mr. Speaker, if you are looking for a reason for this incredible run of success, I need only point you to the Cumberland Valley girls basketball vision statement, which states that this program "provides a setting for girls to prepare for the 'game of life' through the teaching of hard work, cooperation, responsibility, leadership, discipline, sportsmanship, and other essential life skills."

The team, by its hard, unselfish play and exemplary court behavior, is a source of great pride for both the school and community.

Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District is thrilled with and so proud of

these fine young women. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the team, coaches, families, and supporters for this exceptional accomplishment.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

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

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the 50th anniversary of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act enacted in 1965 to ensure access to a quality education for all students.

I call on my colleagues today to do right by our students and reauthorize this legislation and make it even stronger. Sadly, there has been Republican attempts to send us back to 1965. H.R. 5, Republican legislation that passed out of the committee, will undoubtedly undo the past 50 years of education progress that we have made.

A true display of Robin Hood in reverse, this legislation strips resources away from our neediest students, widening achievement gaps and leaving our low-income students behind.

For the sake of our students and our schools, we must work together to reauthorize a stronger ESEA that upholds the principles of equal access to education for all, rich or poor.

From promoting access to early education so students can start out strong to investing in STEM education and supporting our teachers, we need a reauthorized ESEA that puts our students first. Educating our students shouldn't be a Democratic or Republican issue.

I urge all of my colleagues to put partisanship aside and support our students.

RUNNING FOR PARKINSON'S RACE

(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, while back in my district on April 4, I was proud to be in Erie County, Pennsylvania, for the fourth annual Running for Parkinson's race, which is an event that seeks to raise awareness for this disease that affects more than 1 million people in the United States alone.

April is Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month, and recently, I had the opportunity to meet with Lynne Gotham, coordinator at Parkinson Partners of northwest Pennsylvania, and Angela Badaracco, founder of the local non-profit Running for Parkinson's.

Angela was diagnosed with Parkinson's back in 2005 at the young age of 32 and, since then, has been committed to raise funds to combat this disease. Since Angela and her husband, Matt, started the Running for Parkinson's race 4 years ago, they have helped raise over \$12,000 for Parkinson's research.

It was my privilege to attend this year's race, and I applaud Angela and Parkinson Partners of northwest Pennsylvania for helping to bring hope and awareness to those living with this disease.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

(Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, since its inception, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act was and remains a civil rights law. ESEA plays a fundamental role in protecting the rights and educational opportunity of students living in poverty, students of color, students learning English, and students with disabilities.

In the last 50 years, we have made great progress, but tremendous work remains. Any reauthorization of ESEA must maintain the strong civil rights protections of this historic law.

We must advance progress, not undermine it.

SMARTER INTERPRETATION OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, amazingly, in the fourth year of record drought in California, the Bureau of Reclamation, in its infinite wisdom, decided to release 15,000 acre feet of additional water to help aid the downstream swimming of six steelhead fish—this in the time of agriculture being cut anywhere from 100 to 50 percent in some areas, receiving 0 percent allocations, cities seeing their needs for horticultural and ornamental needs being cut off, everybody having to scrimp and save on water in California, except for the Bureau's interpretation of the Endangered Species Act.

It is high time we put accountability back into interpretation of the Endangered Species Act as what was put in place in 1973. 15,000 acre feet would be enough for 30,000 households for a year, 4,000 acres of crop land; yet the allocation to move six fish merrily down the stream is the priority right now in California.

We need to build water storage. We need to have smarter interpretation of the Endangered Species Act and these water allocations, ostensibly, for fisheries.

□ 1930

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a significant milestone that occurred 50 years ago this week.

On April 11, 1965, President Johnson signed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The enactment of the ESEA followed the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision, guaranteeing all children equal educational opportunities. Unfortunately, communities with high concentrations of poverty have never enjoyed equal rights. So, for the last 50 years, the ESEA has remained the single-largest Federal resource for schools that teach our most vulnerable students.

If we are to keep our promise of equal educational opportunity for all, then we must redouble our efforts to level the public education playing field by ensuring that all students have both the resources to achieve academic excellence and the promise of action to intervene when their academic needs aren't being met.

This year, we need to renew ESEA in order to bring our education system into the 21st century, and we must not waver in our commitment to basic civil rights and education that we made 50 years ago this week.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

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

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, today, April 13, marks the birthday of Thomas Jefferson—America's third President and one of our greatest—who was responsible in so many ways for the creation of this great Nation.

Thomas Jefferson said on his very simple tombstone at Monticello that he was the author of the American Declaration of Independence, the author of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, and the father of the University of Virginia—those things that, in his mind, he had done for the United States rather than those things that the people of the United States had done for him.

Thomas Jefferson always felt that his greatest achievement throughout his life was the preservation of the American Republic—our system of separation of powers, of checks and balances. Above all, he believed very strongly in, all power not given to the Federal Government is reserved to the States and the people respectively.

That great, good man was born on this day, April 13, 1743, and I hope that the Congress of the United States and the people of the United States will continue to honor his legacy by preserving and protecting this great inheritance, the American Republic, with its separation of powers and its recognition that all power is reserved to the States or to the people respectively.

ALL LIVES MATTER

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, just as the President does, the United States Congress has the bully pulpit. In doing so, I believe that America cries out for a response. Over the past 6 months to a year, we have seen a number of tragic incidences occurring between civilians and police. In particular, we cite the tragedy of the shooting of Walter Scott in South Carolina.

All lives matter.

To those who have been petitioning and protesting—young people indicating that black lives matter—it is a reflection of the high number of African Americans who find themselves at the wrong end of the gun of someone engaged in law enforcement.

We know that there are good people who serve this Nation, and we are a law-abiding nation. So, Mr. Speaker, I think it is extremely important that we begin an open discussion in the Congress that deals with the issues of lethal force, excessive force, police training, statistics.

I intend to introduce and to ask my colleagues to join me on the Cadet bill, which reaches a wide-ranging perspective of the statistics of shootings in America—civilian shootings on police and law enforcement shootings on civilians—because that is the science of criminal justice reform. I draw upon this to say that we cannot be silent anymore. People are hurting. My sympathy to those who have lost lives, including law enforcement and our civilians.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE 18 VICTIMS FROM THE INDEPENDENT HAITIAN ASSEMBLY OF GOD CONGREGATION

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

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last month, 18 members of the Independent Haitian Assembly of God congregation from my district in Florida were involved in a fatal bus accident while traveling home from a church congregation. The accident left 10 individuals with severe injuries, and 8 members of the congregation were fatally wounded.

This weekend, our community will join together to lay them to rest, but I want to take this opportunity on the House floor today to honor those victims who perished.

As it often happens in times of tragedy, our community has come together to support the entire Independent Haitian Assembly of God community. Our hearts go out to the victims of this tragedy, to their families, and to this entire community.

Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the names of the victims who died in this terrible accident.

VICTIMS OF THE INDEPENDENT HAITIAN ASSEMBLY OF GOD BUS ACCIDENT

Volsaint Marsaille, 58, of Fort Pierce; Judge Petit-Frere, 66, of Fort Pierce; Obernise Petit-Frere, 58, of Fort Pierce; Lifaité Lochard, 58, of Fort Pierce; Madeleine William, 53, of Fort Pierce; Wanie Larose, 60, of Fort Pierce; Dazilla Joseph, 79, of Fort Pierce; Servilus Dieudonne, 71, of Fort Pierce.

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. As a Representative from this area, I offer my heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased on behalf of every Member of this body. Our community is strong, and we stand ready to support you as you lay your loved ones to rest.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

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

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday April 11, our Nation commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Seven years have passed since No Child Left Behind was signed into law, which was the last reauthorization of the ESEA. A new reauthorization is long overdue. We need to make children our priority by providing equal opportunity for a quality education for all children.

The partisan manner this House displayed for the ESEA's reauthorization is disheartening and leaves too many of our children behind. Democrats and Republicans should be working together to draft a bill that ensures that all students have access to a world class education, that ensures that States set high standards and goals to ensure all students graduate career or college ready, and that ensures that strong accountability measures are in place for children and families.

Let us return to the table and draft a bill that will support an equitable 21st century education system.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 50th anniversary of the ESEA, we reflect on the simple yet powerful promises that are at the center of this civil rights law, promises made to all American children—a promise that no matter where you live or what you look like you will not be ignored, a promise that no matter what resources you have you will not be undervalued, a promise that, no matter what, you deserve a quality education.

The ESEA was a substantial step towards fulfilling these promises, but we still have work to do. As we work towards reauthorization, we cannot break those promises. We cannot break

our promise to make every child count by failing to gather information on student achievement for all children. We cannot break our promise to value every child by failing to target funding at the schools that need it the most. We cannot break our promise to uphold the civil rights of all children to have a quality education. Because all children are worthy, we cannot break our promise.

Thank you for all that you do on behalf of our children. They are our future.

THE STATE OF BLACK HEALTH: A CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS ASSESSMENT DURING NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield to my distinguished colleague from New Jersey, Congressman DONALD PAYNE.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my coanchor, ROBIN KELLY, Congresswoman from Illinois, for being involved in this Special Order tonight.

Thanks also to the members of the Congressional Black Caucus who are here tonight on such an important topic.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the people at home who are tuning in to watch this. It is truly an honor to speak to them directly in their homes, to fight on their behalf and to advance our shared priorities. That is why we are here tonight and every Monday night that the House is in session—to address the diverse issues affecting African American communities throughout our Nation and to let you know that we are here, fighting for you every single day.

Mr. Speaker, this month is National Minority Health Month. It is a chance to evaluate the state of black health, a chance to address health disparities affecting racial minorities, and a chance to speak to efforts to advance health equity. Today, African American and other minority populations lag behind in numerous health areas, including in the access to quality care, in timelines of care, and in health outcomes. These disparities have devastating impacts on individuals and families but also on our communities and our society as a whole.

There are numerous factors that contribute to the health disparities throughout New Jersey's 10th Congressional District and throughout our Nation as well—poverty, environmental threats, inadequate access to health care, and educational inequities. These are such interconnected issues that a piecemeal plan to fixing the problem will not work. A comprehensive approach—one that focuses on providing access to quality care for all, creating

good jobs that provide a decent living, and increasing educational opportunities for low-income communities—is only one way to eliminate the health disparities once and for all.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to get to the members of the CBC who are here, and I turn it over right now to the gentlewoman from Illinois, the Honorable ROBIN KELLY, who has been holding down the fort while I have been dealing with my health issues.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. I thank the distinguished gentleman from the Garden State, my good friend, DONALD PAYNE. I am glad he is back and in better health in order to lead this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour on the state of black health.

Mr. Speaker, it has been the refrain of so many people of all races across the country, the refrain of "black lives matter." We have gathered here this evening because black lives do matter. Whether we are talking about issues of justice or of economic opportunity or of the health of our Nation, black lives matter. The topic of tonight's Special Order hour is: The State of Black Health—a CBC Assessment during National Minority Health Month.

Each April, we observe National Minority Health Month in order to raise awareness about the gaping health disparities that impact communities of color across the Nation. Many of us have been personally affected by the physical and emotional tolls that conditions like obesity, diabetes, kidney disease, breast and prostate cancer, and HIV/AIDS have brought on ourselves and our loved ones and neighbors.

Last month marked the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches—the generation-defining events that led to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Like the right to vote, health care is a fundamental civil right that our leaders, health professionals, and communities must fight to protect. The Affordable Care Act was a critical step in the march toward health equity, but there is still much more to be done.

Dr. Martin Luther King expressed this a half century ago when he said: "Of all of the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

I couldn't agree more, and it has been the work of the CBC and of the Congressional Black Health Braintrust, which I chair, to advance the critical phrase of the human rights and civil rights struggle—"health equity."

This year, the CBC's Health Braintrust will focus on three core

principles: strengthening our communities, improving health access, and marching toward a healthier future. The disparities facing minority communities in rural areas across the country are too numerous to name. To that end, the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust will work vigorously to address the gaps that exist when it comes to reducing heart disease, kidney disease, lung ailments, stroke, oral health, lupus, child nutrition, HIV/AIDS, mental health disorders, gun violence as a public health threat, and other chronic and infectious diseases.

I am glad that, during tonight's hour, we will be focused on strengthening our public health infrastructure and on developing community-oriented, multidisciplinary approaches to public health, which will close the national health disparity gap.

□ 1945

This National Minority Health Month the CBC will work to expand access to health care, early health education, and medical investment so that we can make our communities healthier and reduce the prevalence of diseases that disproportionately cut minority lives short.

Again, I thank my coanchor for the next hour.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlelady from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), who has done a tremendous job and has stepped into the gap left by the leaving of one of our former colleagues, Donna Christensen from the Virgin Islands. Ms. KELLY has stepped up to fill the position at the Health Braintrust. She has been a fighter in this area prior to coming to the Congress and has continued to demonstrate her leadership along these lines.

At this point in time, it is my honor to hear from a member of the CBC who has been a leader, seasoned in so many areas and aspects, and has been a real mentor and a role model for me as I come here and try to fight for the American people every day, as he does for his constituents in Illinois, the Honorable DANNY DAVIS.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. PAYNE, for the leadership that he provides, and I am delighted to be here with my colleagues as we talk about one of the most pernicious problems that exists in our country, and that is the tremendous disparity that exists among minorities—African Americans, Latinas, and Native Americans—when it comes to health and health care.

Millions of racial and ethnic minorities have been and continue to be disproportionately suffering. Health disparities among minorities have been neglected for many decades in this Nation, and as a result, millions of racial and ethnic minority Americans continue to lack access to reliable and quality health care. They are often suffering more from comorbidities and

poor health outcomes and are more likely to die prematurely from preventable causes compared to their white counterparts.

Examples of these pervasive health disparities include the following:

The infant mortality rate for African Americans and American Indian/Alaska Natives are more than two times higher than that for whites;

African Americans with heart disease are three times more likely to be operated on by high-risk surgeons than their white counterparts with heart disease;

Hispanic Latina women have the highest incidence rate for cancers of the cervix, 1.6 times higher than that for white women, with a cervical cancer death rate that is 1.4 times higher than for white women;

Puerto Ricans have an asthma prevalence rate over 2.2 times higher than non-Hispanic whites, and over 1.8 times higher than non-Hispanic blacks;

Together, African Americans and Hispanics account for 27 percent of the total U.S. population yet account for 62 percent of all new HIV infections;

American Indian/Alaska Natives have diabetes rates that are nearly three times higher than the overall rate;

Of the more than 1 million people infected with chronic hepatitis B in the United States, half are Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Of course, one of the bright spots in healthcare delivery in this Nation now is the Affordable Care Act. Minorities make up about 30 percent of the population but are 50 percent of the uninsured. Currently, the ACA, since its enactment, has allowed health insurance coverage for 16.4 million Americans who were not insured prior to this law.

Another bright spot is community health centers, which are celebrating their 50th year. The first of these centers was actually approved and funded, the first one being a project between Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts, and Bolivar County, Mississippi. It was called the Tufts-Delta Project. Since that time, they now are providing quality health care to more than 23 million low- and moderate-income individuals throughout the Nation.

Of course, one of the great needs is the need for health education and the recognition that, as people learn how to better care for themselves and to make more effective use of the resources that are available, not only do we save money, but we also save lives.

I was amazed, as people spoke against the Affordable Care Act, where, for the first time in their lives, many individuals were going to have access to a regular primary care physician so they didn't have to go to the emergency room of hospitals and get what is called episodic care. So while the disparities are great, we know that progress is perhaps even greater.

I end with being at a church just the other day where we were having something called organ transplant Sunday,

and the minister of this particular church had had two heart transplants and a kidney transplant. He preached every Sunday and owned a construction company that he ran. That is why we need to make sure that we put adequate resources into research and the funding of new approaches and new techniques.

I want to thank my colleagues for this evening, for the opportunity to talk about not only the great needs, but also to talk about some of the progress that is being made.

I thank the gentleman from New Jersey, my colleague, Mr. PAYNE.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY DAVIS), who, as I stated in my opening remarks about him, has been a deliberate and conscious fighter for not only his constituents, but Americans that find themselves facing these disparities all around the Nation.

Next it is my honor to hear from the gentlelady from Alabama, the Honorable TERRI SEWELL, who had a wonderful participation in her district last month of the 50th anniversary of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, where many of my colleagues were able to go down and celebrate that great victory in this Nation's history, and I was sorry I couldn't be there, but I watched from afar and was very delighted to see such an outpouring of respect for a moment in our history that can never be forgotten, and we can never let the clock be turned back, as we say.

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Thank you so much. I want to commend my colleagues from Illinois and New Jersey for having this wonderful CBC hour on minority health and the disparities that exist.

I want to talk for a minute about how we in Congress have tried to address these disparities. You know, our Nation celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Affordable Care Act in March. This anniversary marked the historic progress our Nation has made towards making health care not just a privilege, but a right for every American.

The ACA has significantly affected the minority population by trying to close the gap on the disparity by giving access to affordable healthcare insurance for all Americans. Thanks to the ACA, health insurers can no longer deny coverage to individuals because of preexisting conditions, and women no longer have to pay higher premiums than men. Because of this law, millions of Americans can finally afford to go to the doctor, and families no longer risk losing their home savings and all that they have if a family member gets sick.

For those who already had insurance, the ACA has meant new savings and new protections. This has even been true in my home State of Alabama, a State that did not choose to enact a healthcare exchange, a State that did not expand Medicaid. During the most recent enrollment period, more than

171,000 Alabamians enrolled in quality healthcare coverage at a price that they could afford. Over 1.1 million Alabamians with private health insurance now have access to free preventive services, and Alabamians with Medicare have saved more than \$240 million in prescription drug costs. In 2014 alone, nearly 90,000 Alabamians saved an average of \$931 for prescriptions. Yes, even in my State of Alabama, which chose not to enact a healthcare exchange and not to expand Medicaid, the ACA is working.

These are more than just numbers. Greater access to healthcare insurance leads to a healthier population, which is good news not only for Alabamians, but for all Americans. The ACA, indeed, works. That is why I have proudly defended the ACA against numerous attacks to undermine or repeal the law. Bipartisanship is possible. Members from both sides of the aisle in both Chambers must work together to strengthen our healthcare system and to ensure that all Americans have access to quality, affordable healthcare insurance.

In March, I was proud that 392 of us in the House of Representatives agreed on a permanent fix to the flawed Medicare physician payment system and an extension to the Children's Health Insurance Program, otherwise known as CHIP. This bipartisan agreement marked a historic victory for our children of this Nation. It also was a victory for our seniors, working class families, and healthcare providers. We must continue to work together to ensure the healthcare system is working for all of us.

Unfortunately, for many working poor individuals and families, access to quality health care is still out of their reach. An estimated 191,000 Alabamians, for example, are uninsured because our Governor has refused to expand Medicaid. Let me repeat that. 191,000 Alabamians would benefit if our Governor would expand Medicaid in the State of Alabama. These individuals pay their taxes, work hard, and contribute to their communities. Our government should assist them in return. Governor Robert Bentley recently created the Alabama Health Care Improvement Task Force to examine ways to increase access to health care in rural Alabama.

□ 2000

I welcome my Governor's establishment of this task force. I know that when this task force meets, it will recommend expanding Medicaid.

My hope is that we will put partisan politics aside in my great State of Alabama and look to what is in the best interest of all the people. Clearly, 191,000 Alabamians fall in that gap, those who currently cannot get healthcare insurance because this State would refuse to expand Medicaid.

I find it ironic, Mr. Speaker, that my Governor would choose to recommend expanding taxes. Increasing taxes is his

current proposal on the floor in the statehouse in order to meet the shortfall that exists in my State.

Let's just think about that. My Governor would rather increase taxes than to accept money from the Federal Government to expand Medicaid—how shortsighted.

No State that refuses to expand Medicaid has been better off without it. Without the expansion, the dramatic healthcare needs of Alabama's working poor will remain unmet; and rural hospitals, many of which I represent, will face growing financial challenges that will undoubtedly lead to reduced services.

According to a 2013 study conducted by the Culverhouse College of Commerce at the University of Alabama, the Medicaid expansion would create \$28 billion in overall business activity in the State of Alabama. There has not been another economic development investment in the State of Alabama that would bring the State more than 30,000 new jobs annually.

A 2012 study conducted by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health found that Medicaid expansion in our State would generate \$20 billion in new economic activity and a \$925 million increase in State tax revenues—yes, revenues to our State.

Expanding Medicaid is clearly not only a moral imperative, but I would say to you that it is an economic imperative in my State. With each day that our State delays expansion, more Alabamians are unable to work due to unrelated health conditions. More rural hospitals have to cut services because of uncompensated care provided in their emergency rooms.

With each day that my State delays expanding, Alabamians continue to forego the immense economic benefit that results from this investment. The greatest casualty, Mr. Speaker, are the most vulnerable Americans, the most vulnerable in our society: the poor, the working poor, the unemployed, the uninsured.

It is unacceptable that the State of Alabama has not chosen to expand Medicaid. We owe it to Alabama taxpayers to expand Medicaid now.

I want to commend my colleagues, Representatives PAYNE and KELLY, for choosing to talk about the effects of health care on minority populations. I would add that in this day and age, when we have a law—the Affordable Care Act—that stands ready and willing to help Americans help themselves—after all, what we are saying is we are giving access to affordable healthcare insurance, insurance that they have to pay for, insurance that they can get subsidized if they are the working poor—we deserve it as Americans.

In this great country, no one should go without health care, no one, especially those who are the most vulnerable in our society.

I hope that through talking about the disparities that exist in minority

health, we also remember that this great institution did do something that would help decrease the disparity. We chose to pass the Affordable Care Act, and every time, we have defended it against repeal.

It is time that States like the State of Alabama get with the program. It is time States like Alabama expand Medicaid and that we choose our people over politics. Partisan politics should not rule the day; instead, we should care more about the people we represent than the partisan politics of each of our parties.

I thank my colleagues for continuing the fight. The CBC Special Order hour is very important. It highlights not only what is important to minority communities—because what is important to minority communities is important to all vulnerable communities in America.

I want to thank my colleagues for continuing this great tradition. I want to thank them for choosing to talk about health care and the disparities that exist in this country.

I want to urge all of the Alabama lawmakers who are listening to my voice, the State lawmakers who are in Montgomery today, that we need to work together to expand Medicaid in the State of Alabama. The medical case is there. The economic case is there. The moral case is there.

Let's do what is right for all Alabamians, and let's expand Medicaid today.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Alabama for her eloquent remarks on the topic of the evening. Irrespective of where you are in this Nation, these issues are a common thread in communities throughout this Nation.

I am not surprised that the gentlewoman from Alabama, Representative SEWELL, is able to talk about the same issues that we are able to talk about in New Jersey, Illinois, California, Florida, and across this Nation, across this great land.

At this time, I would like to hear from the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), an outstanding Member of the United States House of Representatives. In just her second term, she has demonstrated her superior leadership skills. She is a member of my class, the "class" of the class.

Mrs. BEATTY. I thank my colleagues, Congressman DONALD PAYNE and Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY, for leading this evening's critical discussion on "The State of Black Health: A Congressional Black Caucus Assessment During National Minority Health Month."

Mr. Speaker, it is no surprise that we are here today because, certainly, we have had many firsthand experiences to know the disparities that exist across all Americans but, more specifically, across African American communities.

To you, Mr. PAYNE, thank you for having the foresight to come tonight; and to you, Congresswoman KELLY,

thank you for taking a leadership position in helping us share with the Nation the value and the importance of protecting all lives but giving information to the Nation about the state of black health.

It is imperative that we continue to address health disparities that affect racial minorities and work together on the efforts to advance health equity.

Since July 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has sponsored national conferences and held brain trusts on black health. It is so timely that we have this discussion as we observe National Minority Health Month.

Tonight is a call to action, a charge for all of us to unite towards a common goal of improving the health of our communities. Everyone in America should be able to live a healthy life, regardless of the color of their skin.

Mr. Speaker, the good news is the overall health of an American has improved over the past few decades. This is, in part, due to the increased focus on preventive medicine and dynamic new advances in medical technology.

However, not all Americans have benefited equally from healthcare improvements. Since the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, millions of Americans now have access to quality, affordable coverage.

According to the American Medical Association, recent studies have shown that despite the steady improvement in overall health of the United States, racial and ethnic minorities experience a lower quality of health services and are less likely to receive routine medical procedures and have higher rates of morbidity and mortality than non-minorities.

Disparities in health care exist even when controlling for gender, condition, age, and socioeconomic status. For example, cardiovascular diseases account for the largest proportion of inequality in life expectancy between African Americans and non-Hispanic whites.

According to the American Cancer Society, African American women have a 44 percent higher death rate from breast cancer, despite having a mammography screening rate that is nearly the same rate for white women.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the CDC, the infant death rate among African Americans is still more than double that of whites.

Mr. Speaker, tonight, you are going to hear my colleagues and I discuss much data and statistics because I am from the great State of Ohio and Ohio ranks 47th in the Nation in infant mortality, with black infants dying at twice the rate of white infants.

According to a 2015 study conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation, in Ohio, on average, 14.5 black infants die per every 1,000 live births, while 6.3 white infants die.

Ohio community leaders and the Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Task Force are working hard to lower Franklin County's infant mortality rate and the infant mortality rate in

all of Ohio. Tonight, I salute them for their research, for their education, and for their consistency to save lives. The statistics are staggering, and we can and must do more to lower and eliminate them.

The societal burden of healthcare disparities in America manifest in multiple and major ways. For example, a 2014 study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies concluded that “the combined costs of health inequalities and premature death in the United States were \$1.24 trillion.” That \$1.24 trillion is the cost between 2003 and 2006.

That is why, on March 23, 2010, when President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act, it was a monumental step that has helped us address the overwhelming statistics and health disparities within our community. I proudly supported the Affordable Care Act because lives matter. All lives matter. Black lives matter.

Now, we have comprehensive healthcare reform that improves access to affordable health coverage and guarantees that the most vulnerable in our communities have access to care. By improving access to quality health care for all Americans, the Affordable Care Act helps reduce health disparities.

How does the Affordable Care Act do this? This law invests in prevention and wellness, gives individuals more control over their care, and expands initiatives to increase racial and ethnic diversity in healthcare professions by strengthening cultural competency training for all healthcare providers and improving communications between providers and patients.

The Affordable Care Act represents the most significant Federal effort to reduce disparities in this country’s history.

Congressman PAYNE and Congresswoman KELLY, again, I salute you. I am going to repeat that because it is so important for us to let the Nation know that the Affordable Care Act represents the most significant Federal effort to reduce disparities in this country’s history.

The Affordable Care Act also increases funding for community health centers which serve an estimated one in three low-income people and one in four low-income minority residents.

There are over 43 community health centers, Mr. Speaker, in Ohio, including many in my district: Columbus Neighborhood Health Centers, Heart of Ohio Family Health Centers, and Lower Lights Christian Health Centers.

These community health centers provide outstanding primary care, dental, behavioral health, and pharmacy services in our most underserved areas. In 2013, community health centers provided care to over 550,000 Ohioans and recorded over 2 million patient visits.

We have come a long way, Madam Speaker, but there is still much more for us to do. All people should have the opportunity to reach their fullest potential for health. We must continue to

move forward to combat health disparities, build healthier communities, and create a stronger country. In order to have a successful Nation, I believe we must have a healthy Nation.

Let me leave you with something a national figure once said:

If you neglect to recharge a battery, it dies. If you run full speed ahead without stopping for water, you lose momentum to finish the race.

Let us make sure that all Americans can finish the race.

□ 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlelady from Ohio. As I stated in my introduction of her, she has just demonstrated an outstanding leadership in our class that is second to none, and we can always depend on her to bring some clear thought to these issues at hand, so we would like to thank her once again.

Madam Speaker, tomorrow there will be a press conference at 1:30 with Representatives CAROLINE MALONEY and G.K. BUTTERFIELD to discuss the new JEC report on persistent economic challenges in black communities. The report is bleak. There is not a lot of good news in this report.

Nearly one in seven Americans identify themselves as African American. The third-largest racial ethnic group in the United States, African Americans have made significant social and economic progress since the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; however, the black community continues to face enormous challenges.

Economic data reveals startling inequities. By many of the most important measures of economic well-being, blacks lag far behind the majority white population. And that is just the overview of the report. That is just the start.

I hope the people watching at home and my colleagues in earshot of me will be there tomorrow to support our colleagues at 1:30 at the HVC Studio A.

I would like to give my colleague, Representative KELLY, the opportunity to provide us more information on the issue at hand. As was mentioned, the Affordable Care Act, something that has passed this Congress, and there have been many attempts to thwart it and repeal it, but the majority is never successful at doing that because people understand what this legislation has meant to this Nation.

You see, it makes sense for more people to have quality affordable health care, and that has been the issue. The first word in the act, “affordable,” has been prohibitive for many Americans to have the health care that they need and desire.

But this legislation has made it available to 16 million more people in this country. Sixteen million people have benefited from this piece of legislation that is continually under attack.

Actually, it is 16 million and one, because I have heard a candidate—the

first person to announce they are running for President of the United States in 2016, who is a Senator, who hails from the great State of Texas—say that with him running, his wife will lose, will stop working at her job, dedicate herself to this campaign, so his health care was under her benefits.

Well, guess what? In a kind of coy little shrewd way, he said, Well, you know, now I will take the mantle of getting health care for my family.

You mean the Affordable Care Act, sir? The issue you railed about constantly for years since you have come to the Senate?

Oh, well that is different.

It is absolutely incredible, when I sat there and watched him try to dance around that, that he is now in the exchange. It was a sight to see.

But I will get off of that and let my colleague from Illinois provide us some information.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Thank you, Congressman PAYNE.

Something I want to speak about is oral health. As we discuss the state of black America, I want to address a topic that is so often left out of the public health discourse, and that is the issue of oral health in America.

Earlier this year, the CBC Health Braintrust recognized National Children’s Dental Health Month, and back in February I had the opportunity to go around my district in a mobile dental van to observe local dentists performing free oral health screenings around the community.

These types of effort matter, and oral health is a critical piece to overall health wellness. The sad fact is that all across our Nation, many communities are experiencing serious oral health crises.

Far too many people in urban, suburban, and rural America are lacking access to dental care, despite the efforts of committed dental professionals and social service organizations.

We must recognize that access to dental health care across the country is not equal. Each year, nearly 50 million Americans, including 16 million low-income children in underserved communities, go without the oral health services they need.

As we continue the national discussion on improving health care and reducing health disparities in America, it is important that oral health be central to the conversation.

When officials discuss health care and wellness, they should remember that the mouth is connected to the rest of the body. This seems to be forgotten in the current dialogue about improving health outcomes for all.

This year I introduced H.R. 539, the Action for Dental Health Act, which allows organizations to qualify for Health and Human Service oral health grants to support activities that improve oral health education and dental disease prevention.

This includes developing and expanding outreach programs that will facilitate establishing dental homes for children and adults, including the elderly, blind and disabled.

This bipartisan legislation will target crucial Federal dollars to State and local dental organizations to provide proven oral health care services in a manner that effectively addresses the barriers to dental care many Americans face. It will have a significant impact on many underserved communities.

I think the majority of my colleagues know that regular visits to the dentist do more than keep your smile attractive. They can tell a lot about your overall health, including whether or not you may be developing a disease like diabetes or if you are at risk for a stroke.

As the CBC takes on the critical task of creating healthier communities by breaking down barriers, oral health is a subject that must be addressed. This will ultimately help reduce unnecessary health-care costs by minimizing and eliminating dental diseases in their early stages.

As I mentioned earlier, I recently visited a new mobile dental van operated by a hospital in an underserved community in my district that had a stop at the hospital's Women, Infant, and Children's Center. They had a pediatric dentist on hand to provide babies and toddlers with their first dental exams.

I saw firsthand the critical need for dental care, not only for these young children, but for their parents. This highlighted all too well the gaps in dental care that are particularly prevalent in minority communities.

Viewing the care and service the these dental professionals displayed to kids, many of whom had never been to a dentist, reminded me of kids like Deamonte Driver.

You may recall, he was the 12-year old boy from Maryland who died from an untreated tooth infection that spread lethal bacteria to his brain. An untreated tooth condition that could have been resolved with a routine extraction cost this boy his life. How is that possible in the most innovative, wealthy Nation in the world?

I think we should be doing more to support volunteer dental projects in underserved communities and improve oral health education, with a particular focus on early oral health education and care for children. We all know the link between good dental care and overall health has been well established.

As we look for ways to raise a healthier generation of children, increasing access and removing barriers to dental care must be at the forefront. Through legislation like H.R. 539, the Action for Dental Health Act, I am working to increase access to dental care and build healthier communities. In improving the state of black health and the state of American health, I ask that we lift up the issue of oral health,

and ask that my colleagues take the first step by cosponsoring H.R. 539.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from Illinois. That is so true. And as you stood there and stated those issues, that is something that we have known for quite some time, how oral care impacts so many other parts of your health—and as you mentioned, could really show you the onset of diabetes.

I mention diabetes, Madam Speaker, because I have been out for several weeks now with a foot infection. And it got pretty severe and had to be operated on. But what has complicated the circumstance with my foot is me being a diabetic, a very noncompliant diabetic, a diabetic who did not take it seriously, did not take the medicines that I should have for years.

This circumstance with my foot made it all so very clear what needed to be done. The circumstance frightened me into doing everything that I am supposed to now, so you are looking at a compliant diabetic. But it is crucial, and the diabetes is what has complicated the healing of my foot.

Now, I am a very fortunate person in this country. I am living an American Dream that I did not realize would happen to me because of another issue of my father losing his bout with colorectal cancer. He was the Member prior to me, and I took his place.

But we were fortunate. We have always had good health care. We are talking about the disparities and the inequities in this Nation for people who are not in the positions that Representative KELLY, myself, and other well-to-do Americans are who have health care that keeps them alive.

Now, whether you use it or not is really up to you. But we are afforded that opportunity to get great health care.

We are talking about people who want health care but cannot afford it and find themselves in emergency rooms as their visit to the doctor. They have to wait until they are very ill and go to the emergency room, which is how they get their health care. That costs this Nation millions and billions of dollars.

But what the Affordable Care Act has done is given a lot of these people the opportunity to get pre-screenings and pro-care prior to showing up at the emergency room.

So whether people realize it or not, you end up paying for these people who cannot afford their own health care in your premium, because someone is going to cover it. The insurance companies aren't going to just cover it. The hospitals aren't, so we pay it in our premiums.

So as you get more people their own health care, it drives the cost down. It will drive the cost down in this Nation, and we will all benefit from more people being healthier. That is what the Affordable Care Act is about. That is what it does. That is what it does.

□ 2030

I am so fortunate to live in this Nation, to be able to represent the 10th Congressional District of the State of New Jersey, and to stand here and fight for not only the people of the 10th District of New Jersey, but every American that deserves an equal opportunity. That is what it is about.

It is not about favor; it is about the opportunity, the equal opportunity. And we see these disparities, inequities in health care, in economics all across the board, all across this Nation.

It is incumbent upon us as the Congressional Black Caucus to speak up for the residents that we represent, children and infants.

You know, even in the 21st century, health disparities are stark, especially in African American communities, where life expectancies are lower and infant mortality rates are higher. Children of color who live below the poverty line are much more likely to suffer from asthma, develop ADHD, and contract diseases because they can't afford vaccinations. It is the situation across the board. Cancer, African Americans have the highest death rate and the shortest survival rate of any racial ethnic group in the United States. And it just goes on and on.

It is important that we get the message out. And we will continue to fight with Representative ROBIN KELLY, head of the Health Braintrust. I know the work that she will do on behalf of the American people.

So, Madam Speaker, with that, I would just like to thank Ms. KELLY for the opportunity to speak on what I feel is a dire, dire situation in this country, the inequity in health disparities.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Thank you, Congressman PAYNE. Welcome back. And I am glad you are taking care of yourself.

Madam Speaker, again, I thank my colleagues for taking the time during National Minority Health Awareness Month to assess the very critical state of black health in America.

As stated earlier, the health disparities facing communities of color are too significant to adequately address in just an hour. As a recent CDC Health Disparities Report demonstrated:

Blacks diagnosed with HIV are less likely than any other groups to be linked to care, retained in care, receive treatment, and achieve adequate viral suppression;

Although black Americans represent only 12 percent of the U.S. population, they accounted for 44 percent of new HIV infections and represented 49 percent of all deaths with HIV in 2010. Furthermore, blacks also accounted for 49 percent of new AIDS diagnoses in 2011;

According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Population Estimates, 84 percent of all reported tuberculosis cases occurred in racial and ethnic minorities. African Americans accounted for 40 percent of TB cases amongst U.S.-born persons.

These facts account for a few of the health disparities affecting the state of black health.

The Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust is committed to strengthening our Nation's public health infrastructure and developing community-oriented, multidisciplinary approaches to public health. We will continue to work vigorously to address health gaps existing in the black community, empower communities, and improve health access in efforts to march toward a healthier future.

Black lives matter. The state of black health matters, and we are confident that if we all join together, we can alleviate health disparities facing minority communities across this Nation.

I thank my colleagues and my co-chair, the Honorable DONALD PAYNE, Jr., for this hour of discussion, this hour of opportunity, and this hour of change.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the CBC Special Order Hour, "The State of Black Health: A CBC Assessment During National Minority Health Month." Unfortunately, during a time when the best and most promising health innovation and treatments exist, many individuals in our population face disparities and inequalities in health access, delivery, and outcomes.

Since April is National Minority Health Month, we must highlight these existing disparities and enact policies that focus on eliminating inequalities and improving the nation's health at large. The future of our nation's health mostly depends on the effectiveness of federal, state, and local policies. Traditionally, African Americans and Latinos face the worst health disparities in this country and in my home state of Texas.

Generally, the death rate for blacks is higher than whites for heart disease, stroke, cancer, influenza and pneumonia, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and homicide. In 2010, about two of five Latino adults and one in four black adults were uninsured. While behavioral risk and environmental factors are certainly at play for much of our population, the lack of health care access and especially access to preventive health services in the black and Latino communities increases the inequalities in each category.

Currently, the adult obesity rate for blacks is 47.8 percent, 42.5 percent for Latinos, and 32.6 percent for whites. Broken down further, 56.6 percent of black females are obese while 37.1 percent of black males are obese. The black population is the most obese among whites and Latinos in all categories except for black males which is led by Latinos. Obesity takes much of the blame for negative long-term health impacts such as high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.

While the Affordable Care Act has certainly helped to improve access to preventive services within minority communities, much can be done to improve the aforementioned inequalities. The Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health have laid out several initiatives to promote health equity and

close the disparity gap between minorities and white Americans. We must support the social, economic, and environmental policies that the CDC and OMH have recommended in order to achieve health equity and eliminate disparities.

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues Congressmen PAYNE and KELLY for leading the Congressional Black Caucus Special Order Hour.

My Congressional district in Ohio includes much of Cuyahoga County. A few years ago, the county analyzed the relationship between a resident's life-expectancy and neighborhood, with incredible, but not surprising results.

The study found that people who lived in Hough, a low-income and predominantly African-American neighborhood in Cleveland, could expect to live 24 years less than someone who resided in Lyndhurst, an affluent, predominantly white suburb of the city, less than 10 miles away.

While Hough and Lyndhurst are extreme examples, they accurately represent national trends: African Americans live, on average, four years less than their white peers.

It is unacceptable that the American health care system, which attracts students, physicians and patients from across the world, does not serve all the citizens of this country equally.

Sadly, the consequences of health disparities have a major impact on our nation's children.

Students who attend predominantly minority schools often do not have access to fresh fruits and vegetables, places to exercise, or many of the other resources we know are necessary for a healthy lifestyle.

It is our responsibility as Members of Congress to ensure our constituents have the opportunity to be healthy, regardless of how much they make, where they live, or what they look like.

I am committed to working with my colleagues in Congress, the Administration, local and state governments, and private partners to make good on that obligation.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, first, let me thank Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY and Congressman DONALD PAYNE, Jr. for hosting this important Special Order. I appreciate your leadership in organizing this important discussion on the state of Black Health in America.

Madam Speaker, every April, we observe National Minority Health Awareness Month. This year is particularly significant as we mark 30 years since the groundbreaking Health and Human Services Task Force on Black and Minority Health report. This report sparked the first serious discussion in Washington on addressing the deep racial health disparities that exist in this country.

This year also marks 50 years since the creation of Medicare and Medicaid—programs that have kept and continue to keep Americans healthy.

We are also celebrating the fifth year anniversary of the passage of the Affordable Care Act—the most significant legislation to improve the health of all Americans in more than a generation.

These legislative achievements continue moving us closer to health equity for all—however, major health disparities still exist.

The zip code in which you are born still determines your likely life expectancy.

Gross disparities exist from zip code to zip code—even within the same city or county.

So today, I rise to join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus to bring to light the state of Black health in America and call for more action to address persistent and lingering disparities in health access, treatment and care.

Since the passage of The Affordable Care Act, access to care has dramatically expanded in communities of color. The uninsured rate has declined 7.3 percent in the African American community. And more people have access to affordable, quality healthcare—all thanks to the Affordable Care Act.

When we were crafting the Affordable Care Act, I had the privilege of serving as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

And let me tell you, we worked day and night with our colleagues in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, to push Congress and the Administration to craft the best possible bill.

Since its passage, the Affordable Care Act has improved the American health care system: Healthcare is now more affordable and accessible than ever.

Women can no longer be discriminated against because they are a woman, have a pre-existing condition—such as HIV/AIDS—or have been the victim of domestic violence;

Young people can stay on their parent's health insurance until they are 26; and

People with serious conditions, like cancer, no longer face the real fear of hitting their lifetime cap and being denied life-saving treatment.

The ACA also expands the capacity of the healthcare delivery system to better serve those at risk for and living with HIV/AIDS.

These are the facts. The Affordable Care Act has dramatically increased access to preventative care for women, low-income communities, and people of color.

Despite rabble-rousing and grandstanding from the right, this law is saving lives—every day, in communities across America—from Maine to my district in the East Bay.

During the last enrollment period, 16.4 million Americans obtained health insurance, and more than half a million came from my home state of California.

Make no mistake—the Affordable Care Act is working.

African Americans and Latinos, historically underinsured or uninsured groups, have seen the greatest declines in their uninsured rates. This is especially good news for African Americans who are living with HIV, where the key to halting the epidemic is access to affordable and quality care.

With this increase in coverage, we are beginning to close the gap in racial and ethnic health disparities and access to care.

However, much work remains to truly realize health equity in America.

Right now—in America, the richest and most powerful country in the world—African Americans still suffer from disproportionately high numbers of preventable deaths, disparities in access to quality health care, and underrepresentation within the medical community.

African Americans have the highest mortality rate of any racial and ethnic group from cancer.

Furthermore, African-Americans are 40% more likely to die from a stroke than whites, and 30% more likely to die from heart disease than whites.

And while African Americans are only 13% of the U.S. population, they account for nearly half of all new HIV infections. African Americans also account for the highest HIV-related deaths and HIV death rates.

Madam Speaker—this is unacceptable.

In an age where technology and innovation are paving the way to new medical breakthroughs, these persistent disparities in healthcare cannot be allowed to continue.

That is why today, I urge my colleagues: Let's work together and commit ourselves to passing legislation that will end racial and ethnic disparities and achieve health equity.

The Affordable Care Act was a good start but more is needed.

For years, the Congressional tri-caucus has championed this effort by introducing The Health Equity and Accountability Act (HEAA). Congresswoman ROBIN KELLY will have the honor in introducing this important legislation this Congress and I am proud to co-lead this effort as co-chair of the CAPAC Health Task Force.

This important legislation builds on the Affordable Care Act and puts us on track to eliminate health disparities in our country.

The Health Equity and Accountability Act would address incidences of terminal and chronic diseases that disproportionately affect communities of color, including cancer, diabetes, heart disease and HIV/AIDS.

So, in recognition of National Minority Health Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to support this important bill in order to truly achieve health equity for all.

Madam Speaker, the state of black health in America is improving, but much work remains before us.

As our drum major for justice, Dr. King, told us, "of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

I urge my colleagues to join us in securing health equity for all.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, National Minority Health Month is a very important time to bring awareness to the many health concerns facing minority communities.

My colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and I understand the very difficult challenges facing us in the form of huge health disparities among our community and other minority communities.

We will continue to seek solutions to those challenges. It is imperative for us to improve the prospects for living long and healthy lives and fostering an ethic of wellness in African-American and other minority communities. Certainly, the Affordable Care Act, which I co-sponsored and worked on has brought a new quality of life and access to healthcare for millions of Americans including minorities.

I thank all of my CBC colleagues who been toiling in the vineyards for years developing effective public policies and securing the resources needed to eradicate racial and gender disparities in health and wellness.

Let me focus these brief remarks on what I believe are some of the greatest impediments to the health and wellness of the African-American community and other minority communities.

The first challenge is reversing the dangerous trend of increasing obesity in juveniles and young adults. Cancer, diabetes and hepatitis are of great importance as well as combating the scourge of HIV/AIDS.

Finally, we must confront the leading cause of death of young African-American males between the ages of 15–24; that cause is not disease or accidental death, but homicide.

OBESITY

Although the obesity rates among all African-Americans are alarming, as Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I am especially concerned about the childhood obesity epidemic among African-American youth. More than 40 percent of African-American teenagers are overweight, and nearly 25 percent are obese.

In 2007, my office in concert with the office of Congressman Towns and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, held a widely-attended issue forum entitled, "Childhood Obesity: Factors Contributing to Its Disproportionate Prevalence in Low Income Communities."

At this forum, a panel of professionals from the fields of medicine, academia, nutrition, and the food industry discussed the disturbing increasing rates of childhood obesity in minority and low-income communities, and the factors that are contributing to the prevalence in these communities.

What we know is that African-American youth are consuming less nutritious foods such as fruits and vegetables and are not getting enough physical exercise. This combination has led to an epidemic of obesity, which directly contributes to numerous deadly or life-threatening diseases or conditions, including the following: hypertension, dyslipidemia (high cholesterol or high triglyceride levels), Type 2 diabetes, coronary heart disease, Stroke, gall-bladder disease, osteoarthritis, asthma bronchitis, sleep apnea, and other respiratory problems, cancer (breast, colon, and endometrial).

When ethnicity and income are considered, the picture is even more troubling. African-American youngsters from low-income families have a higher risk for obesity than those from higher-income families.

Since the mid-1970s, the prevalence of overweight and obesity has increased sharply for both adults and children. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), among African-American male adults aged 20–74 years the prevalence of obesity increased from 15.0% in 1980 survey to 32.9% in the 2004.

There were also increases in overweight among children and teens. For children aged 2–5 years, the prevalence of overweight increased from 5.0% to 13.9%; for those aged 6–11 years, prevalence increased from 6.5% to 18.8%; and for those aged 12–19 years, prevalence increased from 5.0% to 17.4%.

As the debate over how to address the rising childhood obesity epidemic continues, it is especially important to explore how attitudes, environmental factors, and public policies influence contribute to obesity among African-American males.

Some of these contributing factors are environmental, others are cultural, still others are economic, and others still may be lack of education or information. But one thing is clear: we must find ways to remove them.

CANCER

Certain groups in the United States are not doing as well as others when it comes to preventing and surviving cancer.

Many such disparities are apparent among certain minority populations such as African Americans and Hispanics.

The reasons why cancer adversely affects these groups are largely related to issues such as poverty, access to health care, and other socioeconomic factors.

The cancer death rate among African American men is 27% higher compared to non-Hispanic white men.

The death rate for African American women is 11% higher compared to non-Hispanic white women.

African Americans have the highest incidence rates of colorectal cancer of any racial or ethnic group.

Hispanics have higher rates of cervical, liver, and stomach cancers than non-Hispanic whites.

Liver cancer incidence and death rates among Asian/Pacific Islanders are double those among non-Hispanic whites.

DIABETES

About 19 percent of all non-Hispanic black Americans age 20 or older (about 5 million people) have diabetes, the highest rate of any ethnic group.

Among Hispanic adults, more than 2.5 million or about 11 percent of the population have diabetes; 14 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives are living with the disease.

Compared with non-Hispanic white adults, the risk of diabetes is 18 percent higher in Asian-Americans, 66 percent higher in Hispanics/Latinos, and 77 percent higher in non-Hispanic African-Americans.

HEPATITIS

In 2002, 50 percent of those infected with Hepatitis B were Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Black teenagers and young adults become infected with Hepatitis B three to four times more often than those who are white.

One recent study has found that black people have a higher incidence of Hepatitis C infection than white people.

HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS is now the leading cause of death among African Americans ages 25 to 44—ahead of heart disease, accidents, cancer, and homicide.

The rate of AIDS diagnoses for African-Americans in 2003 was almost 10 times the rate for whites.

Between 2000 and 2003, the rate of HIV/AIDS among African American males was seven times the rate for white males and three times the rate for Hispanic males.

African American adolescents accounted for 65 percent of new AIDS cases reported among teens in 2002, although they only account for 15 percent of American teenagers.

Billions and billions of private and federal dollars have been poured into drug research and development to treat and "manage" infections, but the complex life cycle and high mutation rates of HIV strains have only marginally reduced the threat of HIV/AIDS to global public health.

I have strongly supported legislation sponsored by CBC members and others to give increased attention and resources to combating HIV/AIDS, including the Ryan White CARE Act.

I support legislation to reauthorize funding for community health centers (H.R. 5573, Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006), including the Montrose and Fourth Ward clinics in my home city of Houston, and to provide more nurses for the poor urban communities in

which many of these centers are located (H.R. 1285, Nursing Relief Act for Disadvantaged Areas).

I have also authored legislation aimed to better educate our children (H.R. 2553, Responsible Education About Life Act in 2006) and eliminate health disparities (H.R. 3561, Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act and the Good Medicine Cultural Competency Act in 2003, H.R. 90).

We must continue research on treatments and antiretroviral therapies, as well as pursue a cure. We absolutely have to ensure that everyone who needs treatment receives it.

And we simply must increase awareness of testing, access to testing, and the accuracy of testing. Because we will never be able to stop this pandemic if we lack the ability to track it.

GUN VIOLENCE AND HOMICIDE

The final health challenge confronting the African-American community, and African-American males in particular, involves the issue of gun violence and homicide.

This must be a priority health issue for our community. Over 600,000 Americans are victimized in handgun crimes each year, and the African-American community is among the hardest hit.

It was only a little over a week ago that one of my constituents was, caught in a cross fire that ended his life.

Neither the mind nor the heart can contemplate a cause that could lead a human being to inflict such injury and destruction on fellow human beings.

Since 1978, on average, 33 young black males between the ages of 15 and 24 are murdered every six days. Three-quarters of these victims are killed by firearms.

In 1997, firearm homicide was the number one cause of death for African-American men ages 15–34, as well as the leading cause of death for all African-American 15–24 year olds. The firearm death rate for African-Americans was 2.6 times that of whites.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the firearms suicide rate amongst African-American youths aged 10–19 more than doubled over a 15 year period. Although African-Americans have had a historically lower rate of suicide than whites, the rate for African-Americans 15–19 has reached that of white youths aged 15–19.

A young African-American male is 10 times more likely to be murdered than a young white male. The homicide rate among African-American men aged 15 to 24 rose by 66 percent from 1984 to 1987, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Ninety-five percent of this increase was due to firearm-related murders. For African-American males, aged 15 to 19, firearm homicides have increased 158 percent from 1985 to 1993. In 1998, 94 percent of the African-American murder victims were slain by African-American offenders.

In 1997, African-American males accounted for 45 percent of all homicide victims, while they only account for 6 percent of the entire population.

It is scandalous that a 15-year-old urban African-American male faces a probability of being murdered before reaching his 45th birthday that ranges from almost 8.5 percent in the District of Columbia to less than 2 percent in Brooklyn.

By comparison, the probability of being murdered by age 45 is a mere three-tenths of 1 percent for all white males.

Firearms have become the predominant method of suicide for African-Americans aged 10–19 years, accounting for over 66 percent of suicides.

In Florida, for example, African-American males have an almost eight times greater chance of dying in a firearm-related homicide than white males. In addition, the firearm-related homicide death rate for African-American females is greater than white males and over four times greater than white females.

Nearly 50 percent of all homicide perpetrators give some type of prior warning signal such as a threat or suicide note. Among the students who commit a school-associated homicide, 20 percent were known to have been victims of bullying and 12 percent were known to have expressed suicidal thoughts or engage in suicidal behavior.

I have been working tirelessly in Congress to end gun violence by introducing legislation to assist local governments and school administrators in devising preventive measures to reduce school-associated violent deaths.

I have introduced sensible legislation to assist law enforcement departments, social service agencies, and school officials detect and deter gun violence.

In devising such preventive measures, at a minimum, we must focus on:

Encouraging efforts to reduce crowding, increase supervision, and institute plans/policies to handle disputes during transition times that may reduce the likelihood of potential conflicts and injuries.

Taking threats seriously and letting students know who and where to go when they learn of a threat to anyone at the school and encouraging parents, educators, and mentors to take an active role in helping troubled children and teens.

Taking talk of suicide seriously and identifying risk factors for suicidal behavior when trying to prevent violence toward self and others.

Developing prevention programs designed to help teachers and other school staff recognize and respond to incidences of bullying between students.

Ensuring that each school has a security plan and that it is being enforced and that school staff are trained and prepared to implement and execute the plan.

Again, thank you all for your commitment to working to find workable solutions to the health and wellness challenges facing our communities. I look forward to working with you in the months ahead to achieve our mutual goals.

IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. STEFANIK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DESANTIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. DESANTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the situation with Iran.

President Obama recently said that criticism of the concessions that his administration is making to Iran "needs to stop." Well, I disagree. We in this body have a responsibility to speak the truth and to stop a dangerous deal.

Take a step back a little bit from some of the recent hullabaloo about

whether Iran has the same understanding of the deal as the United States does. It is true, if you listen to the Ayatollah, he basically said the deal basically represents a complete surrender on everything from day one; and the administration, when they put out their fact sheet, what they put out was different.

Here is, I think, a fundamental problem with this. Even if you take the administration's talking points as the meeting of the minds, even if you assume that that will be written down and memorialized, and even assume that Iran keeps the various components of the deal, the fact of the matter is this: this framework provides international legitimacy for Iran's nuclear infrastructure, and it allows Iran to use advanced centrifuges immediately.

Now, that was something that just a few years ago was thought to be totally outside the realm of what was acceptable. I think the thought amongst U.S. policymakers going back several administrations as well as other friendly countries was, look, this is a theocratic, jihadist regime in the Middle East that is sitting on centuries' worth of oil and gas. They don't need nuclear power for peaceful purposes, certainly, so why would we allow them to pursue a nuclear program knowing the ideology of the regime, knowing the threats that they have made to Israel and to the United States? Of course they don't get a nuclear program, and yet under this framework, their nuclear infrastructure is legitimized.

The sanctions relief that we are talking about is worth billions and billions of dollars to Iran. It will give Iran additional lifeblood to foment jihad and to expand its influence in the Middle East and beyond. So just know, I mean, even if you were somehow getting them to dismantle their nuclear program, when you talk about the leading state sponsor of terrorism, any sanctions relief they get is not going to go to benefit the Iranian people. That is going to be plowed into Iran doing dastardly deeds.

It is interesting, when you talk about the sanctions, and I know the Ayatollah said: Look, the sanctions are gone. As soon as that agreement is signed, they are gone.

The administration says: Oh, no. We will get rid of the sanctions as Iran complies; and if Iran cheats, we will snap back the sanctions.

The problem is that is extremely unlikely because what is going to be done, the international sanctions are going to be relaxed and then if, down the road, Iran cheats, the idea that you are going to be able to snap your fingers and get all these other countries onboard to be able to reimpose sanctions is really a fantasy.

In fact, just today brought news that Russia is resuming sales of the S-300 missile system to Iran. That had been something that they had stopped years ago. That is going to be business for Russia. It is going to be something

that is going to be a huge boon to Iran in terms of protecting its nuclear infrastructure from a potential attack. It is also interesting: Russia is the country that is supposed to store Iran's uranium, yet here they are doing business.

So I think it is going to be very difficult to snap back international sanctions.

If you were going to use sanctions in that way, the sanctions that you would want, you would want to come to Congress and say, "Hey, Congress, you relieve sanctions, they are going to do this; if they don't do it, then you snap back," because they know the Congress will reimpose the sanctions. And we are eager to do that, even right now.

You are not going to snap back international sanctions. So I think Iran understands that, and I think they know that once those sanctions are removed, that is going to be a continual lifeblood to them and they will be able to cheat on the agreement if they think that is what is in their best interest.

I think one of the troubling aspects of this deal, of this framework, is that the President himself, you know, a year and a half ago, laid down some red lines. He said we know certain things need to be true in agreement. Iran does not need to have an underground, fortified facility like at Fordo. He said they don't need a heavy water reactor like they have at Arak, and he said they don't need any type of advanced centrifuges if they are going to have a peaceful program.

But if you look under the announced framework, even if what the administration says is true, Fordo lives on. They say it is going to be a nuclear research facility. I am not sure why you need to have a nuclear research facility fortified underground to prevent an airstrike if you are just doing peaceful research.

Arak will still be there as a heavy water reactor, and of course Iran will have thousands of centrifuges. These are centrifuges that are not necessary to have a peaceful program.

So those are red lines that were laid down and that have been crossed.

The military sites, is there going to be any unfettered access to Iran's military sites? I think the answer seems to be absolutely not. Certainly what Iran has said, that is totally out of the question from their perspective, but it is not even clear under the administration's framework whether those military sites will be sites that inspectors can access.

And we know that in the past, in 2002, the only reason we were able to figure out that they were doing nuclear work at one of their military sites is because Iranian opposition forces, or folks who were opposed to the regime, filled us in. But that was not something that any inspectors had access to.

I think another really significant flaw in the deal is that, let's just say Iran looks at it and says: Well, if we cheat, maybe they will reimpose sanc-

tions. We think it is unlikely, but we don't want to kind of take that risk. They have an incentive, if they want the bomb, to keep the deal because, after a 10- to 13-year period, everything is going to be gone.

So if they keep the deal, given the amount of nuclear infrastructure they are allowed to keep, they are going to be able to build a bomb at the end of that 10-or 13-year period, and that is totally outside the realm of what is ever thought to be acceptable.

Here you have a country that is very patient. They have a very, very serious ideology that they are hell-bent on pursuing. And if they have to wait 10 or 13 years before they are able to acquire a bomb, they may make that calculation: Hey, we will just keep the deal, and we are going to be home free.

I think the longer that that happens, I think you are going to be in a situation where that may make a lot of sense for them, and I think the international community will be much less inclined to want to do anything at the end of that 10- or 13-year period.

It is interesting to me, just looking at how this has unfolded. When the Ayatollah goes out and says: Death to America; we are not going to make any concessions—all this—the President is asked by the press, well, the Ayatollah is out there saying that. And he says: Well, look, he has his hard-liners he has to pacify. We are not really worried about that. That is just for domestic political consumption.

It is interesting because when Prime Minister Netanyahu was in a political campaign and he made a comment about the infeasibility of a two-state solution, given the situation in the Middle East, the administration really hung that on him. And they said: Oh, he said it. We are going to have to re-evaluate our posture at the United Nations. We may go international to try to impose some type of two-state settlement on that situation. And there, they were absolutely not willing to cut Prime Minister Netanyahu any slack.

So they cut the Ayatollah of Iran, a guy that has a lot of American blood on his hands, more slack than they will cut the Prime Minister of Israel. That, to me, is just extremely frustrating.

I think that when you hear people who will defend the framework, they will say, "Either you support this framework or you want a major war," and I think that that is a straw man, but I think that it is a straw man just simply more than the fact that a lot of people think that there are things we could do to get a better deal.

But put that aside. A bad deal makes war more likely because what you are going to see are countries in the Middle East react to Iran building a bomb. They are going to react to Iran's designs for the region. We see Iran; they are the leading patron of Hezbollah in Lebanon, Assad in Syria, the Hamas terrorists in the Gaza Strip, the Houthis in Yemen, and, of course, the Shiite militias in Baghdad and in other parts of Shiite Iraq.

People see that—the Sunni regimes see that, and they are going to respond—and you will end up with a potentially catastrophic arms race in the most volatile region in the world.

The final point I would just make, and I have some of my colleagues here. We wanted to get some folks here who had served the country in uniform, served in the Iraq or Afghanistan campaigns.

□ 2045

The reason is because I think that anyone who has served in those conflicts knows that, at least I can say for Iraq, probably the number one source of deaths for U.S. servicemembers in Iraq came at the hands of Iranian-backed groups. Maybe not the most. It was probably pretty close, certainly hundreds of deaths, maybe as many as 1,500 deaths for groups that would explode these huge EFP bombs that would maim and kill indiscriminately. They were never really held to account for that. That brought a lot of anguish to a lot of American families who don't have their loved ones coming home as a result of that despicable regime.

So, Madam Speaker, this is not a regime that wants to be a good neighbor. They don't want to be part of a peaceful international order. It is a regime dedicated to the ideology of jihad. They have proven time and time again that they are interested and that they are willing to kill Americans with impunity.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN), a friend of mine and a veteran who in just a short time has really, really been powerful in speaking the truth about this deal and about the failures of American policy vis-a-vis close allies of ours such as Israel.

Mr. ZELDIN. Thank you, Mr. DESANTIS. Thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue. I also appreciate your pointing out the hypocrisy of the Obama administration having nothing to say as the Ayatollah, the people of Iran, and the leadership of the Iranian Government talk about death to America, and this President does nothing, excusing it—it is okay because of the hard-liners in Iran. Yet he will be critical of the Israeli Prime Minister, who is speaking of the lack of viability of a two-state solution. I really appreciate your leadership on all of these issues and pointing out the very hypocritical position.

Madam Speaker, I am here today to articulate some of my concerns with the current status of the Iran nuke talks. Just recently, the President announced a framework agreement with Iran. At that time he released a fact sheet. That fact sheet, within 24 hours, saw the Iranian Foreign Minister going on his Twitter feed disputing that fact sheet and calling it just spin. Both sides, the Obama administration and the Iranian Government, are both spinning in different directions for their own domestic politics what isn't even in agreement.

An agreement requires a meeting of the minds. When you announce an agreement and both sides are disputing what the terms of that agreement are, there is no agreement. I don't know if anyone believes that the negotiators purposely left off a signature block on that fact sheet.

Let's talk about what is not included: Iran's state sponsorship of terrorism, Iran blowing up mock USS warships, talking about the need to erase Israel from the map, Iran's development of ICBMs, and overthrowing foreign governments. These aren't even part of the negotiations. Nothing is being reported to the American people about how individuals who are U.S. citizens are being wrongfully held in captivity by the Iranian Government. This President's tactics with these negotiations, regardless of who the next President of the United States will be, these tactics are cutting off the leverage of that next President who may be emboldened in ways that this President isn't to tackle those challenges of the ways Iran sponsors terrorism throughout the Middle East and around the globe.

These talks are on pace to trigger a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. Iran is not negotiating in good faith, and they smell American weakness, not American strength.

The Obama administration believes that the only option is to cut a deal just to cut a deal. This President should instead, with strength and courage as the leader of the free world, be bringing the Iranians to their knees. That is what strength looks like. If you want to change sanctions, strengthen them. Don't weaken them.

Madam Speaker, in 2009, the Iranians were emboldened, contesting what was supposed to be a democratic election that was widely viewed as being full of corruption. Where was President Obama in 2009 when this opportunity presented itself for the Iranian people while oil was \$100 a barrel? Our President could have exercised leadership then, and we would not even be here today. The President says that the only option is to cut this deal just to cut a deal.

I don't buy that there aren't other options to pursue. As I talk to colleagues, really, on both sides of the aisle, sharing concern with the direction of these nuke talks, there is resolve and commitment to find a third strategy. If that time comes, where the President of the United States believes he must threaten the use of dropping a bomb, he must be prepared to do it and threaten to drop 20 more. If that time in the future comes where this President or the next has to then drop another bomb, threaten to drop 50 more. Our enemies do not respect weakness; they only respect strength.

But today as we stand here in this stage of these Iran nuke talks, I stand with my colleagues who know that there is a third option that this President is not telling the American people about for his own domestic politics.

I challenge our President with strength to bring the Iranian Government to their knees. You are the leader of the free world. Act like it.

Mr. DESANTIS. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from New York. I think those are great points. We are going to have some good debates here in the Congress. I don't think that having done this deal—I guess it was the day after April Fools'. We thought it was going to be April Fools', and now this being the first night back, we are just beginning.

At this time, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), another veteran and another friend of mine.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. I appreciate the gentleman from Florida yielding.

Madam Speaker, this is an important debate, and I know with the many decisions that you have in Florida and other things going on, what amazes me is, as was just stated, that I am not sure what the President's goal is here. The reason I believe, that most of us believe, that Iran even decided to negotiate was the fact that sanctions worked, that they were struggling under those sanctions, that they were having to deal with the reality that the world did not want them to have nuclear capability.

I am telling you, at this point, what is disturbing to me is, I am tired of this administration, this President, trying to earn accolades of the world on the back of Israel. They cannot continue to do that. Israel is the one that is suffering here. Israel will be the one that is at the point of, the tip of the spear. And for those who have served, we know that.

We know that Iran, as my friend from Florida stated earlier, Iran was behind and is behind most of the terrorism in the world many times in the world today. But yet this administration turns a blind eye because they believe that under the cloak of diplomacy that Iran will come to the table. It was not that Iran came to the table under the cloak of diplomacy. Iran came to the table because they were suffering because sanctions were working.

So, last week, the President gave an interview discussing the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the deal struck by Iran and the P5+1 nations over Iran's nuclear program. More than a few things the President said during the course of the interview raised some red flags for me and should raise some uneasiness among the American people.

The first item of concern is the inability on the part of the administration to get a concession from Iran to cease its uranium enrichment program. The very thing that most of us in Congress have said is they need to cease this idea. They need to cease their pursuit of a nuclear program. We didn't get concessions.

The President said during the interview that in 13 to 15 years Iran will

have the ability to develop the necessary fissile material to develop a nuclear weapon, and there will be little to nothing the international community can do to stop Iran. I am sorry, Mr. President, you will be out of office, and you will not be able to utter anything but regret at that statement because in 10 to 15 years, if they have that capability, then the rest of the world has to deal with it. Where will you be, Mr. President? A private citizen, not in a chance when you could actually do something. Stand up while you can.

We learned through this interview that the goal of the current framework isn't to end Iran's ability to reach the capacity to build a nuclear weapon but only to suspend their ability for a short time. In the framework the administration presented to the world, Iran's restriction on producing enough highly enriched uranium to build a bomb will only persist for 10 years. After 10 years, what sanctions will still be in place to bring Iran back to the negotiating table?

The framework also doesn't sit well with our allies in the region. They have understandable concerns over the U.S. getting cozy with an Iranian regime that is becoming more influential.

Apparently, the President feels that the U.S.-Israel relationship is a casual matter. When asked, Should Iran recognize Israel's right to exist? the President responded with a smile. I am sorry. As one who sat in this Chamber just a few weeks ago and heard from Benjamin Netanyahu about the importance of this problem right now with Iran, I am not one who responds with a smile when it becomes on Israel's independence and right to exist.

Until Iran acknowledges that, then nothing should be on the table. Israel should exist. It is our most important ally, and we should stand with them. For the President not to realize that is a tragedy among American life. Iran has declared that Israel should be wiped off the face of the Earth, and the President feels it is appropriate to smile about this? Excuse me. Why is he smiling about a country that wants to wipe off our most important ally?

Israel is in the most precarious position when it comes to Iran developing a nuclear device. Iran has the ability to target Israel through the use of a ballistic missile or on the ground or by one of its proxies, such as Hezbollah. The relationship between U.S. and Israel has to be so close as to not allow a crack to form. The current P5+1 framework deal is causing fissures in what has always been an ironclad relationship.

You see, I will continue to criticize a deal that puts Israel at risk and will fight to maintain Israel's qualitative military edge in the region. The JCPA shows why it is necessary for Congress to be involved in this process. It is the role of Congress to ensure, alongside the executive branch, that our national security and the safety of our allies are maintained.

Madam Speaker, unless this administration realizes that there are some countries that, unfortunately, through their own actions, choose to say we want to be outside the norm of relations, when they choose to say Israel should not exist, when they choose to continue to fund terrorism around the world, then they should not be allowed a prestigious seat at the table to get to dictate terms. That is wrong. Until this administration realizes it, shame on this administration. If they continue to want to win public accolades for their diplomatic action, then, unfortunately, this administration is doing so on the back of Israel. I, for one, and I know many others here, will not stand for that.

Mr. President, this is not a place to try and win points on the back of our strongest ally. Listen to what the Prime Minister said. And when you listen, then you will understand that this is a bad deal. It is time to walk away.

Mr. DESANTIS. I thank my friend from Georgia for that.

Madam Speaker, it is true. This was a very simple request that was asked of the President: Did you talk to the Ayatollah's people? Did you talk to the Iranian negotiators about just recognizing Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state? So this way, this whole idea of "death to Israel, death to America" shows that Iran is serious about having peace, and the President dismissed that out of hand. He said, Look, you are not going to change the nature of a regime by asking them to recognize the right of Israel to exist.

The problem, though, with that explanation is that the whole real underpinning of this deal, I think, rests on the assumption that Iran's regime might change because when you are sunseting it in 10 or 13 years, if the regime hasn't changed by then, well, guess what? You are at a nuclear Iran at that point. So I think that they assume that there is going to be some change over the next decade. Otherwise, that sunset provision makes even less sense than it does already.

I also just know one more thing. Who is cheering this deal? The head of Hezbollah, the Lebanese terrorist group. This was a group that Iran started funding shortly after the Iranian revolution in 1979. They were responsible for killing over 240 U.S. marines at the marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1983, and they have been instrumental in launching attacks against Israel ever since.

□ 2100

Here is what the head of Hezbollah said:

As a result of this deal, Iran will become richer and wealthier and will also become more influential.

He said:

This will reinforce the position of Iran's allies. A stronger and wealthier Iran in the coming phase will be able to stand by its allies and especially the Palestinian resistance more than at any other time in history.

Hezbollah sees a stronger Iran as a result of this deal. They see more support for terrorist groups such as Hamas and the Gaza Strip, and I think the logical inference is they see more attacks against Israel as a result of this deal. That is very, very troubling.

I would like to take this time now to yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, SCOTT PERRY, another good friend of mine, a veteran from Pennsylvania, and a really strong voice on national security.

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the efforts of my good friend from Florida to bring this issue to the floor and start the discussion.

Of course, when we hear from the administration that, somehow, because we are having the discussion because, somehow, we dare to question that we are on the wrong side of history, that we are unpatriotic, and literally, in many cases, the administration is trying to equate those in this Chamber, in this body, who would have a discussion and would call into question some of the tenets of this framework and then this agreement—which we didn't know much about—that we are tantamount to the same thing as the hardliners in Iran, the hardliners that had horrific human rights violations over the course of the last 50 years, as far as America is concerned, and literally do unspeakable things. That is breathtaking to me.

The problem is, among other things, that we are skeptical because our negotiating partner in this, Iran, is not trustworthy, simply not trustworthy. Just picture yourself and your own family, if you were negotiating an infraction within your own family, and while you were discussing the infraction, that member of your family was doing the exact same thing that you were discussing about the cheating. That is exactly what happened, Madam Speaker.

During the discussion, during this negotiation, we found an undisclosed site in Iran, and we don't know how many more there are. It was undisclosed. They said, Oh, well, yeah, sorry about that; you can take a look now, I suppose.

But how many more are there? Why would we trust someone like that? Why would we trust someone, knowing the track record over the last 35 or 40 years of this country, of this nation?

I think Americans need to know where the negotiation started on both sides—what were Iran's requirements, what were the United States' requirements—because we hear this is a good deal. We understand from the administration that it is a good deal, but we want to know it is a good deal with our own eyes.

We want to see it. We want to think about it. We want to internalize it. We want to have an opportunity to ruminate on it and sleep on it and look at our children and think about our grandchildren in the world they are going to live in and think about wheth-

er this is a good deal. We are told: No, it is a good deal, take my word for it.

We don't know where negotiations started and ended for the most part, but some things, we do know. We do know that 2 years ago—heck, a year ago, enriching uranium for Iran was unforgivable, it was not allowed not only by the United States, but by the community of nations, by the United Nations.

Now, just with this framework, we have legitimized not hundreds of centrifuges, but tens of thousands of centrifuges. Meanwhile, countries around the globe, across the globe, have peaceful nuclear programs and don't have any centrifuges.

That makes one wonder—not a nuclear scientist, not a physicist, don't work at a reactor down at your local power plant—but if that is true, why did they need them? Why would we have agreed to that? We are right to be skeptical.

Iran practices strategic delay. At this point, Rouhani, the guy that wrote this book, who lauded himself for duping the West in other negotiations, is at the top of the heap right now.

You wonder why people in this body—forget people in this body. What about the vast majority of Americans that are skeptical? This is their voice. We are not necessarily only speaking for ourselves.

We are speaking for our constituents and the majority of Americans that say "hold on" to the administration. You say it is a good deal, but let's look with our own eyes because of these things, because the negotiators that negotiated the nuclear deal with North Korea that was going to disallow them to have nuclear weapons, they are the same negotiators that we have now in many cases; and, oh, by the way, in case you haven't kept up on current events, North Korea has nuclear weapons. So is it really prudent and proper for us to be skeptical? Is it prudent and proper for us to ask questions?

The biggest situation here, the biggest part of this is that there can be no mistakes. There is no margin of error with nuclear weapons. If one or two terrorists gets set free from Guantanamo and gets back out on the battlefield, that is regrettable; that is unacceptable, but that is very different than a nuclear blast.

Unfortunately, for Israel, they are close. We live thousands and thousands of miles away, but Israel is described by their enemies that would have this nuclear weapon as a one-bomb country because that is all it will take and it will all be over for that little country.

Now, you might wonder: Okay, well, certainly, Israel, that is bad for them, but why should we care so much?

Yeah, it is Israel, but they are over there, and we are over here, which begets the next question: Why are intercontinental ballistic missiles not included in the negotiation?

Ask yourself: What is the need for intercontinental ballistic missiles?

Well, I will tell you if you don't know. It is to deliver armament. What would that armament be? Well, that would be a nuclear warhead. You don't need one to get to Israel, folks. You need one of those to get to the United States.

These folks call Israel the Little Satan. Madam Speaker, you know who the Great Satan is; that is us. If this is so good, if this is so obviously good, why isn't that included in the negotiation, in the agreement, in the framework? Look, we are just foolish Americans, but it seems to make sense to us that that should be there.

You have got to ask yourself—I have heard the administration say: Well, during the duration of this Presidential term, we can be assured there will be no nuclear weapon in Iran.

Well, thank goodness for that; but what about the rest of us that are going to plan on living out the fullest part of our lives and our children and our grandchildren that are worried past the next 2 years? Ten to 15 years is a blink of the eye, is a moment in history. That is still too short.

Never is the right answer. Never is the right answer for people and nations that act like Iran.

Now, I heard recently that the administration said that they might let Congress express themselves. I thought about that—express themselves. I don't know where that verbiage came from, but it seems to me—I am looking at my rule book here. It is the recipe which we follow to run the country. It says here, under article II, section 2, regarding the President:

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur.

Now, if you wonder what a treaty is, just go and look it up in the dictionary. It is an agreement. I keep hearing about this is a framework for a historic agreement.

Folks, ladies and gentlemen, citizens, this is an agreement between the citizens of the United States and Iran, and the President is encumbering you when he signs this to everything therein, whether you agree with it or not.

We understand we have representative government, but that is why the Congress is supposed to be involved. That is why article II, section 2 says the Senate must provide advice and consent, so that your wishes are heard, so that your concerns are heard, not so that one guy, one person, makes a decision for the entire country on issues that are so important.

Let's talk about other issues of like importance. There is strong precedent, historical precedent, for congressional review of nonproliferation: three strategic arm reduction treaties, START treaties with Russia; the Nonproliferation Treaty; the Biological Weapons Convention; the Chemical Weapons Convention; the Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty; the U.S.-India Civilian Nuclear Cooperation Agreement in 2008; and the civilian nuclear energy

agreements with Vietnam and Taiwan submitted for congressional review by this President in 2014.

If it is okay for them, why is this one any different? I would say to you that, recently, we heard that the country is stronger when the Congress and the administration work together. That was in reference to the authorization for the use of military force to confront ISIS.

Now, ISIS is a regional threat in that portion of the world that might become a growing cancer outside its bounds. I guess it is; but what is more important than nuclear war? If it is good enough for an AUMF with ISIS, why doesn't it apply here?

Finally, with your indulgence, Madam Speaker, we are told that this is a good deal and we should just trust the administration. With all due respect, I think it is important to review the recent foreign policy issues and the record. I am just going to highlight a couple of events that you might be familiar with.

The Syrian red line, the red line in Syria for the use of chemical weapons—we drew a red line, and then we watched it violated a dozen times before we said something, and then we backed off. Now, we are actually talking about having discussions and some kind of an agreement with Bashar al-Assad. That didn't work out too well.

Russia, they are doing whatever they want to in Ukraine. We have convinced the Ukrainians to dismantle their nuclear program, saying that we would be there for them if they were ever attacked, and we are nowhere. I served in Iraq and so did my good friend from Florida, and we think about all the lives and the energy and the hardship lost in Iraq. I think you can hardly call that a success under this current administration.

Afghanistan, we were staying. We were going. We were staying. We were going. That was hardly a success in my mind.

Egypt, a great wellspring of democracy where we chose the wrong side, and the Egyptian people had to choose the correct side. The Iranian green revolution, when they tried to rise up against oppression, and America turned its eyes and turned its face. Libya, where we helped overthrow a dictator, and, now, we have a failed state—and Yemen, the model of success for counterterrorism.

What about the exchange of Bowe Bergdahl for five terrorists? I mean, I don't mean to be overly and hypercritical, Madam Speaker, but it just seems to me, if future performance is indicated by past performance, we have a right to be skeptical.

All we are saying is it is right and it is our duty to question and to make sure that this is, indeed, good for the American people.

If it is good, then the administration should have no problem showing it to us and allowing us to vet it, like so many other historical precedents have.

The greatness of it will be obvious to the American people and their Representatives, their Representatives here in this Hall and the Hall across the building.

With that, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. DESANTIS. I thank my friend.

I think the gentleman from Pennsylvania did a good job of putting this all into a broader perspective in terms of this administration's approach to the world.

I think, if you look around the world, there are probably two countries that we have better relations with than when this President took office; and I think, almost uniformly, everywhere else, we are worse off.

Cuba, we have much closer relationships now. The President shakes the hand of Raul Castro, a blood-stained hand, a hand that has suppressed thousands and thousands of people, that has killed the sinners, that has caused thousands of people to flee in shark-infested waters to try to reach the shore of Florida; but the President is doing business with him, not helping the Cuban people. You actually see political repression has increased since we have changed policies, but the President seems fine with that.

Then Iran, we talk with Iran a lot more than we ever have. The question is: Is that a good thing? I think the answer is a dance-with-the-devil foreign policy has really never been tried before, and I think the chance of it succeeding is almost zero.

Part of the problem we see with this framework, I think, is that it is symptomatic of a larger failure to properly address the hostile actors throughout the world.

Goodness gracious, we need to look at our allies like Israel, like democracies in Europe, and they need to know that we are going to stand with them. I think we have an approach to the world right now where our allies can't depend on us and our adversaries don't really fear us. I think that is a bad approach, and I think, unfortunately, it is an approach that is going to invite more danger rather than keep us out of trouble.

I appreciate all my friends who came and made great comments. The President said recently that the criticism of this deal needs to stop.

Mr. President, we are not going to stop. We are going to be here; we are going to make the case on behalf of the American people, and we are going to be urging the Congress to speak loudly and clearly on behalf of American security.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RUIZ (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today through April 16 on account of paternity leave.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 535. An act to promote energy efficiency; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills and a Joint Resolution of the House of

the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mrs. COMSTOCK, on Monday, March 30, 2015:

H.R. 1092. An act to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building.

H.R. 1527. An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of New York Police Department Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 10. Joint Resolution providing for the reappointment of David M. Rubenstein

as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Of-

ficial Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2015, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, ROBERT STORY KAREM, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 14 AND FEB. 21, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Robert Karem	2/15	2/17	Poland		541.93						541.93
	2/17	2/19	Germany		588.68						588.68
	2/19	2/21	Belgium		610.60						610.60
Total Transport	2/14	2/21					7,127.70				7,127.70
Daniel Silverberg	2/18	2/19	Germany		294.34						294.34
	2/19	2/20	Belgium		305.39						305.39
Total Transport	2/17	2/20					3,081.34				3,081.34
Committee total					2,340.94		10,209.04				12,549.98

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

ROBERT KAREM, Mar. 20, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO BELGIUM, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 13 AND FEB. 17, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Mike Turner	2/14	2/16	.....	765.00	.....	1,221.00	.....	.....	.....	1,986.00
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	2/14	2/16	.....	765.00	.....	8,589.00	.....	.....	.....	9,354.00
Hon. Tom Marino	2/14	2/17	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,449.00	.....	.....	.....	3,516.00
Hon. Brett Guthrie	2/14	2/17	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,235.00	.....	.....	.....	3,302.00
Hon. Paul Cook	2/14	2/16	.....	765.00	.....	8,589.00	.....	.....	.....	9,354.00
Hon. Robert Pittenger	2/14	2/15	.....	463.00	.....	8,589.00	.....	.....	.....	9,052.00
Hon. Ted Poe	2/14	2/16	.....	765.00	.....	2,020.00	.....	.....	.....	2,785.00
Hon. Rick Larsen	2/14	2/16	.....	765.00	.....	2,446.00	.....	.....	.....	3,211.00
Jeff Dressler	2/14	2/17	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,449.00	.....	.....	.....	3,516.00
Janice Robinson	2/14	2/17	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,449.00	.....	.....	.....	3,516.00
Ed Rice	2/14	2/18	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,449.00	.....	.....	.....	3,516.00
Jason Steinbaum	2/14	2/18	.....	1,067.00	.....	2,449.00	.....	.....	.....	3,516.00
Committee total	2/14	2/18	.....	10,690.00	.....	45,934.00	.....	.....	.....	56,624.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER, Mar. 16, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CUBA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND HAITI, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 17 AND FEB. 22, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Eliot Engel	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Anna Eshoo	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Nydia Velázquez	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Rosa DeLauro	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Collin Peterson	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. James McGovern	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. Steve Israel	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Hon. David Cicilline	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Dr. Brian Monahan	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Robert Fitzpatrick	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Wyndee Parker	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Jaime Lizarraga	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Kate Knudson Wolters	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Bina Surgeon	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00
Jorge Aguillar	2/17	2/19	Cuba .....	.....	766.00	.....	(3)	.....	.....	.....	766.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CUBA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND HAITI, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 17 AND FEB. 22, 2015—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Eric Jacobstein	2/17	2/19	Cuba		766.00		(3)				766.00
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Eliot Engel	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Anna Eshoo	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Nydia Velazquez	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Rosa DeLauro	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Collin Peterson	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. James McGovern	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Steve Israel	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. David Cicilline	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Dr. Brian Monahan	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Robert Fitzpatrick	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Wyndee Parker	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Jaime Lizarraga	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Kate Knudson Wolters	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Bina Surgeon	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Jorge Aguillar	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Eric Jacobstein	2/19	2/22	Dominican Republic		735.00		(3)				735.00
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Eliot Engel	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Anna Eshoo	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Nydia Velazquez	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Rosa DeLauro	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Collin Peterson	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. James McGovern	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. Steve Israel	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Hon. David Cicilline	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Dr. Brian Monahan	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Robert Fitzpatrick	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Wyndee Parker	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Jaime Lizarraga	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Kate Knudson Wolters	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Bina Surgeon	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Jorge Aguillar	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Eric Jacobstein	2/21	2/21	Haiti		111.00		(3)				111.00
Committee total					28,139.00						28,139.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

HON. NANCY PELOSI, Mar. 18, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation *		Other purposes **		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Christopher Bertram	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Geoff Bowman	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Eric Burgeson	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Stephen Cohen	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Kathy Dedrick	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Peter DeFazio	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		876.05		611.48		2,276.53
Hon. Blake Farenthold	1/29	1/31	Panama		526.00		969.75		611.48		2,107.23
Hon. Lois Frankel	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Bob Gibbs	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Garret Graves	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Janice Hahn	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Richard Hanna	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		962.05		611.48		2,362.53
Hon. Duncan Hunter	1/29	1/31	Panama		526.00		621.35		611.48		1,758.83
Fleming M. Legg	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Caryn Moore	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Tom Rice	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Todd Rokita	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		662.55		611.48		2,063.03
Hon. Mark Sanford	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Hon. Bill Shuster	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Mathew Sturges	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Dennis Wirtz	1/29	2/1	Panama		789.00		160.00		611.48		1,560.48
Committee total					16,043.00		6,651.75		12,841.08		35,535.83

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

*Transportation: Includes Rental Coasters, Embassy Trans for Movement.

**Other Purposes: Includes Control Room; Hotel Charges for Bellmen, Cleaning; Security Protection; Embassy Overtime.

HON. BILL SHUSTER, Chairman, March 17, 2015.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

928. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Residual Interest Deadline for Futures Commission Merchants (RIN: 3038-AE22), pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

929. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Organization and Functions; Field Office Locations (RIN: 3052-AD05) received April 2, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

930. A letter from the Acting Secretary of the Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting a report, pursuant to Sec. 2433 of Title 10 U.S.C., of an increase in the Program Acquisition Unit Cost (PAUC) and Average Procurement Unit Cost (APUC) for the Unitary and Baseline/BLU-108 variants of the Joint

Standoff Weapon (JSOW) Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

931. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the 2015 Annual Report to Congress on the Department of Defense Chemical and Biological Defense Program, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1523; to the Committee on Armed Services.

932. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the Council's Annual Report for 2014 pursuant to Sec. 1006(f) of the Financial Regulatory and Interest Rate Control

Act of 1978, 12 U.S.C. 3305; to the Committee on Financial Services.

933. A letter from the Executive Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Annual Report to Congress of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion for FY 2014, in accordance with Sec. 342(e) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

934. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Amendments to Regulation A [Release Nos.: 33-9741; 34-74578; 39-2501; File No.: S7-11-13] (RIN: 3235-AL39) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

935. A letter from the Deputy Director, ODRM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Technical Regulation: Removal of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Treatment Act Implementing Regulations received March 30, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

936. A letter from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits received March 30, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

937. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Ozone, 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide, and 2010 Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Approval of Air Pollution Emergency Episode Plan [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0701; FRL 9925-93-Region 3] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

938. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0832; FRL-9925-33-Region 9] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

939. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia—Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Amendment to the Definition of “Regulated NSR Pollutant” Concerning Condensable Particulate Matter [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0593; FRL-9925-96-Region 3] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

940. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Redesignation of the Allentown Nonattainment Area to Attainment for the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0789; FRL-9925-94-Region 3] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

941. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's

final rule — Pyraclostrobin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0798; FRL-9925-02] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

942. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia; Attainment Demonstration for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Washington, DC-MD-VA Moderate Nonattainment Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2013-0132; FRL-9925-27-Region 3] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

943. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District; Quantification of Emission Reductions from Incentive Programs [EPA-R09-OAR-2013-0754; FRL-9924-69-Region 9] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

944. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Response to Vacatures of the Comparable Fuels Rule and the Gasification Rule [EPA-HQ-RCRA-2015-0118; FRL-9923-12-OSWER] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

945. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Secondary (C13-C17) Alkane Sulfonates; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0756; FRL-9923-64] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

946. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Additional Air Quality Designations and Technical Amendment to Correct Inadvertent Error in Air Quality Designations for the 2012 Primary Annual Fine Particle (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0918; FRL-9925-76-OAR] received April 7, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

947. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri, Control of Sulfur Emissions from Stationary Boilers [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0170; FRL-9925-24-Region 7] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

948. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Revision to Allegheny County Rules; Preconstruction Permit Requirements — Nonattainment New Source Review [EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0636; FRL-9922-77-Region 3] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

949. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa; 2014 Iowa State Implementation Plan; Permit Modifications; Muscatine, Iowa [EPA-

R07-OAR-2015-0159; FRL-9925-60-Region 7] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

950. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Cellulosic Waiver Credit Price and Minor Amendments to Renewable Fuel Standard Regulations [EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0049; FRL-9924-71-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS48) received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

951. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Tribal Implementation Plan and Designation of Air Quality Planning Area; Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0869; FRL-9924-45-Region 9] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

952. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Public Participation for Air Quality Permit Applications [EPA-R06-OAR-2015-0033; FRL-9925-19-Region 6] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

953. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Idaho; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0906; FRL-9922-65-Region 10] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

954. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Difenoconazole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0149; FRL-9923-82] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

955. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alabama; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0689; FRL-9925-53-Region 4] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

956. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Determination of Attainment of the 1-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard in the Southeast Desert Nonattainment Area in California [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0612; FRL-9925-32-Region 9] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

957. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; State Boards Requirements; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead and Ozone and 2010 Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2015-0040; FRL-9925-46-Region 3] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

958. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Idaho [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0477; FRL-9925-77-Region 10] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

959. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0125; FRL-9924-40] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

960. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; California; San Joaquin Valley; Reclassification as Serious Nonattainment for the 1997 PM_{2.5} Standards [EPA-R09-OAR-2014-0813; FRL-9925-30-Region 9] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

961. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — State of Tennessee Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program; Primacy Approval [EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0520; FRL-9924-92-OW] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

962. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — State of Washington Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program Revision Approval [EPA-HQ-OW-2012-0186; FRL-9924-94-OW] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

963. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing of Substitutes for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning and Revision of the Venting Prohibition for Certain Refrigerant Substitutes [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0748; FRL-9922-26-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AS04) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

964. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan National Priorities List [EPA-HQ-SFUND-1991-006 ; FRL-9925-52-Region 8] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

965. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Connect America Fund; Developing a Unified Inter-carrier Compensation Regime [WC Docket No.: 10-90] [CC Docket No.: 01-92] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

966. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet [GN Docket No.: 14-28] received April 8, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

967. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,

transmitting the Commission's final rule — Demand and Energy Data Reliability Standard [Docket No.: RM14-12-000; Order No.: 804] received April 2, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

968. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, OC/OPPLA/OP, FDA Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Synthetic Iron Oxide [Docket No.: FDA-2013-C-1008] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

969. A letter from the Deputy Director, ORDM, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to Excepted Benefits [CMS-9946-F2] (RIN: 0938-AS52) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

970. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Republic of Korea, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, Transmittal No.: 15-12; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

971. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed items to three different end users in the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to Sec. 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-261), as amended by Sec. 146 of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Act for FY 1999 (Pub. L. 105-277), and the President's September 29, 2009, delegation of authority (74 Fed. Reg. 50,913 (Oct. 2, 2009)); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

972. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States, to be transmitted to Congress within sixty days in accordance with the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112(b); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

973. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter regarding the recommendations of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission; (H. Doc. No. 114—20); to the Committee on Armed Services and ordered to be printed.

974. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, with respect to South Sudan is to continue in effect beyond April 3, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 114—21); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

975. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that an Executive Order was issued declaring a national emergency with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States posed by the increasing prevalence and severity of malicious cyber-enabled activities originating from, or directed by persons located, in whole or in substantial part, outside the United States, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.; (H. Doc. No. 114—22); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

976. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification

that the national emergency with respect to Somalia, originally declared on April 12, 2010, by Executive Order 13536, is to continue in effect beyond April 12, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 114—23); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

977. A letter from the Executive Secretary, Agency for International Development, transmitting seven reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

978. A letter from the Diversity and Inclusion Programs Director, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's annual report for FY 2014, pursuant to Sec. 203(a) and 203(b) of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

979. A letter from the Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting the Agency's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

980. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's FY 2014 annual report, pursuant to Sec. 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

981. A letter from the Staff Director, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

982. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

983. A letter from the Executive Director, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the Authority's annual report for FY 2014, as required by Sec. 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

984. A letter from the Acting Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

985. A letter from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting the Office's annual report on their implementation of Sec. 203 of the "Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002" (No Fear Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

986. A letter from the Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs, National Archives, transmitting the Archive's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L.

107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

987. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's 2014 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Litigation and Compliance Report, in accordance with subsection (e)(6) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552(e)(6) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

988. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Department's final rule — Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Portland, ME, Appropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AN11) received April 2, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

989. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

990. A letter from the President and CEO, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's FY 2014 Annual "No FEAR Report", pursuant to Sec. 203 of the Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act of 2002 Report, Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

991. A letter from the Acting Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

992. A letter from the Secretary, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2014 annual report prepared in accordance with Sec. 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

993. A letter from the Chair, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, transmitting the Board's annual report for FY 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

994. A letter from the EEO Director, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014 prepared in accordance with the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Pub. L. 107-174, Sec. 203; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

995. A letter from the Deputy Commissioner for Human Resources, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's FY 2014 Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Sec. 203, Pub. L. 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

996. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Northern Long-eared Bat with 4(d) Rule [Docket No.: FWS-R5-ES-2011-0024] (RIN: 1018-AY98) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

997. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Taxonomy of the Hawaiian Monk Seal [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2015-0007; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BA73) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

998. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a revision to the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to include the Atigun River, Hulahula River, Kongakut River, and Marsh Fork Canning River, pursuant to Sec. 304(g)(1) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Pub. L. 96-487; (H. Doc. No. 114—25); to the Committee on Natural Resources and ordered to be printed.

999. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the tenth annual report to Congress on crime victims' rights under Sec. 104(a) of the Justice for All Act of 2004, Pub. L. 108-405; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1000. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the second of two reports for FY 2014 on "H-2B Non-agricultural Temporary Worker Visa and Status", pursuant to Sec. 416(d)(1) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277, it. IV, 112 Stat. 2681-655, as amended by Sec. 406 of the REAL ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. 109-13, div. B, 119 Stat. 231, 320; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1001. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the report on Characteristics of H-1B Specialty Occupation Workers for FY 2013, prepared by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, pursuant to Sec. 416(c)(2) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (ACWIA), Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, tit. IV, 112 Stat. 2681; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1002. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Annual Report on the Impact of the Homeland Security Act on Immigration Functions Transferred to the Department of Homeland Security, pursuant to Sec. 478 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1003. A letter from the Staff Director, United States Sentencing Commission, transmitting a report on the compliance of the federal district courts, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(w)(3), with documentation submission requirements of 28 U.S.C. 994(w)(1); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1004. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Annual Events Requiring Safety Zones in the Captain of the Port Lake Michigan Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2014-1001] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1005. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Upper Mississippi River Between Mile 38.0 and 46.0, Thebes, IL; and Between Mile 78.0 and 81.0, Grand Tower, IL [Docket No.: USCG-2013-0907] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1006. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland

Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Passaic River, Rutherford, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2014-1070] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1007. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Great Lakes Pilotage Rates — 2015 Annual Review and Adjustment [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0481] (RIN: 1625-AC22) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1008. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Chevron Oil Company Canal, Fourchon, LA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-1039] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1009. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Pittsburgh, PA; Ice Accumulations; Allegheny River Mile 1.0-72.0 [Docket No.: USCG-2015-0126] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1010. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Tuscaloosa Regional Air Show; Black Warrior River; Tuscaloosa, AL [Docket No.: USCG-2015-0076] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1011. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; St. Patrick's Day Fireworks, Manitowoc River, Manitowoc, Wisconsin [Docket No.: USCG-2015-0130] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1012. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; State Route 520 Bridge Construction, Lake Washington; Seattle, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2015-0098] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1013. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary rule — Safety Zone for Ice Conditions; Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Canal, Upper Chesapeake Bay, and Tributaries; MD [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0292] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1014. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Moon Island — Long Island Bridge Demolition; Boston Inner Harbor, Quincy Bay; Quincy, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-1059] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1015. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety and Security Zones,

Jacksonville Captain of the Port Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0152] (RIN: 1625-AA00, 1625-AA87) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1016. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, St. Petersburg Beach, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0436] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1017. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; ARCTIC CHALLENGER, Port of Bellingham; Bellingham, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2014-0158] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1018. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting proposed legislation entitled the "Generating Renewal, Opportunity, and Work with Accelerated Mobility, Efficiency, and Rebuilding of Infrastructure and Communities throughout America Act" or the "GROW AMERICA Act"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1019. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; CFM International S.A. Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0521; Directorate Identifier 2014-NE-11-AD; Amendment 39-18104; AD 2015-04-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1020. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0620; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-238-AD; Amendment 39-18102; AD 2015-03-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1021. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Short Brothers and Harland Ltd. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1001; Directorate Identifier 2014-CE-034-AD; Amendment 39-18003; AD 2015-04-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1022. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0561; Directorate Identifier 2014-NE-12-AD; Amendment 39-18105; AD 2015-04-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1023. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Restricted Areas R-3801A, R-3801B, and R-3801C; Camp Claiborne, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0265; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASW-11] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1024. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes in the Vicinity of Baton Rouge, LA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1124; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASW-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1025. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-330 in the Vicinity of Mountain Home, Idaho [Docket No.: FAA-2014-1112; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANM-16] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1026. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31002; Amdt. No.: 3630] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1027. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Restricted Area Boundary Descriptions; Cape Canaveral, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0875; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ASO-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1028. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Restricted Area R-2936, West Palm Beach, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0264; Airspace Docket No.: 15-ASO-1] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1029. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30999; Amdt. No.: 3627] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1030. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31000; Amdt. No.: 3628] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1031. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31001; Amdt. No.: 3629] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1032. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0070; Direc-

torate Identifier 2011-SW-062-AD; Amendment 39-18114; AD 2015-05-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1033. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0347; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-173-AD; Amendment 39-18109; AD 2015-04-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1034. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Air Carrier Contract Maintenance Requirements [Docket No.: FAA-2011-1136; Amdt. Nos.: 121-371 and 135-132] (RIN: 2120-AJ33) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1035. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0653; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-057-AD; Amendment 39-18113; AD 2015-05-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1036. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Flugzeugwerke Altenrhein AG (FFA) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0536; Directorate Identifier 2015-CE-004-AD; Amendment 39-18116; AD 2015-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1037. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0491; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-019-AD; Amendment 39-18117; AD 2015-05-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1038. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Plainville, CT [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0293; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANE-5] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1039. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Rogue Valley, OR [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1055; Airspace Docket No.: 13-ANM-27] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1040. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2008-0561; Directorate Identifier 2007-NM-223-AD; Amendment 39-18111; AD 2015-05-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1041. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace, and Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Prescott, AZ [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1020; Airspace Docket No.: 13-AWP-20] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1042. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Seattle, WA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0466; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANM-6] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1043. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Manchester, NH [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0601; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANE-7] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1044. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; North Adams, MA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0805; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANE-9] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1045. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Maxwell, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0870; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-7] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1046. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Hazen, NV [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0869; Airspace Docket No.: 14-AWP-6] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1047. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Bend, OR [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0468; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANM-8] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1048. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0189; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-181-AD; Amendment 39-18099; AD 2015-03-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1049. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0328; Directorate Identifier 2014-NE-07-AD; Amendment 39-18108; AD 2015-04-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1050. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Depart-

ment's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0522; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-087-AD; Amendment 39-18100; AD 2015-03-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1051. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0484; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-245-AD; Amendment 39-18101; AD 2015-03-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1052. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0139; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-133-AD; Amendment 39-18081; AD 2015-02-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1053. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0365; Directorate Identifier 2014-SW-049-AD; Amendment 39-18106; AD 2015-04-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1054. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Spokane, WA [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0467; Airspace Docket No.: 14-ANM-7] received March 31, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1055. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0397; Directorate Identifier 2014-SW-048-AD; Amendment 39-18107; AD 2015-04-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64), pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1056. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Fringe Benefits Aircraft Valuation Formula (Revenue Ruling 2015-6) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1057. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting the proposal for authorization to modify the Truckee Meadows project on the Truckee River in Washoe County, Nevada, for the purposes of flood risk management and recreation; (H. Doc. No. 114-24); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and ordered to be printed.

1058. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Corrections to Rev. Proc. 2014-59 (Rev. Proc. 2015-24) received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1059. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Applicable Federal Rates — April 2015 (Rev. Rul. 2015-7) received March 27, 2015,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1060. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Sec. 911(d)(4) — 2014 Update (Rev. Proc. 2015-25) received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1061. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure: United States and Area Median Gross Income Figures (Rev. Proc. 2015-23) received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1062. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates [Notice 2015-24] received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1063. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Final Rules under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Amendments to Excepted Benefits [TD 9714] (RIN: 1545-BM44) received March 27, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1064. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Certain Employee Remuneration in Excess of \$1,000,000 under Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) [TD 9716] (RIN: 1545-BI65) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1065. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Reporting Airline Payment Amount Rollovers Under Public Law 113-243 (Announcement 2015-13) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1066. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Announcement and Report Concerning Advance Pricing Agreements (Announcement 2015-11) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1067. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Regulations Revising Rules Regarding Agency for a Consolidated Group [TD 9715] (RIN: 1545-BH31) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1068. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Health Insurance Providers Fee; Procedural and Administrative Guidance [Notice 2015-29] received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1069. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — No Rule for Refined Coal (Revenue Procedure 2015-29) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1070. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Modifications to Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (Revenue Procedure 2015-27) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1071. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Period of Limitations on Assessment for Listed Transactions Not Disclosed Under Section 6011 [TD 9718] (RIN: 1545-BH37) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1072. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Instructions of Communications Pursuant to Section 1.1502-77 (Rev. Proc. 2015-26) (IRB 2015-15) received April 1, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

[Pursuant to section 5 of H. Res. 173 the following reports were filed on April 6, 2015]

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 622. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction of State and local general sales taxes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-51). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1105. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-52). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 650. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage (Rept. 114-53). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 685. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction (Rept. 114-54). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1195. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to establish advisory boards, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-55). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1265. A bill to apply the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Rept. 114-56, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1529. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act and Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to modify the requirements for community financial institutions with respect to certain rules relating to mortgage loans, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-57). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[Submitted April 13, 2015]

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 299. A bill to amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to authorize privately insured credit unions to become members of a Federal home loan bank, and

for other purposes (Rept. 114-58). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 601. A bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual privacy notice requirement (Rept. 114-59). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1259. A bill to provide for an application process for interested parties to apply for an area to be designated as a rural area, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-60). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1367. A bill to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands (Rept. 114-61). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1480. A bill to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-62). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NUNES: Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. H.R. 1560. A bill to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-63). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1104. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a deduction from the gift tax for gifts made to certain exempt organizations; with an amendment (Rept. 114-64). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 189. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 650) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 685) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for point and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction, and providing for the adoption of the concurrent resolution (Senate Concurrent Resolution 11) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025 (Rept. 114-65).

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 709. A bill to provide for the termination of employment of employees of the Internal Revenue Service who take certain official actions for political purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-66). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; with an amendment (Rept. 114-67). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1026. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the release of information regarding the status of certain investigations; with an amendment (Rept. 114-68). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1152. A bill to prohibit officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service from using personal email accounts to conduct official business; with an amendment (Rept. 114-69). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1058. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that a duty of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is to ensure that Internal Revenue Service employees are familiar with and act in accord with certain taxpayer rights; with an amendment (Rept. 114-70). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1295. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the process for making determinations with respect to whether organizations are exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of such Code; with an amendment (Rept. 114-71). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

[The following action occurred on April 6, 2015]

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1265 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. RATCLIFFE):

H.R. 1731. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance multi-directional sharing of information related to cybersecurity risks and strengthen privacy and civil liberties protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. UPTON, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. KATKO, Mr. BABIN, Mr. HARDY, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. LABRADOR, and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 1732. A bill to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 1733. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide fair treatment of radio stations and artists for the use of sound recordings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. HARPER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BARR, Mr. OLSON, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. BARLETTA, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas,

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. LONG, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia):

H.R. 1734. A bill to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THORNBERRY (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Washington):

H.R. 1735. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. BUCK, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mrs. NOEM):

H.R. 1736. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for the Reid vapor pressure limitations under such Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GUINTA (for himself, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. KILDEE, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 1737. A bill to nullify certain guidance of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection and to provide requirements for guidance issued by the Bureau with respect to indirect auto lending; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana):

H.R. 1738. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to modernize and implement the national integrated public alert and warning system to disseminate homeland security information and other information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BLACK (for herself, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. HUELSKAMP, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 1739. A bill to prohibit the Federal Government from requiring race or ethnicity to be disclosed in connection with the transfer of a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUM:

H.R. 1740. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members of Congress from lobbying Members, officers, or employees of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUCHSHON (for himself and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia):

H.R. 1741. A bill to ensure that patients receive accurate health care information by prohibiting misleading and deceptive advertising or representation in the provision of health care services, and to require the identification of the license of health care professionals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 1742. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal,

State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 1743. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Harriet Tubman, in recognition of her contributions and lifelong commitment in the fight for freedom of enslaved men, women, and children in the United States; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CUELLAR:

H.R. 1744. A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse", and to designate the jury room in that Federal building and United States courthouse as the "Marcel C. Notzon II Jury Room"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. LEE, and Mrs. LAWRENCE):

H.R. 1745. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for surrendering to authorities certain assault weapons; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 1746. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to protect employer rights; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1747. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit to individuals for legal expenses paid with respect to establishing guardianship of a disabled individual; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Mr. SIREs, and Mr. GIBSON):

H.R. 1748. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to enhance existing programs providing mitigation assistance by encouraging States to adopt and actively enforce State building codes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FARR, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 1749. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce tobacco smuggling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. DOGGETT):

H.R. 1750. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a program to populate downloadable tax forms with taxpayer return information; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 1751. A bill to amend part A of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. JONES, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. HARPER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JOLLY, Mr. MESSER, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mrs. BLACK):

H.R. 1752. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make members of health care sharing ministries eligible to establish health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 1753. A bill to establish a National Office for Cyberspace, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1754. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to transfer unclaimed money recovered at airport security checkpoints to nonprofit organizations that provide places of rest and recuperation at airports for members of the Armed Forces and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1755. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the congressional charter of the Disabled American Veterans; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MOORE (for herself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 1756. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to make various reforms to Social Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 1757. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an increasingly larger earned income credit for families with more than 3 children; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mrs. LOWEY):

H.R. 1758. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for adjustments in the individual income tax rates to reflect regional differences in the cost-of-living; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RATCLIFFE (for himself, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MARINO, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. ZINKE):

H.R. 1759. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the publication, by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, of information relating to rulemakings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BERA, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PETERS, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. RIBBLE, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. JOYCE):

H.R. 1760. A bill to promote strategic sourcing principles within the Federal Government; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1761. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the inclusion of occupational therapists in the National Health Service Corps Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALDEN (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 1762. A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in The Dalles, Oregon, as the "Loren R. Kaufman Memorial Veterans' Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 1763. A bill to provide for the minimum size of crews of freight trains, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ROSS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. POE of Texas):

H.J. Res. 42. A joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to the matter of protecting and promoting the open Internet; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BLACK (for herself, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. FLORES):

H.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Amendment Act of 2014; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H. Con. Res. 34. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to the American Fighter Aces; to the Committee on House Administration; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H. Res. 190. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the fourth week in April as Every Kid Healthy Week; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself and Mr. COURTNEY):

H. Res. 191. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 10, 2015, as "Venture Smith's Freedom Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. LEE, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. BERA, and Mr. SWALWELL of California):

H. Res. 192. A resolution honoring the Sikh American community's celebration of Vaisakhi; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. COFFMAN):

H. Res. 193. A resolution recognizing the National Museum of World War II Aviation in Colorado Springs, Colorado, as America's National World War II Aviation Museum; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. JOYCE, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. DOLD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. DUFFY):

H. Res. 194. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Canadian Government does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LANCE:

H. Res. 195. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives about a national strategy for the Internet of Things to promote economic growth and consumer empowerment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. HASTINGS):

H. Res. 196. A resolution condemning the recent terrorist attacks in Tunis that resulted in the tragic loss of 21 innocent lives; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WALKER:

H. Res. 197. A resolution expressing support for designation of April as "Organ Donation Awareness/Donate Life Month"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. YOHO:

H. Res. 198. A resolution to establish standards defining impeachable "high crimes and misdemeanors" within the meaning of Article II, section 4 as applied to the President of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 1731.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause-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.

By Mr. SHUSTER:

H.R. 1732.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to regulation of Commerce among the several States).

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 1733.

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

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

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 1734.

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

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. THORNBERRY:

H.R. 1735.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress "to pro-

vide for the common Defence", "to raise and support Armies", "to provide and maintain a Navy" and "to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces" as enumerated in Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 1736.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to regulation of commerce among the several states).

By Mr. GUINTA:

H.R. 1737.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have Power. . . . To make 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.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 1738.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts, and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

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

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 1739.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 6

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof

By Mr. BLUM:

H.R. 1740.

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

Article I, Section 5, Clause 2;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 1741.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes."

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 1742.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 1743.

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

the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and

its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. CUELLAR:

H.R. 1744.

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 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.

By Ms. DeLAURO:

H.R. 1745.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KING of Iowa:

H.R. 1746.

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

This legislation contains a clarification that is intended to limit the scope of an existing statute. As such, this bill makes specific changes to existing law in a manner that returns power to the States and to the People, in accordance with Amendment X of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1747.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:

H.R. 1748.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 1749.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 1750.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 1751.

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

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1752.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 1753.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1754.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 1755.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MOORE:

H.R. 1756.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 1757.

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

Clause 1 Section 8 and Clause 18 Section 8 of Article I and the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 1758.

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

Clause 1 of Section 8 and Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. RATCLIFFE:

H.R. 1759.

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

Article I, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative powers generally granted to Congress by that section, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of specific legislative powers granted to Congress by that section, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive; and, Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution, in that the legislation exercises legislative power granted to Congress by that clause "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."

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 1760.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 1761.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. WALDEN:

H.R. 1762.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 12 (relating to the power of Congress to raise and support an army)

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 1763.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

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

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 42.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: Congress shall have the Power . . . "to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes."

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.J. Res. 43.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 17

Congress shall have power . . . To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 9: Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 27: Mr. BRADY of Texas.

H.R. 76: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 91: Mr. STEWART, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 114: Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 118: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.

H.R. 140: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 167: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GIBSON, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 169: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. GUINTEA.

H.R. 199: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 209: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. Emmer of Minnesota, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.

H.R. 210: Mr. HILL and Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 223: Mr. HANNA and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 228: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 232: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. BEYER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. FARR, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 244: Mr. BLUM.

H.R. 249: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. KIND, Mr. POLIS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mr. TAKAI.

H.R. 264: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 266: Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 267: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. COOPER, Mr. FARR, Mr. GIBSON, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 270: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 282: Mr. COLLINS of New York and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.

H.R. 288: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 292: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. YODER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. JONES, Mr. TED LIEU of California, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 303: Mr. WALZ, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. STEWART, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. VELA, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 306: Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 317: Ms. MENG, Ms. DeLAURO, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 321: Mr. MASSIE.

H.R. 333: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. VELA.

H.R. 346: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 353: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 358: Mr. MURPHY of Florida and Mrs. LAWRENCE.

- H.R. 379: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 381: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 393: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 400: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 426: Mr. HUELSKAMP.
H.R. 430: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 448: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. ESHOO, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 465: Mr. UPTON and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 473: Mr. TROTT.
H.R. 509: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 511: Mr. RIBBLE and Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.
H.R. 512: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 513: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 525: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 531: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 533: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 540: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. JORDAN, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 546: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. FLORES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 556: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 563: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 571: Mr. TROTT and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 572: Ms. MCSALLY.
H.R. 577: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 588: Mr. TIPTON, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 592: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HANNA, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 594: Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. KING of Iowa, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. MASSIE, and Mrs. BLACK.
H.R. 595: Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 597: Mr. RIGELL.
H.R. 602: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HARPER, and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 606: Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 608: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 610: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 612: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 613: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 619: Mr. JOLLY, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. YARMUTH, and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 624: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. EMMER of Minnesota, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 662: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 672: Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 675: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 696: Mr. GUTHRIE and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 699: Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia.
H.R. 702: Mr. HENSARLING.
H.R. 709: Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. JORDAN.
H.R. 721: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. GRAHAM, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 742: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 765: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 774: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. JOLLY, and Mr. WILLIAMS.
H.R. 775: Mr. DELANEY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. FARR, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 784: Ms. GABBARD, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. DEUTCH, and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 793: Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. SARBANES, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 800: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 802: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. HARPER, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. NUGENT, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 812: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 815: Mr. GUINTA, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. FLORES, and Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 818: Mr. SIMPSON and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 822: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mrs. BLACK, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 823: Mr. HIGGINS and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 825: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 842: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 846: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. GRAYSON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. ESTY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 849: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 850: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 855: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 863: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. POLIQUIN.
H.R. 864: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 868: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 879: Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. JONES, and Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 880: Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 881: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 891: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. VELA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 906: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 909: Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 911: Mr. KEATING, Mr. MOULTON, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 913: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 918: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 920: Mr. COHEN and Mr. DEFazio.
H.R. 921: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 923: Mr. BOST, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 927: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 928: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. DOLD, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Mr. BLUM.
H.R. 932: Ms. GABBARD, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 935: Mr. COSTA, Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 963: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 969: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. RIGELL, Mr. FARR, Mr. HILL, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 970: Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. MESSER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 971: Mr. HASTINGS and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 973: Mr. KILMER, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 985: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. WALZ, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 987: Mr. TROTT.
H.R. 989: Mr. MCCLINTOCK and Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 990: Mr. COOK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mrs. COMSTOCK.
H.R. 997: Mr. ZINKE, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 999: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.
H.R. 1002: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. HANNA, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. MESSER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. UPTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 1013: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1019: Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. REICHERT, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 1034: Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 1046: Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 1053: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1058: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 1059: Mr. CARTER of Texas and Mr. POLIQUIN.
H.R. 1062: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. TIBERI, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. BOST, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARR, and Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 1073: Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. KLINE, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. PITTENGER.
H.R. 1076: Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 1086: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. UPTON, Mr. DELANEY, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. HENSARLING, and Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 1095: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1096: Mr. DELANEY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. STEWART, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 1100: Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 1101: Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 1104: Mr. REED.
H.R. 1111: Ms. HAHN, Mr. GRAYSON, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 1112: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1125: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 1126: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1130: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. HIGGINS, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1131: Mr. FARR and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1133: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 1135: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 1142: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KILMER, Mr. UPTON, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1143: Mr. COLLINS of New York and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1149: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1150: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. WOODALL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. FORBES, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. COLE, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. STEWART, Mr. FLORES, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. ESTY, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. WALKER, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BOST, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. YOHO, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mrs. SHIMKUS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BARTON, Mr. TURNER, Mr.

MULVANEY, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BARR, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. MICA, and Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 1159: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. POMPEO, and Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1170: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. KIND, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1172: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GUINTA, and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 1174: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 1178: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 1187: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 1188: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. COOK, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. NOLAN, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 1192: Mr. BARR, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1206: Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 1210: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1215: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 1218: Mr. ROHRBACHER and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 1221: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1222: Mr. ZINKE.

H.R. 1232: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1233: Mr. FINCHER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BLUM, and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 1234: Mrs. BLACKBURN and Mr. HULTGREN.

H.R. 1247: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 1249: Mr. BYRNE, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. WALDEN.

H.R. 1258: Mr. O'ROURKE, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1267: Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1283: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 1284: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. BEYER, and Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 1287: Mr. HENSARLING and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1289: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. HONDA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. TAKAI, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1300: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California.

H.R. 1302: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 1306: Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 1309: Mrs. LOVE, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. SMITH of Texas.

H.R. 1323: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1336: Mr. ASHFORD and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1342: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. TAKAI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FORBES, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. DENT, Mr. TIPTON, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1343: Mr. GIBBS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HANNA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1349: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri and Mr. ASHFORD.

H.R. 1354: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 1358: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 1365: Mr. COOK, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. POMPEO, and Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.

H.R. 1369: Mr. YOHO, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. RIBBLE.

H.R. 1399: Mr. BOUSTANY and Mr. JOLLY.

H.R. 1400: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 1401: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HANNA, Mr. WALZ, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FARR, Mr. HONDA, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. TAKAI.

H.R. 1404: Mr. BEYER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. WALZ, Ms. LEE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 1411: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1416: Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 1420: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 1427: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. JOLLY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 1434: Mrs. BEATTY, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1439: Mr. GRAYSON, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 1459: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 1460: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1462: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1464: Ms. JUDY CHU of California and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 1470: Mr. BORDALLO.

H.R. 1475: Ms. COFFMAN and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1477: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 1479: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1482: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1483: Mr. HENSARLING.

H.R. 1490: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 1501: Mr. FARR.

H.R. 1505: Mr. COLLINS of New York.

H.R. 1517: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 1522: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 1523: Mr. BLUM.

H.R. 1528: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.

H.R. 1538: Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. AMASH, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1559: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. POLIS, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. HANNA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. FARR, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 1565: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1567: Mr. EMMER of Minnesota.

H.R. 1585: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1586: Mr. MCDERMOTT and Ms. ROSELEHTINEN.

H.R. 1599: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1602: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 1604: Mrs. COMSTOCK and Mr. LANCE.

H.R. 1613: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 1614: Mr. BARR, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 1619: Mr. VISCLOSKEY and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 1622: Mr. DELANEY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. ESTY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 1624: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 1628: Miss RICE of New York.

H.R. 1635: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin and Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 1640: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.

H.R. 1650: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 1652: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. POLIQUIN.

H.R. 1654: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, and Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1655: Mr. LEVIN and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1658: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. GOWDY.

H.R. 1661: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 1662: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 1665: Mr. ASHFORD.

H.R. 1666: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. HANNA, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 1671: Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 1674: Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MENG, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KEATING, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1677: Mr. HARRIS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MESSER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

H.R. 1682: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 1684: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 1689: Mr. WESTERMAN.

H.R. 1706: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HONDA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1713: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 1714: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARINO, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 1715: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 1718: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 1719: Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 1720: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 1725: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 1728: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.J. Res. 22: Mrs. CAPPS.

H.J. Res. 32: Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 17: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GUINTA, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H. Con. Res. 19: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. POMPEO, Mr. BURGESS, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. PITTINGER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H. Con. Res. 33: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H. Res. 12: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CLAY, Mrs. NOEM, Ms. GRAMHAM, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. VELA.

H. Res. 15: Mr. CICILLINE.

H. Res. 28: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAMHAM, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. VELA.

H. Res. 34: Mr. WALZ.

H. Res. 50: Mr. POE of Texas.

H. Res. 62: Ms. HAHN.

H. Res. 102: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 106: Mr. HASTINGS.

H. Res. 112: Mrs. BEATTY.

H. Res. 126: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H. Res. 139: Mr. ROSKAM and Mr. FORBES.

H. Res. 141: Mr. KILDEE.

H. Res. 154: Mr. BRAT and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.

H. Res. 156: Ms. LOFGREN.

H. Res. 157: Mr. SIRES.

H. Res. 161: Mr. CONNOLLY and Mr. HASTINGS.

H. Res. 182: Ms. BORDELLO and Mr. HASTINGS.

H. Res. 186: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. DOLD.

H. Res. 188: Mr. MESSER.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 161

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015

No. 52

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible You are hidden from our eyes. We are grateful that we can turn to You throughout life's seasons, for You are the source of our hope for the years to come.

Lord, in a world of change and decay, You remain the same yesterday, today, and forever. Strengthen our lawmakers with Your Spirit and inspire them with Your precepts. May they always place their confidence in You, for Your steadfast love and faithfulness sustain us.

Undergird America with a foundation of right living that exalts a nation, as You deliver us from the evils that bring national decline. Surround us all with the shield of Your Divine favor.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Democratic leader is recognized.

OBAMACARE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this is another day and another report highlighting how ObamaCare is helping Americans.

Today's proof comes from a Gallup poll which finds that 9 out of 10 Americans report having health insurance.

Here are a few excerpts from the Associated Press article about this poll: "... underlining a change across the nation, nearly 9 out of 10 adults now say they have health insurance, according to an extensive survey released today."

The Gallup poll "found that the share of adults who lack [health] insurance dropped to 11.9 percent for the first three months of this year, the lowest level since the survey began its tracking in 2008."

Coverage gains from 2014–2015 translate to about 3.6 million fewer adults uninsured since the fall. . . . "The Affordable Care Act had three major objectives: increase coverage, slow the rate of increase in costs, and improve health". . . . "The first one is a clear win. Coverage is increasing; there is no question about it."

"On balance, an estimated 14.75 million adults have gained coverage since the fall of 2013, when the law's first open enrollment season was about to begin."

The survey also found that "Hispanics saw the biggest coverage gains of any ethnic or racial group. At a time when Republicans are very keenly trying to court the Hispanic vote, a large chunk of Hispanics are gaining insurance via the Affordable Care Act."

Recent gains in coverage have benefited people up and down the income ladder. But the most notable improvement has been among those making less than \$36,000 a year, a group that traditionally struggled to get and keep health insurance.

Here is a little short comment on this. When we have people who make less than \$36,000 getting insurance coverage, it saves us money. They are not having to go through their primary care physician—which is an emergency room—the highest cost of health care delivery in the United States. So this is really good news for America. ObamaCare is working, and there is more and more evidence every day. It

is time to stop trying to destroy the law that has been helping millions and millions of Americans.

LYNCH NOMINATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, let's talk a little bit about Loretta Lynch. We have now passed the first 100 days of the Republican-controlled Senate. We all remember the lofty promises made by the Republican leader and his party when they assumed power. But we are still struggling to finish two issues that should have been resolved weeks ago.

The Democrats are ready to move forward on the Lynch nomination and the so-called doc fix. This doc fix, which we are going to talk about a little later, is so important not only for the doctors but also for their patients. Medicare is an important part of our health care delivery system, and it benefits older Americans.

This day marks the 157th day since President Obama first nominated Loretta Lynch as Attorney General. For more than 5 months, Democrats have been ready to take up and confirm the nomination. Back in November of last year, when Loretta Lynch was first nominated, the Republican leader said: "Ms. Lynch will receive fair consideration by the Senate. And her nomination should be considered in the new Congress through regular order."

I am not making this up. This is what the Republican leader said. I quoted him verbatim.

Even though the Democrats were ready to move the nomination before the elections, some Republicans wanted a little more time to look at it. We agreed to that. We based this upon what the Republican leader said—that Ms. Lynch would receive fair consideration by the Senate.

Well, that hasn't happened. January came and went, and Loretta Lynch's nomination never got a confirmation vote on the floor. Democrats were

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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ready to confirm a new Attorney General, but Republicans weren't and aren't.

February and March flew by and Republicans still aren't ready. Now we are half way through April, and once again, Senate Democrats are ready and willing to confirm a new Attorney General, but the Republicans are not.

Ms. Lynch has a spotless record. No one can question her integrity, her background, and there is no question that she should not have to wait any longer.

SGR LEGISLATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have spent a little bit of time talking about the sustainable growth rate—the doc fix—or the SGR. Before the Senate recessed for the Easter break, Republicans were unable to agree on how to prevent the physician pay cut. Democrats were ready to proceed. The last night we were here, we said: When we come back, we want to move this House bill forward. We want three simple amendments.

We still feel the same way. We are willing not only to move forward on those amendments, but we will give a very short time agreement on each one of them.

The Republican leader said when bills come to the floor, he wants to have amendments. We don't want to amend this bill to death. We want three simple amendments. We said that the night we were here when closing the Senate for the Easter recess, and we say it again. I wish Republicans would have joined us years ago in our efforts to repeal this faulty law, but they did not do that.

Regardless of the history, we have an urgent need before us today to get this bill done. Each day that passes without doing this SGR, this sustainable growth rate—to get rid of it is basically what we are doing. It would be a good day for America. It would also be a good day for America when we can confirm Loretta Lynch. Each day that passes without her confirmation and without a doc fix is just another example of Republicans' inability to govern.

Mr. President, would you announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

DISAPPROVAL OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8—PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

On March 31, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, a message from the President of the United States was received returning to the Senate the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 8) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to representation case procedures.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the veto message to accompany S.J. Res. 8 is considered as having been read, will be printed in the RECORD, and spread in full upon the Journal.

The veto message ordered to be printed in the RECORD is as follows:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 8 would overturn the National Labor Relations Board's recently issued "representation case procedures" rule and block modest but overdue reforms to simplify and streamline private sector union elections. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Workers need a strong voice in the workplace and the economy to protect and grow our Nation's middle class. Unions have played a vital role in giving workers that voice, allowing workers to organize together for higher wages, better working conditions, and the benefits and protections that most workers take for granted today. Workers deserve a level playing field that lets them freely choose to make their voices heard, and this requires fair and streamlined procedures for determining whether to have unions as their bargaining representative. Because this resolution seeks to undermine a streamlined democratic process that allows American workers to freely choose to make their voices heard, I cannot support it.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 8 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 2015.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

SGR LEGISLATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes to talk once again about the ongoing effort to replace the Medicare sustainable growth rate, or SGR, formula.

As we know, SGR has been a problem pretty much since its inception. Members of both parties have grown tired of passing temporary SGR patches that have been cobbled together at the last minute behind closed doors. This constant, seemingly unending, cycle has only grown more tiresome as the years have gone by.

That is why a little over 2 years ago a group of leaders from both the House and the Senate set out to fix this problem once and for all. I was part of this effort. I was joined on the Senate side by former Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus. Together, Senator Baucus and I worked with the leaders of the House Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees to craft legislation that would repeal and replace SGR with an improved payment system that rewards quality, efficiency, and innovation.

While many critics deemed our efforts a lost cause, we introduced our bill in late 2013 and got it reported out of the Finance Committee on a voice vote. That same legislation formed the basis of the SGR bill that passed overwhelmingly in the House with 392 votes at the end of March.

Now the bill is before the Senate. It is my hope that we will act quickly to pass this bipartisan, bicameral legislation and send it to the President's desk as soon as possible.

This SGR bill is historic for a number of reasons. First of all, it demonstrates what Congress is truly capable of when Members work together. While that type of cooperation used to be commonplace around here, it has in recent years been in short supply. The bill also represents a step forward in the effort to reform our Nation's entitlement programs. The bill contains bipartisan reforms to the Medicare program, and it is not limited to fixing the broken SGR system.

To go along with the permanent SGR fix, the bill includes a meaningful downpayment on Medicare reform without any accompanying tax hikes. These reforms include a limitation on so-called Medigap first-dollar coverage, more robust means testing for Medicare Parts B and D, and program integrity provisions that will strengthen Medicare's ability to fight fraud.

I am aware that these are not transformative reforms and that much more work will be necessary to put Medicare—not to mention our other entitlement programs—on a more sustainable trajectory. However, any Senators who, like me, have been clamoring for entitlement reform should welcome these changes. After all, for years the idea of bipartisan Medicare reform seemed, at best, farfetched. President Obama and his allies here in Congress have stated repeatedly that, before they would consider changes to our safety net programs, Republicans would have to agree to massive tax hikes. But here we are, just one Senate vote away from enacting meaningful and bipartisan Medicare reforms into law.

Of course, as I said last month before the House vote, this bill is not perfect. Anyone who is determined to vote no could likely dig through the bill and find a reason to do so. I have my own thoughts as to how I would like to improve the bill.

But, let's be honest. While I have only been in the Senate for 38 years or so, I don't remember voting on many perfect bills, particularly not on a subject matter this complex and under a divided government. So, while I understand the impulse of some who may want to hold out for a better, more ideal solution to the SGR problem, I think it would be a grave mistake to pass up this bipartisan opportunity we have before us now.

As I see it, we have two options. We can hold out for a better bill, one that satisfies every demand and subject ourselves to many more years of the last-minute, time-consuming SGR patches that are loathed by everyone in Congress and everyone in the health care industry or we can pass the bipartisan, bicameral bill we have before us now, fixing the SGR problem once and for all and setting the stage for future entitlement reform.

It should be pretty clear where I stand. This is a good bill, and it is coming at the right time.

I want to once again commend the leaders in the House from both parties who worked so hard to reach a deal on this legislation and to pass it with such an overwhelming consensus. I know it was not easy.

It is now up to us here in the Senate. Let's get this done. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting the SGR bill.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONDURAS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, over the course of the Easter recess, I went to meet with the President of Honduras, President Hernandez, about the limited albeit progress his country is making against crime, as well as all the drugs that are coming in. I had gone to Honduras with our four-star Marine general, General Kelly, the Commander of United States Southern Command.

Between the U.S. military and the Coast Guard, we have been successful—as a matter of fact, I even went on some simulated drug interdictions out in the Caribbean off of Key West. They showed me how one Coast Guard fast boat can interdict a drug smuggler's fast boat, and basically they shoot out the engines. They can do that from another fast boat or they can do that from a helicopter.

That has had an effect. There are less drugs coming out of South America going into Honduras, which is one of the three Central American countries that had become so prime for the drug trade.

They arrive in big shipments into Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala. Then they break them down into much smaller packets and go through this very efficient distribution system that goes north through the rest of Central America, into Mexico, and from there to the United States.

It is hard to catch them when there are the much smaller packets of cocaine going north. Therefore, we have really made an effort to assist the three Central American countries: Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

Needless to say, there is a lot of corruption in the governments and the local police of all of those three countries. As a result, the drug lords find it fairly easy pickings to buy off people and buy off judges, so President Hernandez came into office wanting to really make a difference.

He started doing some shows of force. He has worked with General Kelly on this issue, but the fact is it is still a very violent country, with not only the drug trade but also human trafficking, but the trends are in the right direction.

One year ago, Honduras was the murder capital of the world. It was about 86 murders per 100,000 of population. They have cut that number down to about 66 per 100,000 of population—still very high, but the trend is in the right direction.

I commend President Hernandez, and I commend the First Lady of the country. They have been trying to help their country with its economy so the extreme poverty that is so evident in that part of the world is not a caldron bubbling that is ripe for corruption and for paying off people to transport the drugs.

In addition, of course there is the human trafficking. There is part of it for the sex slaves, and that is a trade where often parents are sending their children north—thinking they will have a better life—and the young girls are just brutally treated and ultimately forced into prostitution. But part of it is also, because of the poverty, the hopelessness of the parents that their children have no future. They are willing to turn—after paying thousands and thousands of dollars to a human trafficker—their children over to a coyote to transport those children to the north.

Some of them don't make it, and it is true some of the reforms that the Hernandez government have been putting in place have lessened the migration of these young children, but there is a lot more to do. That is where I would commend the Senate to take a look at the administration's request for Central America. It has a name, something such as Alliance for Progress. It is about a \$1 billion appropriations re-

quest that will help with the economic development and the medical care in that very poor region of the world. If the Congress will approve that request, I think we will continue to see the fruits of our labors—a very positive outcome.

As long as there is such a difference between the economic elites and the very poor—a huge majority who are very poor—we are always going to have those problems, but at least we are seeing the steps in the right direction.

While I was there, our Ambassador Nealon asked me in the assembled press to announce that in another week the Naval Hospital ship the Comfort will be anchoring off the coast of Honduras. For 1 week it will offer the medical services of Navy doctors, nurses, and a whole host of private doctors and nurses from this country who are volunteering their time to go to Honduras and help with the medical attention that is so desperately needed in that part of the world.

I commend to the Senate that we seriously consider favorably the request of the administration for this \$1 billion into Central America. At the end of the day, it is going to lessen the drug trade going north through those countries and stop the family deprivation—lessen the family deprivation—of which they would dare risk their children to be sent north with a coyote.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING CLEVELAND, OHIO

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, my home of Cleveland, OH, is one of our Nation's historic great centers of industry. Our manufacturing base helped to build our country's infrastructure to win World War II and to spur our economy to new heights in the 21st century. We are not only home to great makers, we are home to great creators as well.

We are the home of rock and roll—the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is in downtown Cleveland—great athletes and authors, people such as Jesse Owens and Toni Morrison, and we are home to great art. Cleveland is the home to world-renowned Cleveland Orchestra, Playhouse Square, Karam House, the NASA-designated Great Lakes Science Center, and one of the largest and best art museums not just in the United States but in the world, the Cleveland Museum of Art.

In the early 1900s, Midwest cities saw a cultural explosion. Cities were prospering. Government and business leaders alike sought to harness that new wealth to build livable, world-class cities. Museums were established across

the Midwest. That is why cities such as Youngstown, Toledo, Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland—cities that may not have been the Nation's largest, especially when you look at Dayton, Youngstown, and Toledo, but cities that were prosperous—created great products, created great wealth, and made huge contributions to start these cultural centers.

Ohio is one of the leading States in the Nation as far as locations of good art museums in pretty much all of our major cities. Art museums were status symbols. In many ways, they were the sports arenas of the early 20th century.

It was in this climate that the Cleveland Museum of Art was established 99 years ago, opening in June 1916. We mark, last year and the next couple of years, the 100th anniversary of the Cleveland City Club and the 100th anniversary of the Cleveland Orchestra also. So much happened in that decade in Cleveland, OH, and cities like it across the country.

The original marble neoclassic building was an instant icon, a signal to the world that Cleveland would take its place as a world-class city and a center for the arts. And 100 years later, the Cleveland Museum of Art is thriving. It has a permanent collection that is world-renowned and possesses a deep commitment to the local community.

Under the leadership of Director William Griswold and Steven Kestner, chair of the board of trustees, the museum is expanding in every direction, working to engage the community and using new technology to educate visitors. I had the privilege of visiting the art museum just in the last week or so, talking with Dr. Griswold, and looking at the new Africa exhibit that is on tour that has been collected for Cleveland, and I got a chance to see a good bit of this beautiful museum. I have been many times. Each time I go, I come away with an even greater appreciation for the institution, the art, the curators, the collectors, and the people who work there. Dr. Griswold shared with me that day he was appointed as director, he was with some European friends who told him the Cleveland Museum of Art was their favorite art museum in the entire world.

The museum recently completed a \$350 million expansion and renovation that will better integrate the museum with the surrounding community. It has transformed the museum's spaces and has prepared this institution to inspire and educate Ohioans for the next 100 years. It beckons young people and students—many low-income students in the immediate area, within a few square miles around the museum—to come visit and learn about our cultural heritage and look to the future.

When I met with Dr. Griswold—let me back up for a moment. This capital improvement was the largest capital improvement of any museum in Ohio history and supported some 1,100 local jobs. The project injected more than \$360 million directly into our State's

economy. The impact will be felt for years to come.

As it approaches its centennial celebration next year, the Cleveland Museum of Art will continue to attract visitors from Cuyahoga County, from northeast Ohio, and from around the world. In 2013, 600,000 people visited that museum. More than one-third of them were from outside of Ohio. More than half a million visitors were responsible for \$80 million in consumer spending in the city.

The museum's first director, Frederick Allen Whiting, believed the museum should serve not as an ivory tower but as an educational institution engaged in the community. He wanted to bring art to people, not just people into the museum.

The museum established its first education department. In 1919, they held the first annual exhibition of Cleveland artists and craftsmen. It became known as the May Show and showcased local artists for the next 73 years. Dr. Griswold continues that tradition of community engagement.

When I met with him, he told me that leaders of cultural institutions have a responsibility to participate in my city's transformation. He is committed and the museum's staff is committed to making our city a better place. They have elevated the museum's education and interpretation department and are committed to the value of interpretive excellence. Education in the museum is aimed at a general audience, not just art buffs and historians.

Parenthetically, my sister-in-law teaches in the art history department at Case Western Reserve University. Catherine talks to me about how integrated Case is in the art history department with that museum. It is a classroom for students. It is a classroom for the whole community beyond Case.

Studies show that a high concentration of the arts in communities leads to higher civic engagement. Students who take art classes, play musical instruments, take dance lessons generally do better in school.

Dr. Griswold and his team are in the forefront of the use of technology to educate and to connect visitors with the museum's collections. The Cleveland Art Museum is also home to the country's largest multitouch screen, a collection wall. This huge, interactive wall stands at 40 square feet and features more than 4,100 works of art from the museum's collection.

To get a feel for the reach and the breadth of a museum of this stature in one of our Nation's great cities, the museum has 20 curators on staff. It recruits for these positions around the world.

In Cleveland, we have the Cleveland Institute of Art, and we have great universities. However, when it comes time to look for a new curator, the Cleveland Art Museum looks worldwide.

The museum's collection includes 45,000 objects and spans nearly 6,000

years of history. This February, the museum's "Senufo: Art and Identity in West Africa" special exhibit opened after 5 years of work by curators. It features 170 objects from more than 60 collections around the world.

We know that strong communities require strong cultural institutions. From the Cleveland Institute of Music, to the Fine Arts Garden, to the Botanical Garden, to the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland continues to cultivate the vibrant arts community that enriches our city and enriches our State.

Thanks to the art museum, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and Dr. Griswold, who is relatively still new on the job, for their contributions to our community.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY AND THE TRANS-PACIFIC PART- NERSHIP

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, let me start with a story. More than 15 years ago, a friend and I—I met with friends, and I flew to South Texas at my own expense. I wanted to see how the North American Free Trade Agreement was working.

During my first year in Congress 20-plus years ago, in the House of Representatives, I helped to lead the opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement. I stood up to a President of my own party, President Clinton, who I think was wrong on the North American Free Trade Agreement. Since then, I disagreed with President Bush—a President not of my party—on his trade policy.

I wanted to see, 4, 5 years after NAFTA was implemented, what it looked like, what went on along the U.S.-Mexican border. As I said, at my own expense I rented a car with a couple friends and went to Mexico. Here is what I found. I walked into a neighborhood where thousands of workers lived, workers who were working in formerly U.S. plants that, because of NAFTA, had crossed the river and were relocated in Mexico in some areas called maquiladoras. These were American plants that relocated to Mexico, producing with very low-income workers, no environmental labor standards, and selling those products back into the United States. It is a 20th-century, 21st-century way of doing business for far too many companies. Unknown in human history, to my knowledge, have so many companies, as they have in the United States, incorporated their business plans where they shut down production in Sandusky or Mansfield, OH, and move production to Wuhan or Shiyan, China, and sell those products back into the United States.

I wanted to see what it looked like. I walked through this neighborhood where thousands of workers lived in very abject, poor conditions. These were workers working for in most cases American companies south of the border in Mexico, for very low wages.

I walked through these neighborhoods. I saw people living in shacks. These shacks were often made of packing materials, maybe wooden crates from products that had been shipped in for assembly at these plants, cardboard boxes often with the names of the companies on them. They were living in conditions like that.

I walked through the neighborhood, and I saw kind of meandering through the neighborhood these ditches filled with industrial and human waste. Who knows what was in those ditches. Children were playing nearby, walking across and jumping across the ditches, sometimes playing far too close to these ditches filled with toxic waste. The American Medical Association in those days called that area in Mexico across from the United States, across from the Rio Grande River, the most toxic place in North America.

Then I went to an auto plant. Nearby was an auto plant. It was a new auto plant. It looked a lot like a U.S. auto plant. It was new and modern. In fact, it was newer than many auto plants in the United States. The workers were working hard. The machines were new. The workers were productive. The floors were clean. There was one difference between a U.S. auto plant—a plant in Avon Lake or Lorain, OH—there was one difference between a U.S. auto plant and a Mexican auto plant. Do you know what the difference was? The difference was the Mexican auto plant had no parking lot because the workers in Mexico weren't paid enough to buy the cars they make.

Go halfway around the world. Go to China and go to an Apple plant—actually, it is a Foxconn plant. Apple has hired a Chinese contractor. Go to an Apple plant in China. The workers don't make enough in those plants to buy the iPhone they make.

Go to Bangladesh and go to a designer clothing factory, an apparel factory, and the workers don't make enough to buy the apparel they make.

Go back to this side of the globe and go to Colombia and go to a farm where they are growing cut flowers. The workers don't make enough to buy flowers for their girlfriends and wives for Valentine's Day. They don't make enough to buy the cut flowers they are growing for Americans.

That is what has happened around the world with these trade agreements. You see the same things—a race to the bottom. Almost anywhere the United States passes trade agreements, we see workers overseas making products they cannot afford for themselves. These trade agreements would be different if workers were paid enough that they began to make products made in Dayton, OH, or Gallipolis, OH, or Troy, OH. Instead, these workers cannot afford to buy the products they are making.

That is what our trade deals force American workers to compete with—jobs that pay pennies an hour. They lead to a downward wage spiral across

the globe. Why do most people sitting in this gallery, why do most people in this country, unless they are in the top 5 or 10 percent, why have they not gotten a raise in the last 10 years? The middle class in this country has not seen their incomes go up even though the wealthy get wealthier, even though companies are more profitable, even though executives pay themselves higher bonuses. The middle-class wages have been stagnant, partly because of these trade agreements and partly because my friends on the other side of the aisle won't let us fix the Tax Code, where if you shut down production in Lima or in Ravenna, OH, and move it to Wuhan or Shiyan, China, and sell it back into the United States, you get a tax break. American companies get a tax break for shutting down production in this country and moving it overseas and partly because of trade policy.

The reason people don't get raises in this country—a big reason—is because of a trade policy and a tax policy that far too many politicians in this body have allowed to happen. That is why we can't afford another agreement like the Trans-Pacific Partnership. We can't allow a fast track of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. The last thing we need is another NAFTA, another Northern American Freed Trade Agreement. We do not need a deal negotiated in secret and rushed—hence the term “fast track”—rushed with no amendments, with no real oversight, with no access even to reading the text.

It would intrigue people if they knew that it is harder for a Senator or a Senator's staff to get the opportunity to read the Trans-Pacific Partnership—this newly negotiated trade deal—it is harder for us to get access to read that than it is to read about the Iran sanctions or to read a CIA report or to read a classified document from the Department of Defense. It is actually harder to get access to the Trans-Pacific Partnership, to this trade agreement, to study it, than it is to national defense, national security concerns. What are they trying to hide? Why would that be?

I have spent much of the last couple of weeks talking with workers and businesses around Ohio. I met with workers like Darryl Parker, a former worker at R.G. Steel's Warren, OH, plant and former president of the Steelworkers Local 1375. The plant has a proud history dating back to 1912. Close to 3 years ago, it was the fourth largest flat-rolled steel maker in America. It didn't close because of poor performance. These are some of the most productive workers in the world. There is one reason 1,300 workers like Darryl lost their jobs: unfair trade.

I met with Vinny Gaietto in Toledo, a former American Standard worker—actually, in Tiffin. I met him in Toledo. Vinny lost his job in 2007 when the plant closed down and moved to Mexico.

We cannot allow this to continue. We have no business passing fast track to

fast track jobs out of this country, to fast track weaker environmental rules and worker safety rules.

Trade policy should ensure a level playing field for all companies competing in a global economy. Instead, our trade policy is unfair to small businesses, to workers, and to those communities where plants shut down one after another. The communities then have to lay off teachers, firefighters, police officers, and municipal garbage collection workers because their tax base has shrunk because their jobs have gone overseas.

Although worker productivity is higher, they face stagnating wages, increased middle-class insecurity, and rising inequality at home. Yet corporate profits are up and CEO pay has reached record levels. Fundamentally the workers are not sharing in the wealth they have created for their employers.

The reason our economy worked so well after World War II is because productivity went up, profits went up, wages went up, but since the assault on organized labor and trade unions and the decline of unionization in this country, productivity continues to go up, profits continue to go up, and executives' compensation and bonuses continue to skyrocket, yet wages have stayed flat and most Americans have not had a wage increase.

Last year Wall Street bonuses—just the bonuses on Wall Street—were double what all minimum-wage workers earned in the country combined. I will say that again. Wall Street bonuses—mostly their Christmas bonuses, or whenever they are given—were double what all the minimum-wage workers in the country made combined.

We need to invest in supporting workers with a living wage, paid sick and family leave, and equal pay for equal work. We need to invest in infrastructure. When the State government is cut, we know what happens—particularly in my State. When the State government is cut, it cuts support for local communities. We know what happens to our highways, our streets, and our bridges.

We fundamentally know that trade, done right, creates prosperity. I want trade, and I want more of it. I think Ohioans want trade, but we want trade that builds an on-ramp to the middle class here at home and lifts workers from poverty in America and around the world. We do not want another NAFTA.

Earlier this month, I visited the Ford plant near Cleveland in Brook Park, OH. Ford brought its manufacturing of EcoBoost engines back from Valencia, Spain. They invested \$200 million and brought 450 new jobs to Cleveland. Some companies, such as Ford, are beginning to reshore manufacturing jobs because they know our workers are skilled and efficient. But auto companies need protections from foreign governments' unfair trade practices.

While I disagree with President Obama on the trade promotion authority fast track and on the Trans-Pacific partnership agreement, I give him credit for being more aggressive than President Bush or President Clinton on enforcing trade rules and trade laws. It makes a difference in helping to create jobs.

Trade agreements must include provisions protecting our workers and our companies from foreign governments that artificially manipulate their currency. For example, Japan has a history of shutting out American auto companies and manipulating their currency to benefit their own manufacturers. That policy has worked for Japan, but it has not worked for us. In 2013, for every 1 car the United States sold to Japan, we imported 99 cars from Japan. That doesn't sound like a level playing field, where cars that were made by American workers get an opportunity to sell in Japan. It is not much different with Korea. Too much is at stake. Our capacity to outcompete and outinnovate our competitors depends on our capacity to outmanufacture them. That means we need trade policies that will create opportunities for workers and small businesses so they can earn a living wage and join the middle class.

I urge my colleagues to demand increased transparency in this process. I urge everyone to say no to a deal that shortchanges our workers and companies and does not ensure a level playing field.

We cannot allow another trade deal—we had NAFTA, PNTR with China, CAFTA, South Korea, and Colombia, one after another—that sells out our workers and ships jobs overseas. It is time for a very different trade policy.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JIM OBERGEFELL STORY

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I rise with some excitement as I get to tell a story that is an American story. This story is, in fact, a love story.

The first time Jim Obergefell met the love of his life, John Arthur, neither of them were swept off their feet. As is the case with a lot of couples, they met at a bar through mutual friends. They met then a second time, but the sparks didn't really fly then either. It wasn't until a few months later that they met for the third time at a New Year's Eve party. This time, they fell in love. Jim and John like to joke that theirs was a story of love at third sight.

Following the New Year's Eve party, John and Jim began building their

lives together in Cincinnati, OH. The next 20 years they spent doing so many of the things that connected couples do. They said "I love you" for the first time. They had their first fight. Their bond grew and grew, and this incredible couple moved in together, buying their first home, selling that home, buying another home, and working together, building lives together. They moved from job to job, but they stayed together. Traveling, making friends, becoming involved with their community, they built a life of love together.

Jim and John's love story is a familiar one. They crossed familiar relationship milestones and faced so many of the same probing questions many couples often get: Why aren't you married? Have you thought about getting married? Hey, what about marriage?

Well, of course, they had thought about marriage. Their bond was that strong; they were so deeply in love and committed. But their response, unfortunately, was that they had thought of it, but they wanted it to actually mean something legally. They wanted it to be right and just. They wanted their marriage to be affirmed before all, and for it to have meaning under the law. They wanted it to be recognized just as it was for other American citizens. They wanted that ideal that exists deep in our country's heritage, flowing through all of our roots, that they together as a couple could have a life, could have liberty, and could pursue their happiness.

However, for them at that time, equality and freedom for all in our country was an ideal that was seemingly far off. But I will tell my colleagues this: What I love about America is that we cannot slow down the dream of freedom and equality. It marches forward. Look at history and we see all of the attempts to stop these fundamental ideals of freedom and equality under the law. People and tyrants, with brutality, try to chain our freedom, try to beat it back. They try to assassinate its advocates, but just as the Statue of Freedom sits on the Capitol dome, freedom rises, and it will come.

Jim and John watched the progress march in our country as so many of us did with encouragement. Painfully slowly but steadily it marched forward. As they watched and waited, they went on living their lives of love together. For almost 20 years, their union, their bond as committed people with unconditional love continued.

Unfortunately, though, John began having problems walking. After months of tests, doctors' appointments, prodding and probing, John was diagnosed with ALS. The typical prognosis for a patient with ALS is 2½ to 5 years. Jim became John's primary caregiver. He leapt up. He had unconditional love. There were trying times, but he said he considered it a privilege to care for his life's love.

Two years after John's diagnosis in 2013, when he was receiving hospice

care and was confined to a hospital bed in their Cincinnati home, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Edith Windsor, declaring that the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional. That decision set the stage for an even greater national movement toward marriage equality. It set the stage—after years of struggle and fights and sacrifice for equal rights—for equality under the law, for love to be affirmed in marriage between two Americans, to be affirmed and equally recognized, not condemned, not banned, not made illegal. So on a warm day in June, after 20 years of love, commitment, and building a life together, it was at this moment that Jim leaned over to John, sitting there in his hospital bed, kissed him, and proposed: "Let's get married."

Because Ohio has yet to recognize marriage equality, and with John confined to his bed, this was going to be challenging. Their options were limited. Transporting John to a State that would recognize their marriage would require a special medically equipped airplane, and it would require a lot of money they did not have. Jim asked for ideas on Facebook, and people came forward. Unprompted, Jim and John's friends raised \$13,000 to cover the entire cost of a specially chartered medical plane.

A few weeks later, Jim, John, and John's Aunt Paulette, who became ordained to perform the service, boarded a plane in Ohio that took off and landed nearby in Maryland. In this State, they recognize marriage equality. In this State, they recognized the love of two American citizens. And for 7½ minutes, on the tarmac at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, John and Jim, two Americans, had their wedding.

Sitting on the tarmac, Jim, holding the hands of his partner of 20 years—whose hands lacked dexterity and strength—said this to John:

We met for the first time, my life didn't change, your life didn't change. We met a second time, still nothing changed. Then we met a third time, and everything changed. As you recently said, it was love at third sight, and for the past twenty years, six months and eleven days, it's been love at every sight.

In a cramped medical airplane, John's aunt began the formal vows. She started to say, "Take each other's hands," but then realized they had never let go of each other's hands.

They exchanged their rings, Jim helping John place the ring on his own finger, and after the ceremony they left that Maryland tarmac to fly back. Jim and John arrived home to the realities of a disease like ALS. John was dying. And while they had taken their eternal vows together, while their marriage was affirmed by love, affirmed by this unbreakable commitment, affirmed by loving family and by friends, affirmed to be legal by the State of Maryland, their marriage was disavowed by their home State—the State John would eventually die in.

These men at this time decided to work with a civil rights attorney because they feared that even after their actions on their part, John's death certificate would list him as unmarried—an assault on the dignity of two great men. His life with his partner—their 20 years of love and commitment and ultimate affirmation of those years—their marriage would mean nothing according to the government. They feared that on this document—the last documentation of his life—that their life of love and commitment would be denied by their government. On this paper their marriage would be denied—negated, disallowed.

John, who married to the love of his life, died in his home State and was listed on that final government document as single. With their attorney, the men filed a lawsuit to have John and Jim's marriage legally recognized in Ohio. A week and a half after their marriage, a district judge in Ohio ruled to recognize their wedding, but that was just the start of a long legal fight.

In the last few months of John's life, Jim worked with the attorney to continue to fight for recognition of their citizenship rights as Americans. People would ask Jim: Why, when your husband is dying, would you use your last days together to fight this? Jim's response was simple: Why not?

Jim could not think of any better way to honor his husband, to live up to his vows, and to demonstrate the power of his love, the power of their commitment, the power of love in our world, other than to fight this injustice.

A little over 3 months after their marriage, the inevitable eventually arrived. John passed away at the young age of 48. Amidst his overwhelming grief, Jim found a small but substantive source of consolation. On his death certificate he was listed as married with Jim's name listed as his surviving spouse.

The State of Ohio appealed the decision to list John as married. Their government went to court to strip him and his beloved of this recognition and won. State officials made it their mission to change John Arthur's death certificate.

Jim Obergefell now stands as a named plaintiff in an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, the highest Court in the land, to have he and his husband's fundamental rights recognized—that their vows and commitment be worthy of recognition as American citizens. They have joined with cases from three other States also seeking that affirmation of citizenship, of equality under the law. Together, all these cases have come to represent the cause of paving the way for marriage equality to become a reality in our Nation.

Jim and John's story is moving. It is being heard in a building across the street with these words emblazoned over its doors, "Equal Justice Under Law." Their story is heartbreaking. It is inspiring, but unfortunately in our Nation right now it is all too common.

This story of theirs about the persistent, unyielding, and indefatigable love conquering indifference about our ideals of equality conquering inequality in our country. This call is in their hearts for each other reflects the larger call for our country for itself, for us to live our truth. It calls that question forward, what kind of country will we be? Will we be the Nation of love and freedom and equality? Will we be the Nation that every single generation has had people standing up for these ideals, people pushing to March forward for our country these ideals. This is not a question about sexual orientation or race or gender, it is a question about whether our country will live up to the ideals we say every time we pledge allegiance to our flag: "... liberty and justice for all."

Will we have equality under the law or will we tolerate a government that denies some citizens fundamental rights while granting them to others? This is the question that is being called.

It is a question that echoes throughout our history—Sojourner Truth, standing in Akron, OH, at the Women's Convention, calling the question, "Ain't I a woman?"

It is a question by my family members that I heard, standing strong, saying defiantly: I am a man. I, too, am an American citizen.

Proclaiming those words, generation after generation have strained at chains, have fought Jim Crowe. It is what Susan B. Anthony said when she said, "It is we the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union. . . ."

This is the ideal—the love of our country, the sacrifice for our principles, this ideal that has been fought for generation after generation. The question was called by abolitionists, by suffragettes: Will we be a nation with liberty and justice for all?

Throughout our history the question would call: Will we have freedom for all? Will truth march on—as it did in Selma, as it gathered in church basements and protested at Stonewall and came together at Seneca Falls. Will we live our truth, despite the assassinations of its advocates such as Milk and King, Matthew Shepard or Emmitt Till? Will our march come to fruition to fight for recognition of full citizenship beyond race, beyond creed, beyond color, beyond orientation? It is this dream that must be secured for all of our citizens as Langston Hughes said so clearly: "There is a dream in this land with its back against the wall, to save the dream for one, we must save the dream for all."

We fight for this dream here. The time is now. The anguish has gone on long enough. And I will tell you I found out just preparing my remarks that we still face these weary years and too many silent tears.

I sat with staff members and learned of some of their struggles right here as

Capitol Hill employees. One of my young staffers shared that he entered his adult life unsure if his full citizenship rights would be an option in his lifetime. Could he have equality under the law? Could he be married? Similar to many gay men and lesbians decades before him, he was afraid his country would cast his love as less meaningful at best or at worst vile and immoral. Yet today, in this case before the Supreme Court, it makes him hopeful that we can live in a country that one day recognizes his love, his value, his dignity, as being equal under the law.

Another staff Member told me he feared that his coming out as gay would mean his own family would never accept him. He shared what he described as a defining moment in his own valuation of his self-worth when he came out as gay to his deeply religious grandmother. She held his hands tightly in her own and looked him in the eyes and proclaimed, "I will always love you, and I will love anyone who loves you."

All across America right now there are weary years, silent tears, unspoken pain in the country that does not value the dignity, worth, and citizenship rights of too many.

What message does it send? How many stand in uncertainty and fear and despair that threatens to consume the potential of young people? I see the data of suicide rates rising for our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender teens. We cannot give any implicit support for any idea that they are worth less or are lesser citizens, and we all should come together and condemn so-called therapies that purport to change who people are at their core, as if it is not enough, as if they are not worthy. All across the country this struggle is going on, from intimate, personal struggles to public fights—stories of love meeting fear, stories of hope meeting despair, our families and communities coming together to stand and say that I am an American. I am a citizen. I deserve equality under the law.

As Jackie Robinson said then, and it is true now: "The right of every American to first-class citizenship is the most important issue of our time."

Jim and John and all Americans have a right not to second-class citizenship but first-class citizenship, to honor their first-class love.

I am a prisoner of hope today. I am not going to let disappointment after disappointment undermine my infinite sense of hope for our country. The history of our Nation is a screaming testimony of a perpetual achievement of freedom and light and truth overcoming inequality and hatred. Just 3 years ago, only six States and Washington, DC, had marriage equality, with 34 million Americans living in marriage equality States. Now 37 States and DC have marriage equality, meaning 224 million Americans now live in States that honor equal rights to marry. This movement has been a strong validation of our country's history. It is a shining example of

progress. However, just because the arc of history always bends toward justice does not mean it will not meet resistance. As King said, "Change never rode in on the wheels of inevitability."

We are the architects of our Nation. We are the truth tellers, life workers, and lovers that must exult our principles. We cannot fail now. Love is on the line. Citizenship is on the line. We are interdependent. We need each other. We cannot deny the worth of one American without denying the worth, dignity, and strength of our Nation as a whole.

The story of Jim Obergefell and John Arthur is a story not just of unconditional love and unconditional hope, it is not just about the two of them, but it is about our country. This is the story of all of us—of America. It is a story of what our truth will be. One member of this incredible partnership has passed away, but I know their love marches on.

I believe in this country our truth will march on, and equality and justice will have its way.

Madam President, I yield to my colleague, the Senator from Ohio.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, Senator SESSIONS wants to speak in a moment, and I will be brief.

I would like to thank Senator BOOKER for his always stirring words and for his sense of justice and fair play and leadership in so many ways.

I met Jim about 1 year ago and had a brief meeting, not too long after the court decision by Judge Black in the Cincinnati Southern District Court in Ohio. I just spent a half an hour with him in my office. He never wanted and never expected to be famous. He never expected to come to Washington to meet with Senators. He never expected to travel the country giving speeches. He was once a high school teacher. He joked that more people have been with him as he traveled across the country, joked that when he spoke to crowds of hundreds or even 1,000 about his experience with his beloved John and what has happened, he wished that his students had listened to him so closely. You could hear a pin drop when he spoke to hundreds, which is not always the case when speaking as a high school teacher. But he wanted to live his life in a normal way as most Americans do. He never expected to have his story or his marriage litigated before the U.S. Supreme Court.

But that is really the mark of character, that Jim has taken his grief and his pain and hoped to change the world, and that is what he is doing. His marriage is still not equal in my State of Ohio. I am embarrassed by that. I was, frankly, embarrassed when Ohio, 10 years ago, passed a constitutional amendment outlawing same-sex marriage. I thought it was a terrible public policy mistake. I think it left too many people behind and too many people heartbroken.

Jim and his late husband John Arthur's story is one of love and sacrifice. It could happen to anyone. It could happen to any of us. Frankly, it happens to too many families. So as Senator BOOKER pointed out, they flew to Maryland where John's aunt, Paulette Roberts, officiated their marriage on the tarmac in a medical plane.

Paulette remarked, "If marriage vows mean anything, then those two were more married than anyone I have ever known." That speaks to their commitment, it speaks to their love, to the seriousness with which they took their wedding vows, and the seriousness of the relationship for 20 years prior to that.

Just 3 months and 11 days later John passed away. Jim has been fighting for his marriage ever since. The question is, why should he have to do that? No one ever voted to allow my wife Connie and me to stand before our families and acknowledge our love and commitment. When we were married, we were benefitting from a right not—get this—a right not extended to the minister who officiated our wedding.

The woman who officiated our wedding, Kate Huey, had had a marriage—she had had a commitment ceremony 18 years earlier. It was not until late last year that she traveled to New York with the woman she loved and was officially married, legally married in New York. You still cannot do that in Ohio. It is outrageous that she cannot do that in Ohio. I am hopeful after Jim's case is argued a couple of weeks from now and the Court hands down that decision, it will stop that bigotry and inequality that has hidden under the banner of tradition for far too long.

Keep in mind—and Senator BOOKER, I thought, laid out a lot of this history very well—Ohio once passed laws to keep Black people and White people from marrying. Ohioans came together, as we always do, we rallied, we repealed that unjust and hateful antimiscegenation law. We have a long history of fighting for justice and equality. We will not rest until we achieve that justice for Jim and for John.

I look at the pages who sit before us who are mostly 16 and 17-years-old. This is something that makes no sense to most of them. When I was talking to Jim earlier in my office, he had made a speech in Athens, OH, to Ohio University students. He told me most of them could not understand why State laws would prohibit somebody from marrying the person whom they love. They could not understand why the State government, the Ohio State government, would spend my tax dollars and Jim's tax dollars, the tax dollars of Hazel's parents—mother of the page from Ohio—the tax dollars of all of us to fight this court battle so that Jim's marriage would be denied.

If the Supreme Court rules in Jim's favor, and I think it will, Jim's name will go down in the history books, along with Roe, from Roe v. Wade; and

Brown, in Brown v. Board of Education. It is not what Jim was after. It would be fitting for a love that spanned decades and was strong enough to carry Jim here to Washington. The moment has come for our Supreme Court to stand on the right side of history and join Americans who support marriage equality.

As Senator BOOKER said, 37 States and the District of Columbia now allow marriage equality. I do not like it that we have to rely on the Supreme Court to get my State to change its laws. We have politicians who look backward rather than forward. That is too bad. We have politicians who are willing to deny human beings basic rights, basic civil rights, basic rights of decency and fairness.

I am hopeful that Jim's courage and Jim's outspokenness and Jim's willingness to join on behalf of John in his fight and make this fight will help change my State and help change our Nation. I know I cannot look to the gallery and thank somebody so I will not look to the gallery, but I will still thank Jim from here.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

SGR LEGISLATION

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I would like to share a few thoughts as we head into this week, because we will be confronting the question of how to fix the payment to our physicians who treat Medicare and Medicaid patients. If we do not take action, there will be a 21-percent reduction in the amount of money they are paid to do the work for the Federal Government.

This is an unacceptable alternative, but it is what current law says. Congress needs to fix it. In fact, we have been dealing with this for 17 years. For 17 years, Congress has, in some way or another, fixed the doctor payment plan and raised their pay so that they do not take a cut. As years have gone by, the size of the cut that needs to be fixed has increased too, as I said, 21 percent today if we do not act. I think there is a uniform, universal belief that we should do that, and do it on a permanent basis so we do not have to have doctors calling Congress every year, saying: Are you going to change the law so I can continue to do Medicare work? If you do not change it and my services are cut 21 percent, I am out of here. I can hardly make a living now on what you pay me, and taking a big cut will not allow me to continue to offer Medicare services for people in need.

It is a big issue and a real issue. I have favored a permanent fix for a number of years. I would offer, though, to my colleagues that many of us who have been concerned about the financial condition of our country have successfully insisted each one of those 17 times that the new money that is needed to pay the additional funding be

paid for, that is, by finding wasteful spending or other spending somewhere else in the government of this country and use that money to make up the difference.

We have refused to pass it by just borrowing the money. Remember, this is an entitlement. By that, it means once the government says what the rate will be, the doctors will go out and do the work, they will demand payment whether the government has any money or not, whether we are running deficits or not. If the government does not pay them the rate agreed upon, they can file a complaint and the government will have to come up with the money.

What we really needed to offset this was a real finding of wasteful spending, or spending in other areas to divert that money to pay for this increase in pay for doctors on a permanent basis. It appears that Speaker BOEHNER and Democratic Leader PELOSI in the House got together and agreed on a bill. They passed it in the House with a big vote. Even most Democrats voted for the bill.

It was sent to the Senate as we were voting, at that very time, that very day, on the budget resolution for the Senate. We were proud of our budget. It was not a perfect budget. I supported it. But it balanced. If we follow the plans put forth in the budget resolution that passed the Senate—if we follow those—we would be on a path to a balanced budget. We would be spending about \$4,000-plus billion 10 years from today. We would be increasing spending all right, but not as much as has been projected, but we also see a \$3 billion surplus in the final year of the budget window. So instead of having a deficit in the 10th year, we were going to have a \$3 billion surplus. That is something to celebrate after decades of deficits, trillion dollar deficits, \$1,000 billion deficits. I think we have averaged \$1,000 billion deficits for the last 6 years. Unbelievable.

We are committed to the American people to do something about it. The Budget Control Act and other efforts have reduced our spending from what it might otherwise have been. The House decided to send H.R. 2 to the Senate. They passed it with a big vote. This bill, over 250 pages in length, was sent to the Senate the same evening as our budget vote-arama. We had over 750 amendments under consideration that evening. We finished the budget process at 3 a.m. What many wanted us to do was just pass this bill at 3 a.m. with hardly any knowledge of what was in it and without a real understanding of how much it was going to cost. We were told by a number of people that it was “paid for.” “Don’t worry about it.” “It has been taken care of.”

So there was concern about that. Senator MCCONNELL did not bring it up at 3:30 in the morning right before we did our recess. It was unseemly to have done that for a whole host of reasons. But we are coming right up to the

deadline. The deadline was March 31, but I understand that there was a 14-day window whereby Congress could consider a fix before doctors were impacted. We need to get this taken care of. But we need to do it responsibly, in a grownup fashion.

The House Members really did not have the bill to study. They just followed mainly talking points, which if you read their talking points, I may have voted for it, based on what they were telling their Members. The talking points said this: First, it told House members that the bill pays for all new future spending.

To not have a 21-percent cut, but to pay them at a more appropriate rate, this bill is going to cost more money. But, they were told that all the new future spending would be paid for.

Second, it said it allows “Congress to go through regular order and legislate thoughtfully.” So we were going to pass it at 3:30 in the morning without it having gone through a committee and without having a real, firm, long-term cost estimate from CBO as to what it would actually cost?

Third, they also said in their talking points, “It offsets all new spending.” What that means, to Members of Congress, is that it would not add to the debt because somehow the increase in spending would be offset by a reduction in spending somewhere else.

Fourth, they used the phrase we use around here, they claim it “bends the cost curve,” it would bring down costs. But this is not accurate either.

So here are the problems: This bill is not paid for. Our own Congressional Budget Office said it would add \$141 billion to the deficit. Over 10 years, you add those up, \$141 billion. They said the net increase to the debt would be \$174 billion. How does it get to be more than 141? Well, when you spend \$141 billion more than you have, you have to borrow the money. When you borrow the money, you pay interest on the money.

The Congressional Budget Office said it would add an additional \$33 billion in interest payments just over that 10 years. Many promoting this legislation said: Well, there may be a shortfall in the first 10 years, but over 20 years, the reductions in spending we found somewhere are going to bring in enough money to pay for it fully then.

So what did the Congressional Budget Office say? The Congressional Budget Office said this. “It will increase budget deficits” in the “second decade.” So instead of reducing the deficits or paying for the cost of this by changes now that benefit us 15, 20 years from now, it adds more.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget—a fine, responsible nonpartisan group headed by Maya MacGuineas—did a study of this. They said over 20 years it would add \$500 billion to the deficit. Those numbers, to my knowledge, have not been disputed. I think that is a pretty accurate figure. It is not going to reduce the deficit. In

10 years, it is going to add \$174 billion—not going to reduce the deficit over 20 years, it is going to add \$500 billion.

So this violates the Budget Control Act that we passed in 2011 that is in law today. That is something we should not be doing. We need to adhere to that agreement which the President signed and we in both Houses of Congress agreed upon in a bipartisan way to hold spending down. It is not going to balance the budget, the Budget Control Act doesn’t, but it helps a lot. We ought to at least adhere to it.

So this violates the Budget Control Act and is subject to at least eight different violations—points of order, we call it, where you can object because it violates the budget. There are at least eight different ways in which this legislation violates the Budget Control Act and, of course, it violates the House and Senate budgets that we are just now in the process of adopting.

The Senate has passed its budget. They had a \$3 billion surplus in the 10th year. Listen, not paying down any of that debt except that \$3 billion in the 10th year—but just not having annual deficits—it would take us 10 years to finally balance the budget, which we need to do. Experts have told us we need to do so because we are on an unsustainable financial path.

So our budgets go further than that. The House and the Senate budgets do so. If we pass a bill that adds \$174 billion to the deficit, it will be at least \$17 billion in the 10th year. So instead of having a \$3 billion surplus, we will have at least a \$14 billion deficit. And the day we are celebrating the fact that we altered the spending course of our country and produced a balanced budget, that very day we were asked to pass a bill that would wipe out all of that. It is just not responsible, in my view.

I am just not able to tout the fact that we passed a balanced budget. Maybe that is why they would like to pass this bill before the final agreement between the House and the Senate occurs in conference and we have a firm budget. We just now have a House budget and a Senate budget. Maybe they wanted to do that so the first thing we do isn’t to bust the budget to which we just agreed.

I wish I didn’t have to say these things. I wish I didn’t have to say this, but the truth is that this is not responsible. This is not maintaining faith with the American people who sent us to Congress.

I think on both sides of the aisle—certainly on the Republican side—there were real commitments made to our constituents that if we were in Congress, we would do something about these deficits and we were going to bring this government under control and produce a budget—a budget that balances.

In addition, it is claimed and asserted that this legislation represents a permanent fix—that we will not have to continue to come forward each year

to come up with the funding or some legislation to keep the doctors paid at a reasonable rate. But it is not a permanent fix, either. It is not a permanent fix, as has been reported. It is only about 9 years, and there are huge, long-range concerns.

There is another thing it does, and, colleagues, we have to understand this. Being on the Budget Committee, we went through it. It is so important. One of the greatest manipulations and gimmicks we are doing is in the way we are spending the taxpayers' money, why our deficits are so large and our debt has become \$18-plus trillion—on which we paid interest—\$220 billion last year, and it will grow every year, according to CBO.

Why? We double count money. It is unbelievable.

This is what they are going to propose. They are going to cut Medicare Part A in this legislation. That is the benefit that goes to doctors and hospitals. They will cut it about \$55 billion—I believe the figure is—and then they will use this \$55 billion to pay the physicians under Part B and D of Medicare—the non-trust fund money. So they are gutting the Medicare trust fund. That money is money that comes off of your paychecks every week and goes to pay for your Medicare when you retire. That money goes into a trust fund. It has trustees. If you cut the cost of doing business for Medicare, the sponsors of the bill say it will extend the life of Medicare 1 year.

That is probably correct. If you cut what you pay to doctors or hospitals or medical devices or drug companies, you reduce what you pay, you could extend the life of Medicare, its financial solvency. It is becoming insolvent just as Social Security is becoming insolvent. So we need to do some things to help extend its life so our seniors don't have to worry about not having health care in the future.

How is it double counted, JEFF?

Well, they are using the money—the trustees. It is the trustees of Medicare's money that is being saved.

How did it get outside of the Medicare trust fund and get spent for doctors in that part of Medicare? How does it get out of there?

The trustees of Medicare loan the money to the U.S. Treasury. Now we have it, colleagues. The money that is used to pay the doctors that comes from Medicare cost reduction is borrowed money, just the same as if they had borrowed it from a financier in London or Beijing. Interest is paid to the Medicaid trustees.

You cannot count the money twice. You cannot save the money here and say it improves Medicare—legally it does improve Medicare—but it provides no money to spend on new programs outside of Medicare, and the Congressional Budget Office has told us this. Yet they are scoring, I think, \$55 billion they claim is going to pay for this new expenditure by double counting the money.

ObamaCare did that, I believe—by about \$500 billion. They cut Medicare expenses and used the money to fund an entirely new program. But the money didn't go directly to the U.S. Treasury. It went to the trustees of Medicare, who loaned it to the U.S. Treasury and double counted the money.

If you would like to know why we are going broke, this is one of the big reasons this country is on a reckless course. Nobody wants to talk about it or confront it, because if you do, it reduces spending, and people around here like spending too much.

By the way, I note our hospitals would like to see the doctors get paid more and have this problem fixed, but a big chunk of what is claimed of that portion of this new expenditure that is actually paid for appears to be \$31 billion in cuts to providers such as hospitals. So we are cutting hospitals here to pay doctors, and our hospitals are struggling too.

To conclude, this is why the American people don't trust Congress. Some of our Members get their feelings hurt when they go home and some tea party person or somebody else accuses them of wasting money, not managing well, and they are offended by it.

I have to say the tea party got more right than wrong. This is another example of reckless, irresponsible spending.

Before adjourning for our recess 2 weeks ago, in the middle of the night, at 3 a.m., we passed a balanced budget plan, and we were proud of it. We went home the last 2 weeks and told our constituents we were going to work to accomplish that balanced budget goal and try to make sure it becomes a reality.

But what is the first bill we consider since adopting the balanced budget goal? What is the first bill? We are taking up a bill to dig us \$174 billion deeper in debt in the first 10 years. The first major legislative accomplishment of our new Congress is going to be adding almost \$200 billion to the debt over 10 years and then perhaps \$500 billion or half a trillion over 20 years.

It is not necessary. I don't see how we can look our constituents in the eye and say we are producing a balanced budget, when, if this bill passes, we don't have a balanced budget.

Well, was the plan really to balance the budget, people might ask, or just to use as talking points, just a fun campaign claiming we have a balance? Our new Congress was sworn in only 3 months ago, and we are already shattering our promises to our constituents.

I think it is fair to say we are acting irresponsibly. Not only are we continuing to allow the debt to explode, but we aren't really being honest with our constituents about it.

Before they cast their votes, House Members were told this bill "pays for all new future spending" and that it "offsets all new spending." But this is

not accurate. It is not true. It adds to the deficit every single year.

We are going to offer an amendment so that this bill lives up to the promises of the sponsors. A good amendment, a PayGo amendment that I think Senator LEE will probably offer which will put us on a path to ensure that this new expenditure is paid for.

I think we need to have that vote, and I think it needs to pass. That would be responsible. Then we could honestly say we made choices. That is what you should do in this body. There is a limited amount of money and a virtually unlimited number of requests for good projects that we should spend money on.

We are sent to the Senate to make choices, set priorities, do the right thing, and manage money carefully—that is why our constituents from all over the country sent us here, and they had their tax money extracted from them and sent to Washington—to be spent wisely and honestly, I suggest.

One of the most amazing things is that we spend \$3,800 billion a year now. We can't find \$15 billion a year to fix the doctor payments? We can't find \$15 billion in this whole \$3,800 billion a year that we spend that will actually be able to fund the doctors in the way that we should fund them without adding to the debt?

You bet we can. I have a list of them. Others have a list of them. There will be some suggestions as to how this could be done.

We don't need to gimmick up this legislation, but it is legislation that undermines the promises we made that we are going to be fiscally responsible.

We don't vote on talking points. We vote on legislation. Legislation can be studied, and it becomes law. Our Congressional Budget Office, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Maya MacGuineas and the Center for a Responsible Federal Budget can read and add the numbers. They have read them, added them, and they don't add up.

This is legislation. We are not voting on talking points.

Without change, it is a massive debt increase that puts a balanced budget even further out of reach.

It means a lot to me that we, as a Congress, establish credibility with those whom we serve. One of the parts of doing that is to be honest and to say we do have a tight situation here. We are going to have to make some choices—but not brutal choices.

We can find the money we need without doing anything but eliminating fraud, waste, abuse, duplication, and unwise spending. We don't have to savage children or the military to do so, but it is hard work. Every time you talk about reducing this program or that program, a group shows up and pushes back, but that is why we are here.

As my wife says to me when I complain: Don't blame me; you asked for the job.

That is what we asked for—to be in the Senate and make these tough choices.

I hope, in the hours that are ahead, we will be able to have some amendments—and there are several that would fix this and would allow the doctors to receive the pay they are entitled to—and they are entitled to it—but at the same time would not add to the debt.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would just add that this isn't just my opinion about these cost overruns in the legislation. Here is a Wall Street Journal article from a few days ago: "Two-thirds of \$214 billion cost would be financed through higher deficits. . . ." That is the subheadline on that. The headline is: "Senate Wrangles Over Medicare-Payments Fix."

So I don't think there is any real doubt about that. The article goes on to say:

The deal reached by House leaders would shift some of those costs onto Medicare beneficiaries—

So some of the Medicare benefits, such as Part C, are not part of trust fund money. It is not paid for when you have that withholding from your paycheck, and people with higher incomes probably ought to pay a higher percentage of the cost that they can reasonably afford, if they have a higher income, when they go see a doctor. I think we could use that. But at any rate, this bill would shift some costs to Medicare beneficiaries. The article continues—

while providers such as hospitals also would shoulder some costs.

So they are paying for some of these costs by having reduction in payments to hospitals that are hurting this year. And the article states:

The rest would be financed through higher deficits.

No doubt about it.

Forbes magazine comments here in an article by Stan Collender, saying that "the procedural choices Congress is making all favor increasing the deficit rather than at least requiring it not get any worse."

This is what the article says about the SGR—the physician's payment: "The SGR change without a full offset is projected to add an average of around \$14 billion a year to the deficit."

Here is a headline from The Fiscal Times: "Medicare 'Doc Fix' May Be No Fix at All."

Paul Winfree, an economic policy expert with the Heritage Foundation, said this:

Rather than a permanent replacement to the Sustainable Growth Rate—

Remember, we have been promised this would be a permanent replacement—

it is much more likely that the House doc fix will be a shorter-term patch requiring another series of patchwork legislation just nine years from now.

They also conclude in this article that the permanent fix would "add \$141 billion to the deficit over the first 10 years and could go as high as \$500 billion over two decades, as previously reported here."

I did want to emphasize it is really not \$141 over 10 years, it is \$174, because when you add up \$141 billion in additional debt over 10 years, you pay interest on that. You borrow that money and pay interest, and when you calculate the interest that is paid, the increased interest is \$174 billion added to the total deficit of America.

Colleagues, our interest payment on our debt is staggering. The highway bill is about \$40 billion to \$50 billion a year. Aid to education is nearly \$100 billion a year, for example. The interest we pay annually on the current \$18 trillion debt, in spite of the fact we have some of the lowest interest rates we have ever had, was more than \$220 billion-plus last year.

The Congressional Budget Office, however, says that 10 years from now, with interest rates projected to return to the mean and with the deficit every year out for 10 years, we will be over \$900 billion in interest in the 10th year. That is just in 10 years. We go from \$200 billion to \$900-plus billion.

This is why the Congressional Budget Office Director, chosen by our Democratic colleagues, Dr. Elmendorf, a very capable, wise man, has said we are on an unsustainable path. This is a path of fiscal destruction. It is not responsible.

So day after day, week after week, we in Congress are going to have to start saying, no, we don't have the money. Do you not understand? We can't keep digging the hole deeper. We are supposed to be trying to figure out a way to reduce deficits and balance the budget, not to pass more legislation that is going to cost more money than we have to spend on these things. The only way we will be able to honor that legislation is to borrow more. That is what we are doing.

So I don't think there is any doubt about what I have said. If somebody can come down and prove this bill is paid for I will shake their hand and I will be happy because I want to do the doctors fix, and I want to be sure we do it in a responsible financial way. If not, we will have legislation, amendments will be offered that I think can fix it and that will require Congress to come up with the money in a proper way, do the assistance we need to provide to our doctors and not add to the debt.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is now closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ALFRED H. BENNETT TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Alfred H. Bennett, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, we yield back all remaining time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

All time is yielded back.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Alfred H. Bennett, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas?

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 95, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 136 Ex.]

YEAS—95

Alexander	Cassidy	Flake
Baldwin	Coats	Franken
Barrasso	Cochran	Gardner
Bennet	Collins	Gillibrand
Blumenthal	Coons	Grassley
Blunt	Corker	Hatch
Booker	Cornyn	Heinrich
Boozman	Cotton	Heitkamp
Boxer	Crapo	Heller
Brown	Daines	Hirono
Burr	Donnelly	Hoeven
Cantwell	Durbin	Inhofe
Capito	Enzi	Isakson
Cardin	Ernst	Johnson
Carper	Feinstein	Kaine
Casey	Fischer	King

Kirk	Murray	Sessions
Klobuchar	Nelson	Shaheen
Lankford	Paul	Shelby
Leahy	Perdue	Stabenow
Lee	Peters	Sullivan
Manchin	Portman	Tester
Markey	Reed	Thune
McCain	Reid	Tillis
McCaskill	Risch	Udall
McConnell	Roberts	Vitter
Menendez	Rounds	Warner
Merkley	Sanders	Warren
Mikulski	Sasse	Whitehouse
Moran	Schatz	Wicker
Murkowski	Schumer	Wyden
Murphy	Scott	

NOT VOTING—5

Ayotte	Graham	Toomey
Cruz	Rubio	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

The majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO ETHELENE THOMPSON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Ethelene Thompson.

She was born on June 6, 1925, in Water Valley, MS, as the third child of Minnie and Solomon Morgan. Today, Ethelene is a caregiver known to many in her community for her willingness to provide free childcare and transportation to those in need. She lived through the Great Depression, World War II, the civil rights movement, and the election and tenure of the first African-American President. In 1946, she married Willie Thompson, and they raised six beautiful daughters, until his passing in 2000.

Mrs. Thompson has been instrumental in helping raise her 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren. She is known to give selflessly of her time and wisdom and to countless folks in her neighborhood and at her church.

She helped lead the Girl Scout troops for her daughters and granddaughters, ensured that her grandson and his friends made it to every sports practice and game, and has served faithfully as a member of the Bloomfield Full Gospel Baptist Church for more than 50 years, where she has been a member of the choir, Sunday school, and kitchen ministry.

I take this opportunity to celebrate Mrs. Ethelene Thompson's life and leg-

acy. May she continue to grow in her steadfast faith and love for her family.

LYNCH NOMINATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, while the Senate was in recess, Loretta Lynch, the nominee to be our next Attorney General, announced that her office brought charges against two residents of Queens, NY, for conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction and plotting a terrorist attack on American soil. U.S. Attorney Lynch continues to work tirelessly to protect our Nation, but the Senate Republican leadership continues to play politics with our law enforcement and has prevented the Senate from fulfilling one of our most essential constitutional duties—the duty to provide advice and consent on Presidential nominations. The same baseless political obstructionism that has stalled Ms. Lynch's nomination has also led to the Senate's failure to confirm a single Federal judge so far this year.

As one of the country's top Federal prosecutors, Loretta Lynch has an unparalleled record of keeping Americans safe from dangerous criminals and terrorists. This includes the successful prosecution of six individuals for their roles in a 2009 Al Qaeda plot to attack the New York subway system, the convictions of four terrorists who plotted an attack on John F. Kennedy Airport, and the conviction of a terrorist who sought to detonate an explosive device at the New York Federal Reserve. Despite her distinguished record of service, the Republican leadership is trying to use Ms. Lynch's nomination for political gain. This is not how the Senate should be treating a nomination of such importance to law enforcement and our national security.

It has now been more than 5 months since President Obama announced the nomination of Ms. Lynch to be Attorney General. Her nomination was reported out of the Judiciary Committee with bipartisan support in February, yet it has been pending before the full Senate for 46 days. That is nearly twice as long as all of the past seven Attorneys General combined: Richard Thornburgh, 1 day; William Barr, 5 days; Janet Reno, 1 day; John Ashcroft, 2 days; Alberto Gonzales, 8 days; Michael Mukasey, 2 days; and Eric Holder, 5 days. This historic delay is an embarrassment for the Senate.

In January, Ms. Lynch testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee for nearly 8 hours and she responded to nearly 900 written questions. Not a single witness invited by Republicans opposed her nomination. When Republicans stalled consideration of Ms. Lynch's nomination in committee, Democrats noted the unnecessary delay and raised concerns about filling this vital position. The assistant Republican leader dismissed this as "faux outrage." But in November 2007, that same Senator complained that a 7-week process on the Mukasey nomina-

tion threatened our national security. He issued a press release stating:

It is imperative that the president has his national security team at full strength and the unnecessary delay of Judge Mukasey's nomination has prevented that. He deserves an immediate up-or-down vote by the full Senate.

Similarly, in early October 2007—just 3 weeks after Mr. Mukasey's nomination was announced, the Republican leader criticized me for not yet having set a hearing date, saying that Democrats should "not hold Judge Mukasey hostage while they play partisan games." This is the same Republican leader who is now holding Ms. Lynch's nomination hostage and who has kept her nomination languishing on the floor for nearly twice as long as the past seven Attorneys General combined.

No one can deny that Ms. Lynch is eminently qualified for the job. The Republican leader should schedule a vote on Ms. Lynch's nomination today. She has the votes to be confirmed, and a vote on this highly qualified nominee is long overdue. The Majority must stop playing political games with our law enforcement.

We should also be voting on all 10 judicial nominees who have been pending in the Senate since last year, two of whom just passed the 1-year mark since they were first nominated. Tonight, we will consider just one of those nominees. Once confirmed, Alfred Bennett will fill a "judicial emergency" vacancy in the Southern District of Texas that has been empty for more than 2 years. There is no good explanation why it has taken us nearly 7 months to vote on his nomination, nor is there a good reason for why we are not voting on the other two pending nominees to district court vacancies in Texas. There are still two Fifth Circuit vacancies and seven other Federal district court vacancies in Texas for which there are no nominees. Texas has two times the number of Federal court vacancies of any other State, and these vacancies account for one-third of the judicial emergency vacancies on our Nation's courts. I urge the Texas Senators to work with the President so that we can receive nominees for those vacancies as soon as possible.

Despite promises to govern responsibly, the Republican majority has continued to obstruct when it comes to judicial vacancies. When Senate Democrats were in the majority, we confirmed 15 of President Bush's district and circuit court nominees by April 2007. We confirmed 68 judges during the last 2 years of the Bush administration, building on a record I established at the very beginning of the Bush Presidency when 100 judges were confirmed in the 17 months that I served as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. The fact that it has taken more than 3 months into the 114th Congress for the Republican majority to schedule a vote on a single judicial nominee is disconcerting, especially because all four

of the district court nominees who have been languishing on the Senate floor were recommended to President Obama by their two Republican home State Senators.

Judge Alfred Bennett, whom we are voting to confirm today, is currently the presiding judge on the 61st Civil District Court in Houston, TX. From 2010 to 2011, he served as the administrative judge of the Harris County Civil District Courts. Judge Bennett has presided over 8,400 cases, 640 jury trials, and 550 bench trials. Prior to becoming a judge, he was in private practice for a decade and litigated a range of civil matters. Judge Bennett has the support of both his Republican home State senators, Senator CORNYN and Senator CRUZ. He was voted out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously by voice vote on February 26. He has strong qualifications and should be confirmed.

I urge the Republican majority to schedule votes to confirm the remaining judicial nominees pending on the Executive Calendar. None of the nominees are controversial. We should do our jobs and vote on their nominations so that they can start doing their jobs working for the American people.

TRIBUTE TO KIM KRUEGER

MR. TESTER. Mr. President, I wish to honor Kim Short Krueger, a dedicated public servant for the U.S. Congress and the people of the State of Montana for over 39 years.

On behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I stand to say "thank you" to Kim for her service to our State and Nation.

It is my honor to share the story of Kim's public service and commitment to her country.

Kim grew up in the small railroad town of Three Forks, MT. Kim was only 21 when she packed her bags and moved to Washington, DC. She began her congressional career as a receptionist for Montana Congressman Dick Shoup, back when Montana still had two congressional districts.

Always proud of her small town roots, Kim went to work for Nevada's only Congressman, Jim Santini, in the mid 1970s. Kim wore many hats, serving as both the personal secretary and the scheduler, and eventually became office manager.

Ever dedicated to putting Montana constituents first, Kim once gave a young Montana law student her personal ticket for Nelson Rockefeller's swearing-in as Vice-President of the United States. As fate would have it, Kim later married this same young law student and he became a district court judge in Butte, MT.

In 1983 it was time for Kim to head home to Montana. Kim went to work for Senator Max Baucus as field director of the Butte District office for southwestern Montana.

Along the way, Kim built up an impressive record of accomplishments while always meeting the day-to-day

demands of serving constituents. Kim consistently demonstrated her skill and grace in handling the needs of Butte and southwest Montana's constituents. She worked on all sorts of issues—from the Butte superfund, housing, banking, taxation, natural resources, immigration and military academy appointments.

In 2010, Kim was appointed State casework director.

Kim had a strong hand in boosting Montana's economic ties. Kim ran three Montana economic development summits hosted by Senator Baucus in Butte. The summits brought in folks from all around the world, like investors, ambassadors, and top business leaders. Almost 3,400 folks attended the final summit in 2013. Thanks to Kim's tireless work on the summits, new businesses have moved to Montana.

Kim also worked on superfund issues, the Beaver Dam Park, the Old Work Golf Course, and the Maiden Rock Bridge on the Big Hole River.

Senator Baucus depended on Kim to run his Butte office smoothly and to represent him at local events. She often worked nights and weekends, going above and beyond her duties to meet the needs of the people of southwest Montana.

In February 2014, Senator Baucus was confirmed as the U.S. Ambassador to China and Governor Steve Bullock appointed John Walsh to serve out the rest of his Senate term. Senator John Walsh asked Kim to continue as field director of his Butte office and as the State casework director.

While I could go on and on about Kim's incredible congressional achievements, I know she is most proud of her amazing family. Kim and her husband Kurt have two terrific children, Krista and Derrick. A true Montana native, she is very proud that her children were born and raised in the historic city of Butte, MT.

Kim recently retired from my Butte District field office where she was working on special projects.

During her years of service, Kim always went beyond the call of duty to ensure the Montana congressional offices met the needs and requests of the constituents of our fine State. Her professionalism and dedication to her jobs and Montana constituents are outstanding examples of how government should work. Kim's positive attitude, indispensable knowledge and talent for serving constituents were invaluable to the citizens of southwest Montana.

Everyone who knows Kim is touched by her energy, kindness, dedication and positive attitude.

I am honored to know Kim and grateful that she was able to serve on my Senate staff. I know her family and friends join me in thanking her for her commitment to others. I wish her best of luck in all of her endeavors and many years of success to come.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING CANTOR IVAN E. PERLMAN

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to remember and honor the late Ivan E. Perlman, who served as the president of the Cantors Assembly of America from 1983 to 1985. Cantor Perlman was devoted to his faith, his family, his community, and his country. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and received the Bronze Star for his heroism at Iwo Jima. He stood next to Lt. Roland B. Gittelsohn, the Marine Corps' first Jewish chaplain, at the dedication of the 5th Marine Division Cemetery on Iwo Jima in March 1945. He chanted a version of "El Malei Rachamim," which is only sung for fallen U.S. soldiers. The division chaplain had asked Chaplain Gittelsohn to deliver the sermon at a joint service for all those who were killed in the epic battle, but some Catholic and Protestant chaplains objected, so three separate services were held. But three of the Protestant chaplains boycotted their own service to join Chaplain Gittelsohn. They sent copies of his sermon, "The Purest Democracy", extolling the cause of democracy and freedom and equality to the entire regiment. It was widely circulated, appearing in newspapers and magazines nationwide, and was read on the radio and into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

After the war ended, Cantor Perlman, who was born in Flushing, NY, married Muriel Herman in 1947 and completed his cantorial studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1950. Cantor Perlman served congregations in Lyndhurst and Fairlawn, NJ; Tulsa, OK; Des Moines, IA; Providence, RI; Stockholm, Sweden; and Sarasota, Boca Raton, and Tamarac, FL. Along the way, he and his wife had four sons: Eli, Emanuel "Manny", Richard "Rick", and Josh. He trained all four of his sons in the cantorial arts, and they have carried on the family tradition is an exemplary way.

Cantor Perlman was cantor emeritus at Temple Emanu-El in Providence, RI, where he served for 23 years. After he retired from Temple Emanu-El, at the age of 76, Cantor Perlman became the cantor at Temple Beth Kodesh in Boynton Beach, FL. Two years later, he was elected the congregation's Ritual Leader. Cantor Perlman conducted his last service there in 2005 and then he and his wife returned to Rhode Island, where he was a founder of the Friends of the Rhode Island School for the Deaf. Cantor Perlman was a life member of the Marine Corps League, the Jewish War Veterans, JWV, and the Knights of Pythias. He served as the JWV post commander in New York City, and the department chaplain in Iowa, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Florida. He was the JWV's first national cantor.

I mentioned that all four of Ivan Perlman's sons also became cantors.

Manny Perlman is the cantor at Chizuk Amuno in Baltimore. He and his brother Eli—the religious leader of Congregation Beit Shalom in Monroe, NJ—participated in the October 24, 2011 dedication of the memorial at Arlington National Cemetery to the 14 Jewish military chaplains killed in action in World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war. The memorial stands near separate monuments honoring fallen Protestant and Catholic chaplains that have been on Chaplains Hill since 1981 and 1989, respectively. Manny and Eli, like their father before them at Iwo Jima 66 years earlier, sang the “El Malei Rachamim” memorial prayer. Cantor Eli Perlman rose to the rank of captain in the Army’s Special Forces during the Vietnam War era. He served in 1967 with CPT Morton Harold Singer, who was killed in a plane crash in 1968 on his way to lead Hanukkah festivities for American servicemen and women. Captain Singer’s name is one of the 14 listed on the memorial.

I would ask my Senate colleagues to join me in commemorating the wonderful life and legacy of Cantor Ivan Perlman and expressing our deepest condolences to his beloved wife Muriel; his son Rabbi Eli Perlman and his wife Lynne of East Brunswick, NJ; his son Cantor Emanuel Perlman and his wife Janice of Baltimore, MD; his son Rabbi Richard Perlman and his wife Kit of Coventry, RI; his son Cantor Josh Perlman and his wife Sherri of Germantown, MD; his sister Annette Ziegelstein of Baltimore, MD; his 13 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren; and all the other family and friends of this extraordinary man.●

TRIBUTE TO RABBI SCOTT E. COLBERT

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to pay tribute to Rabbi Scott E. Colbert today.

Rabbi Colbert will be celebrating his 29th year with Temple Emanu-El of Greater Atlanta soon, and his congregation is honoring him with a special celebration. While I am unable to attend the event, I have known Rabbi Scott for some time, and I have had the good fortune of speaking alongside him at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., celebration at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta in the past.

Rabbi Colbert has served Temple Emanu-El in many capacities since 1987. He holds degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles, as well as New York University, Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion, and the Rabbinical Academy of America. In 1992, he was awarded the prestigious title of Reform Jewish Educator by the Reform Movement. In 2001, he graduated again from the Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion earning a doctor of ministry degree in pastoral counseling. Earlier that year, the college institute honored him with an honorary doctorate for his outstanding service to the Jewish people.

In addition to serving as senior rabbi at Temple Emanu-El, Rabbi Colbert is adjunct professor of Jewish religious thought at the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. He is a published author and writes for various professional journals.

I applaud Rabbi Scott and congratulate Temple Emanu-El on their good fortune in having had him as one of their spiritual leaders for 29 wonderful years.●

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND HENRY HOLLEY

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish to honor a great Christian crusader, a great Georgian, a great American and a great friend, the Reverend Henry Holley, upon his retirement.

Reverend Holley spent 45 years with the Billy Graham Evangelical Association, spreading the Gospel across the world, including in China, Japan, Brazil, and even North Korea, as international crusade director.

For many years, Reverend Holley traveled an average of 150,000 miles and 200 days overseas each year. At 87 years of age, he has logged 13 million air miles in his travel over his career with the Billy Graham Evangelical Association as a result of working in Korea more than 275 times and China more than 100 times.

Henry Holley’s career on behalf of the Lord has more than a few “highlights.” Reverend Holley organized the historic 1973 crusade in Seoul, Korea, where never before had so many come to one place to hear a preacher proclaim the Gospel. On the final day, there were 1.1 million people in attendance. During the 5-day Seoul Crusade more than 3.2 million people came to hear Dr. Billy Graham face-to-face.

In 1974, Holley was crusade director for another precedent shattering crusade: the Greater Rio de Janeiro Billy Graham Crusade in Brazil held at the world famous Maracanã Stadium. More people attended this meeting than any other crusade ever held in North or South America, with 250,000 attending on closing day.

In 1992, Holley was responsible for the diplomatic and administrative preparation work for a historic visit by Dr. Billy Graham to North Korea. Reverend Holley directed the small team that accompanied Dr. Graham to the capital city of Pyongyang. The significant mission to Pyongyang was highlighted by Dr. Graham preaching the Gospel in the two churches in North Korea. In addition, he lectured at Kim Il-Sung University—the first American to do so. Dr. Graham and Reverend Holley also had a personal meeting with President Kim Il-Sung where he brought private messages from President George Bush and Pope John Paul II.

Organization and administration were drilled into Holley during his first career lasting 30 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, including 23 years Active

Duty and 7 years Reserve Duty. Reverend Holley has served our Nation and our Lord in extraordinary ways throughout his entire life.

He has recently retired from Billy Graham Evangelical Association, though he continues to remain active in a consulting capacity and has worked with Franklin Graham for many years. And Reverend Holley promises not to really stop working “until he’s old.”

For nearly 45 years, Henry Holley and his wife of more than 65 years, Bettie, have made their home right near mine in Marietta, GA. Bettie has stood by his side through his career and shared in his successes and joys, including their three grown children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I try to talk to, and visit with Henry Holley, as often as I can. I know that God put him in my life for a reason and I am honored to call Reverend Holley my friend.●

RECOGNIZING CHARLESTON JOB CORPS

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I honor the Charleston Job Corps Center and the 50th national anniversary of this outstanding program.

Since June of 1965, the Charleston Job Corps Center has been a leader in advancing vocational education and providing training that our State’s youth can utilize for the rest of their lives. A successful young workforce means great things for the future of our State’s economy and for strengthening our local communities. What began as an all-female center at the old Kanawha Hotel on Summers Street grew to become a coeducational facility in 1976 as interest in the program increased.

Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program that helps youth ages 16 to 24 enhance the skills they need to be independent and successful individuals. The Charleston center is overseen by the Philadelphia Regional Office of the Job Corps and is operated by Horizons Youth Services.

In addition to a strong emphasis on academics, the Charleston Job Corps Center also provides impressive recreational programs. These programs are critical to encouraging our youth to be creative and work as part of a team—both of which are prized assets to any employer seeking to hire hard-working, talented, resourceful employees.

I cannot adequately express how valuable Job Corps is not only in West Virginia, but across our entire Nation. It is often underestimated how much of an impact an educator can have on a student—not only in the classroom or in a training session, but years down the road. Countless lives have been positively affected thanks to the educators, administrators, and supporters

of Job Corps, and I sincerely hope this program continues to flourish for generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER ERIC BADER

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee will soon bid farewell to our congressional fellow, Coast Guard CDR Eric Bader, who has served the Committee on Appropriations for the past 2 years. Commander Bader will be returning to Massachusetts where he will be the executive officer of Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod. While I know Commander Bader is looking forward to running the day-to-day operations of the air station and flying helicopters again, his departure is a great loss for the Committee on Appropriations as he is an invaluable asset to our team.

Commander Bader has been detailed to the committee from the Coast Guard since June 2013 and is a key member of our professional staff. Mr. President, Commander Bader performed admirably in his role on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee. He did everything we asked of him, with pinpoint accuracy, and always beat the deadlines given to him. I would also add that he served the committee during interesting times, perhaps more interesting than he imagined when he accepted the job. He was here during sequestration, for the Federal Government shutdown in the fall of 2013, the dramatic increase of unaccompanied children crossing our southern border, our response to the Ebola crisis, numerous Presidentially declared disasters, and fence-jumping and drone incidents at the White House. Eric also helped the subcommittee manage the arrival of the fiscal year 2016 budget request for the Department of Homeland Security at the same time Congress was considering, and ultimately enacting, the fiscal year 2015 appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security that had been delayed.

The Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee has greatly benefited from the experience Commander Bader gained as a Coast Guard officer, in particular his insights into the operations of a complex military organization that is combined with a large domestic agency. He has superb analytical skills that have been critical in our review of a \$39 billion budget request and in developing complex spreadsheets that synthesize funding issues into easily understood documents we have used in hearings, closed briefings, in full committee, and on the floor. On the subcommittee, he handled the portfolios for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, as well as assisted with the Customs and Border Protection and Secret Service portfolios. In this oversight role, Commander Bader was able to obtain time-

ly information when undocumented families who had recently crossed the border during last summer's surge were temporarily provided shelter at the training facility in Artesia, NM. He also helped track the daily influx of undocumented children and families to assist the subcommittee in making the most up-to-date funding recommendations to address this unforeseen surge. While arguably not a traditional appropriations area, he also put together a subcommittee hearing on trade enforcement issues that showed how lax trade enforcement and current duty collection policies were unfairly hurting some American industries. The hearing highlighted the harm to domestic steel, crawfish, seafood, and honey producers of these illegally dumped goods and commodities on American jobs and the economy at large. Commander Bader made critical recommendations that were adopted to improve key components within the Department of Homeland Security, including the funding of nuclear detection equipment designed to keep our ports safe.

Commander Bader is also an exceptional writer. We relied on his editorial skills to put the appropriate touches into opening statements, press releases, and analytical documents shared with all the subcommittee members. His ability to take dry statistics and create informational, easily understandable graphics and charts will be greatly missed. His unqualified professionalism, perception, superb analytic focus, and technical skills, combined with a keen sense of humor, a cool head, and a modesty rarely seen on Capitol Hill, have played an integral part in moving the homeland security appropriations process forward. His high standards of professionalism and thoroughness are beyond reproach and his contributions are highly valued.

Through all of this, Eric maintained the decorum and professionalism that we have all come to expect from our military officer corps, and he has represented the Coast Guard with the highest integrity and competence. Commander Bader has served me, this subcommittee, and the Senate well. We are sorry to see him leave and will miss him as our colleague but are glad to count him as a friend. Each of us on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee wish Eric all the best as he moves forward in the next phase of his career, where he will be running the day-to-day operations of the Coast Guard Air Station in Cape Cod. We look forward to seeing him back in uniform because we anticipate great things from him in the coming years.

I am grateful for his contributions.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF THE VETO OF S.J. RES. 8, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD RELATING TO REPRESENTATION CASE PROCEDURES, RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON MARCH 31, 2015—PM 12

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

S.J. Res. 8 would overturn the National Labor Relations Board's recently issued "representation case procedures" rule and block modest but overdue reforms to simplify and streamline private sector union elections. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval of this resolution. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

Workers need a strong voice in the workplace and the economy to protect and grow our Nation's middle class. Unions have played a vital role in giving workers that voice, allowing workers to organize together for higher wages, better working conditions, and the benefits and protections that most workers take for granted today. Workers deserve a level playing field that lets them freely choose to make their voices heard, and this requires fair and streamlined procedures for determining whether to have unions as their bargaining representative. Because this resolution seeks to undermine a streamlined democratic process that allows American workers to freely choose to make their voices heard, I cannot support it.

To leave no doubt that the resolution is being vetoed, in addition to withholding my signature, I am returning S.J. Res. 8 to the Secretary of the Senate, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 31, 2015.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION
SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate on January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 1, 2015,

during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

H.R. 1092. An act to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building.

H.R. 1527. An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of New York Police Department Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 10. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate on January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed on April 1, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. COTTON).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following concurrent resolution was read, and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on March 27, 2015, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 8. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to representation case procedures.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1017. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015, and requirements for a

“Within-Session Sequestration Report to the President and Congress”; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans’ Affairs.

EC-1018. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Significant New Use Rule for Pentane, 1,1,1,2,3,3-hexafluoro-4-(1,1,2,3,3,3-hexafluoropropoxy)” (FRL No. 9922-30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1019. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1020. A communication from the Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rural Business Development Grant Program” (RIN0570-AA92) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1021. A communication from the Acting Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds” ((RIN0750-A152) (DFARS Case 2015-D006)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1022. A communication from the Acting Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Deletion of Text Implementing 10 U.S.C. 2323” ((RIN0750-AH45) (DFARS Case 2011-D038)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1023. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the training of the U.S. Special Operations Forces with friendly foreign forces during fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1024. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Report (NGRER) for fiscal year 2016; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1025. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting legislative proposals relative to the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1026. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of the Treasury, received in the Office

of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1027. A communication from the Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Report to the Congress: Medicare Payment Policy”; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1028. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-141); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1029. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-110); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1030. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to Excepted Benefits” ((RIN0938-AS52) (CMS-9946-F2)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 18, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1031. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fiduciary Requirements for Disclosure in Participant-Directed Individual Account Plans—Timing of Annual Disclosure” (RIN1210-AB68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1032. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan; Sea Turtle Conservation; Modification to Fishing Activities” (RIN0648-BB37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1033. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2015 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish Longline Component” (RIN0648-XD735) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1034. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer” (RIN0648-XD778) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1035. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Increase” (RIN0648-XD790) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1036. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area” (RIN0648-XD803) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1037. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Big Skate in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska” (RIN0648-XD761) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1038. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Region; Amendment 20B; Correction” (RIN0648-BD86) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1039. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office Biennial Report to Congress; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1040. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, St. Petersburg Beach, FL” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0436)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1041. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; ARCTIC CHALLENGER, Port of Bellingham; Bellingham, WA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0158)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1042. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Pittsburgh, PA; Ice Accumulations; Allegheny River Mile 1.0-72.0” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0126)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1043. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Tuscaloosa Regional Air Show; Black Warrior River; Tuscaloosa, AL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0076)) received in the Office of the President

of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1044. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; St. Patrick’s Day Fireworks, Manitowoc River, Manitowoc, Wisconsin” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0130)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1045. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; State Route 520 Bridge Construction, Lake Washington; Seattle, WA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0098)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1046. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone for Ice Conditions; Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, Upper Chesapeake Bay, and Tributaries; MD” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0292)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1047. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Moon Island - Long Island Bridge Demolition; Boston Inner Harbor, Quincy Bay; Quincy, MA” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-1059)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1048. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety and Security Zones, Jacksonville Captain of the Port Zone” ((RIN1625-AA00 and RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0152)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1049. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Cooper River Bridge Run, Cooper River, and Town Creek Reaches, Charleston, SC” ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USCG-2015-0040)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1050. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Chevron Oil Company Canal, Fourchon, LA” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2014-1039)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1051. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Great Lakes Pilotage Rates—2015 Annual Review and Adjustment” ((RIN1625-AC22) (Docket No. USCG-2014-0481)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on

March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1052. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Passaic River, Rutherford, NJ” ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USCG-2014-1070)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1053. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Upper Mississippi River Between Mile 38.0 and 46.0, Thebes, IL; and Between Mile 78.0 and 81.0, Grand Tower, IL” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2013-0907)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1054. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zones; Annual Events Requiring Safety Zones in the Captain of the Port Lake Michigan Zone” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2014-1001)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1055. A communication from the Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Communications, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Amtrak’s Executive Level 1 salary for 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1056. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Mississippi Abandoned Mine Land Plan” ((SATS No. MS-024-FOR) (Docket No. OSM-2014-0005)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1057. A communication from the Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, General Services Administration, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2015; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1058. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission’s Annual Performance Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1059. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board’s Buy American Act Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1060. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the Board’s compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during calendar year 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1061. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the report on activities of the National Guard

Counterdrug Schools; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1062. A communication from the Co-Chief Privacy Officers, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Privacy Report for fiscal year 2014; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-1063. A communication from the Chief of the Regulation Policy, Tracking, and Control Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule for Rating Disabilities—Mental Disorders and Definition of Psychosis for Certain VA Purposes" (RIN2900-AO96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 18, 2015; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1064. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Advisory Committee; Antiviral Drugs Advisory Committee; Termination" (Docket No. FDA-2012-N-0218) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of March 27, 2015, the following reports of committees were submitted on March 31, 2015:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Armed Services:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services, 113th Congress, First and Second Sessions" (Rept. No. 114-7).

By Mr. BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Special Report entitled "Report of the Select Select Committee on Intelligence Covering the Period January 3, 2013, to January 5, 2015." (Rept. No. 114-8).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Finance:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Committee on Finance during the 113th Congress" (Rept. No. 114-9).

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Committee on the Judiciary during the 113th Congress" (Rept. No. 114-10).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BLUNT, from the Committee on Rules and Administration:

Special Report entitled "Review of Legislative Activity During the 113th Congress" (Rept. No. 114-11).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 142. A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-12).

S. 304. A bill to improve motor vehicle safety by encouraging the sharing of certain information (Rept. No. 114-13).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 896. A bill to establish centers of excellence for innovative stormwater control infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 897. A bill to support evidence-based social and emotional learning programing; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. BAR-RASSO, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 898. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 899. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in order to focus on career readiness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 900. A bill to require auto dealers to fix outstanding safety recalls before selling or leasing a used passenger motor vehicle; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 901. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces that are related to that exposure, to establish an advisory board on such health conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 902. A bill to prohibit trespassing on critical infrastructure used in or affecting interstate commerce to commit a criminal offense; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. Res. 133. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 134. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Government of Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 125

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr.

DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 125, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 139

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 139, a bill to permanently allow an exclusion under the Supplemental Security Income program and the Medicaid program for compensation provided to individuals who participate in clinical trials for rare diseases or conditions.

S. 157

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 157, a bill to repeal the medical device tax and the employer and individual responsibility requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 171

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 171, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for coverage under the beneficiary travel program of the Department of Veterans Affairs of certain disabled veterans for travel in connection with certain special disabilities rehabilitation, and for other purposes.

S. 298

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option of providing services to children with medically complex conditions under the Medicaid program and Children's Health Insurance Program through a care coordination program focused on improving health outcomes for children with medically complex conditions and lowering costs, and for other purposes.

S. 299

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 299, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 318

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 318, a bill to prioritize funding for the National Institutes of Health to discover treatments and cures, to maintain global leadership in medical innovation, and to restore the purchasing power the NIH had after the historic doubling campaign that ended in fiscal year 2003.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 439, a bill to end discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in public schools, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) were added as cosponsors of S. 498, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 564

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 564, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to include licensed hearing aid specialists as eligible for appointment in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 568, a bill to extend the trade adjustment assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 571

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of S. 571, a bill to amend the Pilot's Bill of Rights to facilitate appeals and to apply to other certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, to require the revision of the third class medical certification regulations issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 604

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 604, a bill to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing, maintaining, improving, and operating Veteran Student Centers.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize technical assistance to small public water systems, and for other purposes.

S. 624

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 637

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. 637, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 665

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 665, a bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, is missing in connection with the officer's official duties, or an imminent and credible threat that an individual intends to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer is received, and for other purposes.

S. 677

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign non-governmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage.

S. 713

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 713, a bill to prevent international violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 743

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 743, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 774

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 774, a bill to amend the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978 to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 776

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 776, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access

to medication therapy management under part D of the Medicare program.

S. 786

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 786, a bill to provide paid and family medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 793

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 793, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the refinancing of certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 812, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 824

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 824, a bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 843, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 862

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 862, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 875

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 875, a bill to

amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen equal pay requirements.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 133—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. FRANKEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 133

Whereas the week of April 6, 2015, through April 12, 2015, is National Public Health Week;

Whereas the theme for National Public Health Week in 2015 is "Healthiest Nation 2030", with the goal of making the United States the healthiest nation in one generation;

Whereas public health organizations use National Public Health Week to educate the public, policymakers, and public health professionals on issues that are important to improving the health of the people of the United States;

Whereas the value of a strong public health system is in the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the places where we all live, learn, work, and play;

Whereas there is a 16 percent difference in the health status of people living in the healthiest States compared to people living in the least healthy States;

Whereas public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, withstand, and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and disasters caused by human activity;

Whereas public health professionals collaborate with partners that are not in the health sector, such as city planners, transportation officials, education officials, and private sector businesses, recognizing that other sectors have an important influence on health;

Whereas according to the Institute of Medicine, despite being one of the wealthiest nations in the world, the United States ranks below many other economically prosperous and developing countries with respect to many indicators for healthy life, including life expectancy, infant mortality rates, low birth weight rates, and the rate of drug-related deaths;

Whereas studies show that small strategic investments in prevention can result in significant savings in health care costs;

Whereas each 10 percent increase in local public health spending contributes to a 6.9 percent decrease in infant deaths, a 3.2 percent decrease in deaths related to cardiovascular disease, a 1.4 percent decrease in deaths due to diabetes, and a 1.1 percent decrease in cancer-related deaths;

Whereas in communities across the country, more people are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, becoming more physically active, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace;

Whereas despite having a high infant mortality rate compared to other economically prosperous and developing countries, the United States is making progress, with the infant mortality rate declining 12 percent between 2005 and 2011;

Whereas in 2013, the percentage of adults smoking in the United States decreased from 21.2 percent to 19.6 percent and the percentage of physically inactive adults in the United States decreased from 26.2 percent to 22.9 percent; and

Whereas efforts to adequately support public health and prevention can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness to a health system focused on preventing disease and promoting wellness; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week;

(2) recognizes the efforts of public health professionals, the Federal Government, States, tribes, municipalities, local communities, and individuals in preventing disease and injury;

(3) recognizes the role of public health in improving the health of individuals in the United States;

(4) encourages increased efforts and resources to improve the health of people in the United States to create the healthiest nation in one generation through—

(A) greater opportunities to improve community health and prevent disease and injury; and

(B) strengthening the public health system in the United States; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to learn about the role of the public health system in improving health in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 134—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA DOES NOT PERMANENTLY STORE NUCLEAR WASTE IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 134

Whereas the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin are precious public natural resources, shared by the Great Lakes States and the Canadian Provinces;

Whereas the United States and Canada have, since 1909, worked to maintain and improve the water quality of the Great Lakes through water quality agreements;

Whereas over 40,000,000 people in both Canada and the United States depend on the fresh water from the Great Lakes for drinking water;

Whereas Ontario Power Generation is proposing to build a permanent geological repository for nuclear waste less than one mile from Lake Huron in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada;

Whereas nuclear waste is highly toxic and can take tens of thousands of years to decompose to safe levels;

Whereas, during the 1980s, when the Department of Energy, in accordance with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, was studying potential sites for a permanent nuclear waste repository in the United States, the Government of Canada expressed concern with locating a permanent nuclear waste repository within shared water basins of the two countries; and

Whereas a spill of nuclear waste into the Great Lakes could have lasting and severely adverse environmental, health, and eco-

nomic impacts on the Great Lakes and the people that depend on them for their livelihood: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of Canada should not allow a permanent nuclear waste repository to be built within the Great Lakes Basin;

(2) the President and the Secretary of State should take appropriate action to work with the Government of Canada to prevent a permanent nuclear waste repository from being built within the Great Lakes Basin; and

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should work together with their Government of Canada counterparts on a safe and responsible solution for the long-term storage of nuclear waste.

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2015 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Monday, April 27, 2015. An electronic option is now available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable pdf document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports can be submitted electronically or delivered to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-7116.

The Senate Office of Public Records will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2016

On Thursday, March 26, 2015, the Senate adopted S. Con. Res. 11, as amended, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 11

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025.

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

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Sec. 101. Recommended levels and amounts.
Sec. 102. Social Security.
Sec. 103. Postal Service discretionary administrative expenses.
Sec. 104. Major functional categories.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 201. Reconciliation in the Senate.
Sec. 202. Limit on Senate consideration of reconciliation.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 301. Spending-neutral reserve fund to increase the pace of economic growth and private sector job creation in the United States.

- Sec. 302. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen America's priorities.
- Sec. 303. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect flexible and affordable healthcare choices for all.
- Sec. 304. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for improving access to the Children's Health Insurance Program.
- Sec. 305. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for other health reforms.
- Sec. 306. Spending-neutral reserve fund for child welfare.
- Sec. 307. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for veterans and servicemembers.
- Sec. 308. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for tax reform and administration.
- Sec. 309. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in the infrastructure in America.
- Sec. 310. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for air transportation.
- Sec. 311. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote jobs in the United States through international trade.
- Sec. 312. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase employment opportunities for disabled workers.
- Sec. 313. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for Higher Education Act reform.
- Sec. 314. Spending-neutral reserve fund for energy legislation.
- Sec. 315. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to reform environmental statutes.
- Sec. 316. Spending-neutral reserve fund for water resources legislation.
- Sec. 317. Spending-neutral reserve fund on mineral security and mineral rights.
- Sec. 318. Spending-neutral reserve fund to reform the abandoned mine lands program.
- Sec. 319. Spending-neutral reserve fund to improve forest health.
- Sec. 320. Spending-neutral reserve fund to reauthorize funding for payments in lieu of taxes to counties and other units of local government.
- Sec. 321. Spending-neutral reserve fund for financial regulatory system reform.
- Sec. 322. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal program administration.
- Sec. 323. Spending-neutral reserve fund to implement agreements with freely associated states.
- Sec. 324. Spending-neutral reserve fund to protect payments to rural hospitals and create sustainable access for rural communities.
- Sec. 325. Spending-neutral reserve fund to encourage State medicaid demonstration programs to promote independent living and integrated work for the disabled.
- Sec. 326. Spending-neutral reserve fund to allow pharmacists to be paid for the provision of services under Medicare.
- Sec. 327. Spending-neutral reserve fund to improve our Nation's community health centers.
- Sec. 328. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to the funding of independent agencies, which may include subjecting the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to the regular appropriations process.
- Sec. 329. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for export promotion.
- Sec. 330. Spending-neutral reserve fund to reform, improve, and enhance 529 college savings plans.
- Sec. 331. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to securing overseas diplomatic facilities of the United States.
- Sec. 332. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to achieve savings by helping struggling Americans on the road to personal and financial independence.
- Sec. 333. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to conserving Federal land, enhancing access to Federal land for recreational opportunities, and making investments in counties and schools.
- Sec. 334. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect taxpayers from identity fraud.
- Sec. 335. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to career and technical education.
- Sec. 336. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to FEMA preparedness.
- Sec. 337. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to expanding, enhancing, or otherwise improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- Sec. 338. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote the next generation of NIH researchers in the United States.
- Sec. 339. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to promoting manufacturing in the United States.
- Sec. 340. Spending-neutral reserve fund to prohibit aliens without legal status in the United States from qualifying for a refundable tax credit.
- Sec. 341. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for report elimination or modification.
- Sec. 342. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address heroin and prescription opioid abuse.
- Sec. 343. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen our Department of Defense civilian workforce.
- Sec. 344. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for Department of Defense reform.
- Sec. 345. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve Federal workforce development, job training, and reemployment programs.
- Sec. 346. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide energy assistance and invest in energy efficiency and conservation.
- Sec. 347. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to enable greater collaboration between the Department of Veterans Affairs and law school clinics serving veterans.
- Sec. 348. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase funding for Department of Energy nuclear waste clean-up.
- Sec. 349. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to Department of Defense initiatives to bolster resilience of mission-critical department infrastructure to impacts from climate change and associated events.
- Sec. 350. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to end Operation Choke Point and protect the Second Amendment.
- Sec. 351. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent the use of Federal funds for the bailout of improvident State and local governments.
- Sec. 352. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect Medicaid beneficiaries from benefit cuts.
- Sec. 353. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve health outcomes and lower the costs of caring for medically complex children in Medicaid.
- Sec. 354. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect and strengthen the Department of Veterans Affairs, hire more health care professionals for the Department, and ensure quality and timely access to health care for all veterans.
- Sec. 355. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to maintain and enhance access, choice, and accountability in veterans care through the Veterans Choice Card program.
- Sec. 356. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to promoting equal pay.
- Sec. 357. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to legislation submitted to Congress by the President of the United States to protect and strengthen Social Security.
- Sec. 358. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to a simplified income-driven student loan repayment option.
- Sec. 359. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the protection of clean water using scientific standards while maintaining the traditional role of agriculture.
- Sec. 360. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to keeping the Federal Water Pollution Control Act focused on the protection of water quality.
- Sec. 361. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to saving Medicare.
- Sec. 362. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting Israel.
- Sec. 363. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to allow Americans to earn paid sick time.
- Sec. 364. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing health care to veterans who have geographic inaccessibility to care.
- Sec. 365. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing access to higher education for low-income Americans through the Federal Pell Grant program.
- Sec. 366. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to consumer price transparency.
- Sec. 367. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to transparency in health premium billing.
- Sec. 368. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to carbon emissions.
- Sec. 369. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to requiring the Federal Government to allow states to opt out of Common Core without penalty.
- Sec. 370. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to small business tax relief.
- Sec. 371. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to the disposal of certain Federal land.
- Sec. 372. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to prohibiting funding of international organizations during the implementation of the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty prior to Senate ratification and adoption of implementing legislation.
- Sec. 373. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reimposing waived sanctions and imposing new sanctions against Iran for violations of the Joint Plan of Action or a comprehensive nuclear agreement.
- Sec. 374. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting United States citizens held hostage in the United States embassy in Tehran, Iran, between November 3, 1979, and January 20, 1981.

- Sec. 375. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reasonable accommodations for pregnant workers.
- Sec. 376. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to permanently eliminate the Federal estate tax.
- Sec. 377. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to addressing climate change.
- Sec. 378. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Sec. 379. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting privately held water rights and permits.
- Sec. 380. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to prohibiting awarding of construction contracts based on awardees entering or not entering into agreements with labor organizations.
- Sec. 381. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to strengthening the United States Postal Service.
- Sec. 382. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to prevent American jobs from being moved overseas by reducing the corporate income tax rate.
- Sec. 383. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensuring equal treatment of married couples under the Social Security program and by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 384. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase wages for American workers.
- Sec. 385. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to deterring the migration of unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.
- Sec. 386. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to middle class tax relief.
- Sec. 387. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to ensuring proper economic consideration in designation of critical habitat.
- Sec. 388. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to strengthen the national do-not-call registry.
- Sec. 389. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to end "too big to fail" bailouts for Wall Street mega-banks (over \$500 billion in total assets).
- Sec. 390. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ending Washington's illegal exemption from the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
- Sec. 391. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.
- Sec. 392. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to revise or repeal sequestration.
- Sec. 393. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to promoting the return of children who have been legally adopted by United States citizens from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Sec. 394. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to development of a new nuclear-capable cruise missile by the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration.
- Sec. 395. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide equity in the tax treatment of public safety officer death benefits.
- Sec. 396. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to eliminating the backlog of sexual assault evidence kits.
- Sec. 397. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to mixed oxide fuel fabrication.
- Sec. 398. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reforming Offices of Inspectors General and preventing extended vacancies.
- Sec. 399. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving retirement security.
- Sec. 399a. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve the competitiveness of the United States.
- Sec. 399b. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensuring that the conservation of northern long-eared bat populations and local economic development are compatible.
- Sec. 399c. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve cybersecurity.
- Sec. 399d. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to allow the Drug Enforcement Administration and Federal Bureau of Investigation to enter into joint task forces with tribal and local law enforcement agencies.
- Sec. 399e. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to encouraging cost savings in office space used by Federal agencies.
- Sec. 399f. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing technical assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs through small business development centers.
- Sec. 399g. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensuring that medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs meet the needs of women veterans.
- Sec. 399h. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting efficient resourcing for the Asia rebalance policy.
- Sec. 399i. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to preventing access to marijuana edibles by children in States that have decriminalized marijuana.
- Sec. 399j. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing mortgage lending to rural areas.
- Sec. 399k. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the construction of Arctic polar icebreakers.
- Sec. 399l. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to researching health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces.
- Sec. 399m. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to raising the Family of Funds limit of the Small Business Investment Company Program.
- Sec. 399n. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to detection, investigation, and prosecution of the owners and operators of websites who knowingly allow such websites to be used to advertise commercial sex with children over the Internet.
- Sec. 399o. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support State drought prevention plans.
- Sec. 399p. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting the reliability of the electricity grid.
- Sec. 399q. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to preserve and protect the open Internet.
- Sec. 399r. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to reforming the Federal regulatory process.
- Sec. 399s. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing coverage of virtual colonoscopies as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program.
- Sec. 399t. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to strengthening waterborne commerce in our ports and harbors.
- Sec. 399u. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the modernization of the nuclear command, control, and communications architecture of the United States.
- Sec. 399v. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to BARDA and the Bio-Shield Special Reserve Fund.
- Sec. 399w. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving the nuclear forces and missions of the Air Force.
- Sec. 399x. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to promoting economic growth and job creation for small businesses.
- Sec. 399y. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the definition of full-time employee.
- Sec. 399z. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Federal regulatory process.
- Sec. 399aa. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite awards under the Internal Revenue Service whistleblower program.
- Sec. 399bb. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to encouraging the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities.
- Sec. 399cc. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving information sharing by the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to investigations relating to substandard health care, delayed and denied health care, patient deaths, other findings that directly relate to patient care, and other management issues of the Department.
- Sec. 399dd. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks and credit unions.
- Sec. 399ee. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- Sec. 399ff. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to ensuring that Department of Justice attorneys comply with disclosure obligations in criminal prosecutions.
- Sec. 399gg. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote biomedical research.
- Sec. 399hh. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the heroin and methamphetamine abuse epidemic in the United States.
- Sec. 399ii. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing access to necessary equipment for Medicare beneficiaries.
- Sec. 399jj. Spending-neutral reserve fund relating to prioritizing the construction of infrastructure projects that are of national and regional significance and projects in high priority corridors.
- Sec. 399kk. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to encouraging the United States' NATO allies to reverse declines in defense spending and bear a more proportionate burden for ensuring the security of NATO.

- Sec. 399ll. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the investigation and recovery of missing weapons and military equipment provided to the Government of Yemen by the United States Government.
- Sec. 399mm. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving higher education data and transparency.
- Sec. 399nn. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting programs funded by the Older Americans Act of 1965.
- Sec. 399oo. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to Native children.
- Sec. 399pp. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to protecting the personal information of consumers from data breaches.
- Sec. 399qq. Deficit-reduction reserve fund for Government reform and efficiency.
- Sec. 399rr. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to medical treatment and compensation for first responders, survivors, and their families injured and made ill by the 9/11 attacks.
- Sec. 399ss. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to construction of Native American schools.
- Sec. 399tt. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing the guarantee threshold for the Surety Bond Guarantee Program.
- Sec. 399uu. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to Indo-Pacific partner capacity building and strategy.
- Sec. 399vv. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to addressing methamphetamine abuse in the United States.
- Sec. 399ww. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the National Guard State Partnership Program.
- Sec. 399xx. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving the prevention and treatment of agricultural virus outbreaks.
- Sec. 399yy. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the importance of financial literacy education to allow individuals to make informed and effective decisions with their financial resources.
- Sec. 399zz. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to comprehensive mental health reform.
- Sec. 399aaa. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving oral health care for children and pregnant women under Medicaid.
- Sec. 399bbb. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the National Park Service Centennial.
- Sec. 399ccc. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing college completion.
- Sec. 399ddd. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to encouraging freight planning and investment that incorporates all modes of transportation, including rail, waterways, ports, and highways.
- Sec. 399eee. Deficit-neutral reserve fund related to providing for full funding for at-sea and dockside monitoring for certain fisheries.
- Sec. 399fff. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to training and resources for first responders responding to hazardous materials incidents on railroads.
- Sec. 399ggg. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to enhancing and improving the United States Patent and Trademark Office in order to reduce the application backlog.
- Sec. 399hhh. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to provide additional funding for international strategic communications.
- Sec. 399iii. Deficit-neutral reserve fund for elementary and secondary education.
- Sec. 399jjj. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to investing in rural and tribal water infrastructure.
- Sec. 399kkk. Deficit-neutral reserve fund related to sexual assault at institutions of higher education.
- Sec. 399lll. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to simplifying and expanding tax incentives for higher education.
- Sec. 399mmm. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to authorizing children eligible for health care under laws administered by Secretary of Veterans Affairs to retain such eligibility until age 26.
- Sec. 399nnn. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting workforce development through apprenticeship programs.
- Sec. 399ooo. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to the prioritization of broad-based criminal justice reform.
- Sec. 399ppp. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to strengthening the economy by accelerating the transfer of technologies from laboratories of the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to the marketplace.
- Sec. 399qqq. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting trade and travel at ports of entry.
- Sec. 399rrr. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to imposing sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or significant acts of corruption.
- Sec. 399sss. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to reforming student loan programs.
- Sec. 399ttt. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to increasing funding for the TIGER discretionary grant program of the Department of Transportation.
- Sec. 399uuu. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to promoting the use of college savings accounts.
- Sec. 399vvv. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to establishing a new outcome-based process for authorizing innovative higher education providers.
- Sec. 399www. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to improving community relations with law enforcement officers.
- Sec. 399xxx. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to support research.
- Sec. 399yyy. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to support for Ukraine, which should include the provision of lethal defensive articles.
- Sec. 399zzz. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing funding to combat anti-Semitism in Europe.
- Sec. 399aaaa. Deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide students and families with transparent, easily understood postsecondary education financial aid information.
- Sec. 399bbbb. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to providing adequate funding for the Contract Tower Program of the Federal Aviation Administration.
- Sec. 399cccc. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to underground and surface mining safety and health research.
- Sec. 399dddd. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to investing in advanced fossil energy technology research and development.
- Sec. 399eeee. Deficit-neutral reserve funds relating to foreign persons.
- Sec. 399ffff. Deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to special treatment of the income tax credit for research expenditures for startup companies.

TITLE IV—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

- Sec. 401. Extension of enforcement of budgetary points of order in the Senate.
- Sec. 402. Senate point of order against legislation increasing long-term deficits.
- Sec. 403. Point of order against advance appropriations.
- Sec. 404. Supermajority enforcement of unfunded mandates.
- Sec. 405. Repeal of Senate point of order against certain reconciliation legislation.
- Sec. 406. Point of order against changes in mandatory programs.
- Sec. 407. Prohibition on agreeing to legislation without a score.
- Sec. 408. Protecting the savings in reported reconciliation bills.
- Sec. 409. Point of order against exceeding funds designated for overseas contingency operations.
- Sec. 410. Senate point of order against provisions of appropriations legislation that constitute changes in mandatory programs affecting the Crime Victims Fund.
- Sec. 411. Accuracy in budget enforcement.
- Sec. 412. Fair value estimates.
- Sec. 413. Honest accounting estimates.
- Sec. 414. Currency modernization.
- Sec. 415. Certain energy contracts.
- Sec. 416. Long-term scoring.
- Sec. 417. Requiring clearer reporting of projected Federal spending and deficits.
- Sec. 418. Reporting on tax expenditures.
- Sec. 419. Congressional Budget Office estimates.
- Sec. 420. To require transparent reporting on the ongoing costs and savings to taxpayers of Obamacare.
- Sec. 421. Prohibiting the use of guarantee fees as an offset.
- Sec. 422. Adjustments for sequestration replacement.
- Sec. 423. To convey clear information to Congress and the public about projected Federal outlays, revenues, and deficits.
- Sec. 424. Adjustment for wildfire suppression funding.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

- Sec. 431. Oversight of Government performance.
- Sec. 432. Budgetary treatment of certain discretionary administrative expenses.
- Sec. 433. Application and effect of changes in allocations and aggregates.
- Sec. 434. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.
- Sec. 435. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

TITLE I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

SEC. 101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS.

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2025:

(1) **FEDERAL REVENUES.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$2,666,755,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$2,763,328,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$2,858,131,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$2,974,147,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$3,099,410,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$3,241,963,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$3,388,688,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$3,550,388,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$3,722,144,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$3,905,648,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$0.
Fiscal year 2017: \$0.
Fiscal year 2018: \$0.
Fiscal year 2019: \$0.
Fiscal year 2020: \$0.
Fiscal year 2021: \$0.
Fiscal year 2022: \$0.
Fiscal year 2023: \$0.
Fiscal year 2024: \$0.
Fiscal year 2025: \$0.

(2) **NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$3,003,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$2,894,221,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$2,958,672,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$3,107,799,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$3,228,534,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$3,337,729,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$3,455,558,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$3,525,594,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$3,624,025,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$3,646,263,000,000.

(3) **BUDGET OUTLAYS.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget outlays are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$3,037,267,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$2,928,317,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$2,945,067,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$3,080,929,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$3,185,512,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$3,308,296,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$3,449,532,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$3,497,247,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$3,576,890,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$3,614,976,000,000.

(4) **DEFICITS.**—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$370,512,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$164,989,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$86,936,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$106,782,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$86,102,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$66,333,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$60,844,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$53,141,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$145,254,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$290,672,000,000.

(5) **PUBLIC DEBT.**—Pursuant to section 301(a)(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the appropriate levels of the public debt are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$19,009,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$19,396,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$19,718,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$20,055,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$20,375,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$20,676,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$21,008,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$21,195,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024: \$21,254,000,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025: \$21,207,000,000,000.

(6) **DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.**—The appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$13,799,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$14,042,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$14,222,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$14,445,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$14,674,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$14,912,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$15,230,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$15,419,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$15,500,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$15,538,000,000,000.

(7) **FEDERAL TAX EXPENDITURES.**—The levels of Federal tax expenditures are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$1,481,800,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$1,593,500,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$1,670,800,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$1,738,019,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$1,810,158,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$1,890,648,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$1,973,922,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$2,064,520,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$2,160,235,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$2,261,769,000,000.

SEC. 102. SOCIAL SECURITY.

(a) **SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.**—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$792,776,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$824,342,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$857,154,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$890,609,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$925,760,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$962,188,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$1,000,637,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$1,040,394,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$1,081,476,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$1,123,748,000,000.

(b) **SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.**—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016: \$778,032,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017: \$825,829,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018: \$882,521,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019: \$941,034,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020: \$1,005,632,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021: \$1,073,227,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: \$1,145,188,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: \$1,222,754,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: \$1,305,622,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: \$1,394,327,000,000.

(c) **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.**—In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,026,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,089,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,175,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,190,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,345,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,316,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,487,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,699,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,668,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$5,881,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$5,849,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

(A) New budget authority, \$6,072,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$6,039,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, \$6,266,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$6,232,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

(A) New budget authority, \$6,462,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$6,428,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$6,665,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$6,630,000,000.

SEC. 103. POSTAL SERVICE DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, the amounts of new budget authority and budget outlays of the Postal Service for discretionary administrative expenses are as follows:

Fiscal year 2016:

(A) New budget authority, \$267,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$266,000,000.

Fiscal year 2017:

(A) New budget authority, \$277,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$277,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

(A) New budget authority, \$288,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$288,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

(A) New budget authority, \$299,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$298,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

(A) New budget authority, \$310,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$310,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

(A) New budget authority, \$321,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$320,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

(A) New budget authority, \$334,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$333,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, \$346,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$345,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

(A) New budget authority, \$358,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$357,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$371,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$370,000,000.

SEC. 104. MAJOR FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.

Congress determines and declares that the appropriate levels of new budget authority and outlays for fiscal years 2016 through 2025 for each major functional category are:

(1) **National Defense (050):**

Fiscal year 2016:

(A) New budget authority, \$620,263,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$605,189,000,000.

Fiscal year 2017:

(A) New budget authority, \$544,506,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$576,934,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

(A) New budget authority, \$557,744,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$558,049,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

(A) New budget authority, \$571,019,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$564,685,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

(A) New budget authority, \$585,310,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$573,614,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

(A) New budget authority, \$599,627,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$586,038,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

(A) New budget authority, \$600,634,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$596,103,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, \$615,997,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$603,051,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

(A) New budget authority, \$631,771,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$611,920,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, \$648,836,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$632,992,000,000.

(2) **International Affairs (150):**

Fiscal year 2016:

(A) New budget authority, \$47,791,000,000.

<p>(B) Outlays, \$48,227,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$41,839,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$45,656,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$42,802,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$43,642,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$43,749,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$42,565,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$44,754,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$42,437,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$45,276,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$42,795,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$46,553,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$43,424,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$47,593,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$44,153,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$48,681,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$45,023,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$49,786,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$45,943,000,000. (3) General Science, Space, and Technology (250): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$30,007,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$30,007,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$30,596,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$30,529,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$31,286,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$31,165,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$31,981,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$31,712,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$32,706,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$32,400,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$33,433,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$33,022,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$34,192,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$33,756,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$34,953,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$34,512,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$35,745,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$35,290,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$36,545,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$36,084,000,000. (4) Energy (270): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, -\$1,947,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$2,365,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$2,483,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$2,112,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$76,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$731,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$90,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$753,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$128,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$668,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$97,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$543,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$62,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$465,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$36,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$393,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$2,869,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$2,521,000,000.</p>	<p>Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$2,963,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$2,655,000,000. (5) Natural Resources and Environment (300): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$36,277,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$38,983,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$36,685,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$38,866,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$37,680,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$38,719,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$39,125,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$39,486,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$41,066,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$41,098,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$40,951,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$41,232,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$41,844,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$41,992,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$43,240,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$43,467,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$44,125,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$43,663,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$45,522,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$44,966,000,000. (6) Agriculture (350): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$20,628,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$20,585,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$24,247,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$23,696,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$23,204,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$22,471,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$22,083,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,401,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$20,974,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$20,498,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$21,078,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$20,613,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$20,914,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$20,476,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$21,506,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,051,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$21,620,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,125,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$21,834,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,416,000,000. (7) Commerce and Housing Credit (370): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$2,260,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$11,365,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, -\$3,959,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$18,302,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, -\$1,264,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$16,095,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, -\$1,316,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$21,170,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$55,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$20,567,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, -\$75,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$15,388,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$1,341,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$15,789,000,000.</p>	<p>Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$2,452,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$15,942,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$3,648,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$16,051,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$4,520,000,000. (B) Outlays, -\$16,011,000,000. (8) Transportation (400): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$71,528,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$88,436,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$72,392,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$83,756,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$73,286,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$80,329,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$74,077,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$79,437,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$74,826,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$78,935,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$75,549,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$78,708,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$76,221,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$78,973,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$76,840,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$79,228,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$77,506,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$79,123,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$78,208,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$79,426,000,000. (9) Community and Regional Development (450): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$17,414,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$22,351,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$18,263,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,002,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$18,606,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,457,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$18,862,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$22,314,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$18,870,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$22,547,000,000. Fiscal year 2021: (A) New budget authority, \$18,771,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$22,474,000,000. Fiscal year 2022: (A) New budget authority, \$18,782,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$21,323,000,000. Fiscal year 2023: (A) New budget authority, \$18,861,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$19,747,000,000. Fiscal year 2024: (A) New budget authority, \$18,975,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$19,313,000,000. Fiscal year 2025: (A) New budget authority, \$19,140,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$19,384,000,000. (10) Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services (500): Fiscal year 2016: (A) New budget authority, \$86,251,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$95,717,000,000. Fiscal year 2017: (A) New budget authority, \$87,848,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$92,889,000,000. Fiscal year 2018: (A) New budget authority, \$90,703,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$90,534,000,000. Fiscal year 2019: (A) New budget authority, \$89,535,000,000. (B) Outlays, \$88,889,000,000. Fiscal year 2020: (A) New budget authority, \$91,991,000,000.</p>
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(B) Outlays, \$91,556,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$93,353,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$93,315,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$94,970,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$94,734,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$96,575,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$96,383,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$98,439,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$98,178,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$100,362,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$100,129,000,000.
(11) Health (550):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$414,351,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$424,736,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$385,565,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$389,710,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$388,629,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$390,503,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$402,511,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$403,324,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$425,526,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$415,791,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$433,351,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$433,395,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$452,426,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$452,523,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$471,644,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$471,719,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$489,491,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$489,587,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$512,965,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$513,163,000,000.
(12) Medicare (570):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$567,213,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$567,122,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$562,941,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$562,881,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$562,143,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$562,102,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$619,228,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$619,148,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$657,658,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$657,564,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$698,284,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$698,188,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$776,034,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$775,930,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$787,879,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$787,681,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$797,075,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$796,964,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$902,467,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$902,349,000,000.
(13) Income Security (600):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$529,494,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$528,778,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$458,455,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$455,293,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$466,015,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$458,848,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$460,943,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$457,388,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$471,826,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$467,468,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$481,804,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$477,132,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$493,877,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$493,223,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$502,550,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$498,468,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$512,932,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$504,310,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$521,641,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$517,044,000,000.
(14) Social Security (650):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$33,878,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$33,919,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$36,535,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$36,535,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$39,407,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$39,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$42,634,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$42,634,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$46,104,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$46,104,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$49,712,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$49,712,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$53,547,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$53,547,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$57,455,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$57,455,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$61,546,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$61,546,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$65,751,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$65,751,000,000.
(15) Veterans Benefits and Services (700):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$166,708,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$170,152,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$164,905,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$164,449,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$163,101,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$162,477,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$174,989,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$174,175,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$179,899,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$178,942,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$184,172,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$183,222,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$196,530,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$195,502,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$193,156,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$192,124,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$189,999,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$188,884,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$203,895,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$202,761,000,000.
(16) Administration of Justice (750):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$52,543,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$56,757,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$57,030,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$58,576,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$56,787,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$57,929,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$58,512,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$57,973,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$60,284,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$59,888,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$62,239,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$61,690,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$64,815,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$64,224,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$66,745,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$66,238,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$68,717,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$68,091,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$70,550,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$69,922,000,000.
(17) General Government (800):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$23,755,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$23,708,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$24,046,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$23,958,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$24,755,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$24,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$25,485,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$25,089,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$26,202,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$25,782,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$26,958,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$26,551,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$27,766,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$27,375,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$28,493,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$28,114,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$29,022,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$28,671,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$29,809,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$29,399,000,000.
(18) Net Interest (900):
Fiscal year 2016:
(A) New budget authority, \$366,579,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$366,579,000,000.
Fiscal year 2017:
(A) New budget authority, \$415,132,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$415,132,000,000.
Fiscal year 2018:
(A) New budget authority, \$478,693,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$478,693,000,000.
Fiscal year 2019:
(A) New budget authority, \$532,670,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$532,670,000,000.
Fiscal year 2020:
(A) New budget authority, \$580,522,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$580,522,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, \$614,725,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$614,725,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, \$645,841,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$645,841,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, \$671,301,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$671,301,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, \$690,987,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$690,987,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, \$703,419,000,000.
(B) Outlays, \$703,419,000,000.

(19) Allowances (920):

Fiscal year 2016:

(A) New budget authority, −\$12,322,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$5,571,000,000.

Fiscal year 2017:

(A) New budget authority, \$12,975,000,000.

(B) Outlays, \$2,923,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

(A) New budget authority, −\$10,750,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$14,755,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

(A) New budget authority, −\$15,199,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$16,838,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

(A) New budget authority, −\$46,590,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$44,799,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

(A) New budget authority, −\$54,803,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$51,787,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

(A) New budget authority, −\$98,454,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$80,798,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, −\$112,036,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$101,438,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

(A) New budget authority, −\$90,119,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$83,225,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, −\$250,580,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$234,419,000,000.

(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):

Fiscal year 2016:

(A) New budget authority, −\$69,397,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$69,408,000,000.

Fiscal year 2017:

(A) New budget authority, −\$78,263,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$78,278,000,000.

Fiscal year 2018:

(A) New budget authority, −\$84,231,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$84,250,000,000.

Fiscal year 2019:

(A) New budget authority, −\$83,179,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$83,200,000,000.

Fiscal year 2020:

(A) New budget authority, −\$83,577,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$83,600,000,000.

Fiscal year 2021:

(A) New budget authority, −\$86,773,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$86,798,000,000.

Fiscal year 2022:

(A) New budget authority, −\$92,337,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$92,362,000,000.

Fiscal year 2023:

(A) New budget authority, −\$99,646,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$99,672,000,000.

Fiscal year 2024:

(A) New budget authority, −\$109,004,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$109,030,000,000.

Fiscal year 2025:

(A) New budget authority, −\$121,370,000,000.

(B) Outlays, −\$121,397,000,000.

TITLE II—RECONCILIATION

SEC. 201. RECONCILIATION IN THE SENATE.

(a) COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.—The Committee on Finance of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction to reduce the deficit by \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

(b) COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS.—The Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate shall report changes in laws within its jurisdiction to reduce the deficit by \$1,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

(c) SUBMISSIONS.—In the Senate, not later than July 31, 2015, the Senate Committees named in subsections (a) and (b) shall submit their recommendations to the Committee on the Budget of the Senate. Upon receiving all such recommendations, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate shall report to the Senate a reconciliation bill carrying out all such recommendations without any substantive revision.

SEC. 202. LIMIT ON SENATE CONSIDERATION OF RECONCILIATION.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider a bill or joint resolution reported pursuant to section 201, or an amendment to, conference report on, or amendment between the Houses in relation to such a bill or joint resolution, which would increase the public debt limit under section 3101 of title 31, United States Code, during the period of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

(b) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(c) APPEALS.—An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on the point of order raised under this section.

TITLE III—RESERVE FUNDS

SEC. 301. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE THE PACE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PRIVATE SECTOR JOB CREATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) growing the economy;

(2) creating more private sector jobs and enhancing worker rights such as Davis-Bacon reform and card check;

(3) lowering the after-tax costs of investment, savings, and work;

(4) reducing the costs to business and individuals from the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(5) reducing the costs borne by economic activity in the United States stemming from Federal regulations, including the costs incurred by individuals in complying with Federal law when starting a business;

(6) reducing the costs of frivolous lawsuits;

(7) creating a more competitive financial sector to support economic growth and job creation while enhancing the credit worthiness of lending institutions; or

(8) improving the ability of policy makers to estimate the economic effects of policy change through the enhanced use of economic models and data in scoring legislation; without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 302. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO STRENGTHEN AMERICA'S PRIORITIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to enhanced funding for national security or domestic discretionary programs by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 303. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT FLEXIBLE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE CHOICES FOR ALL.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-

tions of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) the full repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 119) and the health care-related provisions of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152; 124 Stat. 1029); or

(2) the replacing or reforming the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148; 124 Stat. 119) or the health care-related provisions of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152; 124 Stat. 1029); by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 304. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving access to affordable health care for low-income children, including the Children's Health Insurance Program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 305. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR OTHER HEALTH REFORMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) the requirement to individually purchase, or jointly provide, health insurance;

(2) increasing payments under, or permanently reforming or replacing, Medicare payments for providers;

(3) extending expiring health care provisions;

(4) the health care needs of first responders to domestic acts of terror;

(5) improvements in medical research, innovation and safety; or

(6) strengthening program integrity initiatives to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in Federal health care programs; by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 306. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR CHILD WELFARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) child nutrition programs;

(2) replacing ineffective policies and programs with evidence-based alternative that improve the welfare of vulnerable children; or

(3) policies that protect children from sexual predators in our schools or communities; without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 307. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR VETERANS AND SERVICEMEMBERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the improvement of the delivery of benefits and services to veterans and servicemembers, including:

(1) eligibility for both military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation (concurrent receipt);

(2) the reduction or elimination of the offset between Survivor Benefit Plan annuities and Veterans' Dependency and Indemnity Compensation;

(3) the improvement of disability benefits or the process of evaluating and adjudicating benefit claims for members of the Armed Forces or veterans, including the growing backlog of appeals of decisions regarding claims for disability compensation;

(4) the infrastructure needs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including constructing or leasing space, to include leases of major medical facilities, and maintenance of Department facilities;

(5) supporting the transition of servicemembers to the civilian workforce, including by expanding or improving education, job training, and workforce development benefits, or other programs for servicemembers or veterans, which may include streamlining the process associated with Federal and State credentialing requirements;

(6) vocational programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, which may include legislation that improves vocational rehabilitation and counseling for veterans with service-connected disabilities and members of the Armed Forces with severe injuries or illness;

(7) improving research at the Department of Veterans Affairs, which may include legislation that expands research on post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or toxic exposures;

(8) improving the delivery of health care and benefits to veterans or members of the Armed Forces, which may include legislation that improves delivery of health care and benefits to victims of military sexual trauma;

(9) improving the delivery of care and benefits to veterans, which may include legislation that enhances oversight and investigations by the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General;

(10) maintaining and enhancing access, choice, and accountability in veterans care through the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146);

(11) improving access to and reducing wait times for Department of Veterans Affairs health care, including through hiring medical providers, and improving the quality of such care;

(12) providing or improving specialty services, including mental health care, homeless services, gender specific health care, fertility treatment, and support for caregivers; or

(13) improving outreach, access, and services for rural veterans;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 308. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR TAX REFORM AND ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) reforming the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(2) amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring tax relief provisions;

(3) innovation and high quality manufacturing jobs, including the repeal of the 2.3 percent excise tax on medical device manufacturers; or

(4) operations and administration of the Department of the Treasury, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 309. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INVEST IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE IN AMERICA.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal investment in the infrastructure of the United States, including programs that expedite the deployment of broadband to rural areas, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation shall not include transfers from other trust funds but may include transfers from the general fund of the Treasury that are offset, provided further that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 310. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal spending on civil air traffic control services, which may include air traffic management at airport towers across the United States or at facilities of the Federal Aviation Administration, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 311. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES THROUGH INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) suspending or reducing tariffs on miscellaneous imports;

(2) reauthorization of trade related Federal agencies;

(3) implementing international trade agreements;

(4) reauthorizing or extending trade adjustment assistance programs;

(5) reauthorizing preference programs; or

(6) enhancing the protection of United States intellectual property rights at the border and abroad;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 312. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED WORKERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the administration of disability benefits and the improved employment of disabled workers by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 313. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACT REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports that amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 314. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ENERGY LEGISLATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) reform of the management of civilian and defense nuclear waste;

(2) reform and reauthorization of programs at the Department of Energy related to research and development of alternative or renewable forms of energy, fossil fuel exploration and use, nuclear energy, or the electricity grid;

(3) expansion of North American energy production; or

(4) reform of the permitting and siting processes for energy infrastructure; without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 315. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REFORM ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reform of environmental statutes to promote job growth by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 316. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR WATER RESOURCES LEGISLATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving flood control, expanding opportunities for commercial navigation, and improving the environmental restoration of the nation's waterways without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 317. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND ON MINERAL SECURITY AND MINERAL RIGHTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) reducing reliance on mineral imports; or

(2) the authority to deduct certain amounts from mineral revenues payable to States; without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 318. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REFORM THE ABANDONED MINE LANDS PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.) without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 319. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) increasing timber production from Federal lands and providing bridge funding to counties and other units of local government until timber production levels increase;

(2) decreasing forest hazardous fuel loads;

(3) improving stewardship contracting; or
(4) reform of the process of budgeting for wildfire suppression operations;

without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 320. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REAUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES TO COUNTIES AND OTHER UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT), which may include funding the payments in lieu of taxes program at levels roughly equivalent to lost tax revenues due to the presence of Federal land without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 321. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR FINANCIAL REGULATORY SYSTEM REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to regulatory relief for small financial firms, improvements in the effectiveness of the financial regulatory framework, enhancements in oversight and accountability of the Federal Reserve System, and expansions in access to capital markets without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 322. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE FEDERAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving the processing of earnings reports for the Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance programs by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 323. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the implementation of agreements between the United States and nations with whom it maintains a Compact of

Free Association without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 324. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT PAYMENTS TO RURAL HOSPITALS AND CREATE SUSTAINABLE ACCESS FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to protecting payments to rural hospitals and creating sustainable access for rural communities, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 325. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENCOURAGE STATE MEDICAID DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE INDEPENDENT LIVING AND INTEGRATED WORK FOR THE DISABLED.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to encouraging State Medicaid demonstration programs to promote independent living and integrated work for the disabled, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 326. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ALLOW PHARMACISTS TO BE PAID FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to payments to pharmacists for the provision of services under Medicare, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 327. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE OUR NATION'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting and improving community health centers, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 328. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE FUNDING OF INDEPENDENT AGENCIES, WHICH MAY INCLUDE SUBJECTING THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU TO THE REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the funding of independent agencies, which may include subjecting the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to the regular appropriations process without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 329. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR EXPORT PROMOTION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting exports, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase total deficits over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 330. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO REFORM, IMPROVE, AND ENHANCE 529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reforms, improvements, and enhancements of 529 college savings plans, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 331. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SECURING OVERSEAS DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the security of the overseas diplomatic facilities of the United States, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 332. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ACHIEVE SAVINGS BY HELPING STRUGGLING AMERICANS ON THE ROAD TO PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between

the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to welfare legislation to help struggling Americans on the road to personal and financial independence, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 333. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO CONSERVING FEDERAL LAND, ENHANCING ACCESS TO FEDERAL LAND FOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND MAKING INVESTMENTS IN COUNTIES AND SCHOOLS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal programs for land and water conservation and acquisition or the preservation, restoration, or protection of public land, oceans, coastal areas, or aquatic ecosystems, making changes to or providing for the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), making changes to or providing for the reauthorization of the payments in lieu of taxes program under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code, or making changes to or providing for the reauthorization of both laws, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 334. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT TAXPAYERS FROM IDENTITY FRAUD.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to changes at the Internal Revenue Service, which may include establishing a process by which taxpayers may (1) receive notification of tax scams and (2) determine whether a return may have been filed using their personal information, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2021 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 335. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to career and technical education, which may include work- or skills-based learning opportunities or which creates rigorous career and technical education curricula in schools, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 336. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO FEMA PREPAREDNESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-

tions of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to enhancing the preparedness of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to respond to disasters, which may include those on land and in the oceans caused or exacerbated by human-induced climate change, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 337. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO EXPANDING, ENHANCING, OR OTHERWISE IMPROVING SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to expanding, enhancing, or otherwise improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 338. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE THE NEXT GENERATION OF NIH RESEARCHERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to policies and programs that improve opportunities for new biomedical researchers by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 339. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROMOTING MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to investment in the manufacturing sector in the United States, which may include educational or research and development initiatives, public-private partnerships, or other programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 340. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROHIBIT ALIENS WITHOUT LEGAL STATUS IN THE UNITED STATES FROM QUALIFYING FOR A REFUNDABLE TAX CREDIT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between

the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to benefits for aliens without legal status in the United States, which may include prohibiting qualification for certain tax benefits without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 341. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR REPORT ELIMINATION OR MODIFICATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating that achieve savings through the elimination, modification, or the reduction in frequency of congressionally mandated reports from Federal agencies, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2021 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 342. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS HEROIN AND PRESCRIPTION OPIOID ABUSE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to addressing heroin and prescription opioid abuse, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 343. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO STRENGTHEN OUR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVILIAN WORKFORCE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening our civilian workforce, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of either the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 344. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving Department of Defense financial management, which may include achieving full auditability or eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 345. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE FEDERAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, JOB TRAINING, AND REEMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reducing inefficient overlap, improving access, and enhancing outcomes with Federal workforce development, job training, and reemployment programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase total deficits over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 346. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROVIDE ENERGY ASSISTANCE AND INVEST IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) energy efficiency, which may include weatherization and energy efficiency retrofit programs for low-income individuals;

(2) the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which may include seasonal assistance, crisis fuel assistance, or other assistance to low-income individuals;

(3) Federal programs for land and water conservation, including the Land and Water Conservation Fund; or

(4) the reduction of duplicative Federal green building programs;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 347. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ENABLE GREATER COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND LAW SCHOOL CLINICS SERVING VETERANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs collaboration with law school clinics serving veterans, which may include legislation that supports law school clinics that provide veterans with pro-bono legal support and assistance assembling benefits claims, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2021 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 to 2025.

SEC. 348. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NUCLEAR WASTE CLEANUP.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to Federal investments in the

Office of Environmental Management, which may include measures to meet the Federal Government's legacy responsibilities for cleanup of liquid radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, transuranic and mixed/low-level waste, or contaminated soil and water, and which may also include measures deactivating and decommissioning excess facilities at 16 nuclear waste sites created by the Manhattan Project and Cold War programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 349. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INITIATIVES TO BOLSTER RESILIENCE OF MISSION-CRITICAL DEPARTMENT INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPACTS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Department of Defense initiatives to bolster resilience of mission-critical Department infrastructure to impacts from climate change and associated events, including sea-level rise, flooding, and increased storm surge, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 350. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO END OPERATION CHOKE POINT AND PROTECT THE SECOND AMENDMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Department of Justice, which may include ending of the Operation Choke Point program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 351. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PREVENT THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE BAILOUT OF IMPROVIDENT STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to a prohibition, except in the case of Federal assistance provided in response to a natural disaster, on any entity of the Federal Government from providing funds to State and local governments to prevent receivership or to facilitate exit from receivership or to prevent default on its obligations by a State government, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 352. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES FROM BENEFIT CUTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Medicaid, which may include protecting children, pregnant women, individuals with disabilities, low-income adults, and Americans that need long-term services and supports, including nursing home care, who are guaranteed benefits under Medicaid, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 353. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND LOWER THE COSTS OF CARING FOR MEDICALLY COMPLEX CHILDREN IN MEDICAID.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving the health outcomes and lowering the costs of caring for medically complex children in Medicaid, which may include creating or expanding integrated delivery models or improving care coordination, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 354. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, HIRE MORE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS FOR THE DEPARTMENT, AND ENSURE QUALITY AND TIMELY ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR ALL VETERANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs, which may include legislation that strengthens quality and timely access to health care by hiring more health care professionals at facilities of the Department and making necessary improvements to infrastructure of the Department, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 355. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN VETERANS CARE THROUGH THE VETERANS CHOICE CARD PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to maintaining and enhancing access, choice, and accountability in veterans care through the Veterans Choice Card program, by the amounts provided in such legis-

lation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 356. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROMOTING EQUAL PAY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting equal pay, which may include preventing discrimination on the basis of sex and preventing retaliation against employees for seeking or discussing wage information, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 357. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO LEGISLATION SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to legislation submitted to Congress by the President of the United States to protect current beneficiaries of the Social Security program and prevent the insolvency of the program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 358. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO A SIMPLIFIED INCOME-DRIVEN STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT OPTION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to addressing student loan debt, which may include reducing overlapping student loan repayment programs and creating a simplified income-driven student loan repayment option by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 359. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF CLEAN WATER USING SCIENTIFIC STANDARDS WHILE MAINTAINING THE TRADITIONAL ROLE OF AGRICULTURE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to protecting watersheds, including the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, the Mississippi River system, the Colorado River system, or other sources of drinking water of the United States, which may include clarifying the scope of the Federal Water Pollu-

tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) to provide certainty for landowners or rural communities, or preserving existing exemptions for agriculture, ranching, or forestry, or to rely on the scientific evidence of impacts on water quality of different types of water bodies by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 360. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO KEEPING THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT FOCUSED ON THE PROTECTION OF WATER QUALITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to ensuring that Federal jurisdiction under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) is focused on water quality, which may include limiting jurisdiction based on the movement of birds, mammals, or insects through the air or over the land, the movement of water through the ground, or the movement of rainwater or snowmelt over the land, or limiting jurisdiction over puddles, isolated ponds, roadside ditches, irrigation ditches, stormwater systems, wastewater systems, or water delivery, reuse, or reclamation systems, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 361. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SAVING MEDICARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to extending the life of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, which may include the creation of a point of order against legislation that accelerates the insolvency of such Trust Fund, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 362. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING ISRAEL.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to United States policy toward Israel, which may include preventing the United Nations and other international institutions from taking unfair or discriminatory action against Israel, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 363. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR LEGISLATION TO ALLOW AMERICANS TO EARN PAID SICK TIME.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to efforts to improve workplace benefits and reduce health care costs, which may include measures to allow Americans to earn paid sick time to address their own health needs and the health needs of their families, and to promote equal employment opportunities, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 364. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING HEALTH CARE TO VETERANS WHO HAVE GEOGRAPHIC INACCESSIBILITY TO CARE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing health care to veterans who reside more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs that provides the care sought by the veteran, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 365. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR LOW-INCOME AMERICANS THROUGH THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increasing access to higher education for low-income Americans through the Federal Pell Grant program, which may include allowing for 1 or more additional payment periods during the same award year, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 366. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO CONSUMER PRICE TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increased disclosure of any Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) taxes or other provisions in health insurance monthly premium statements, including advance premium tax credits, cost sharing reductions, medical loss ratio rebates and savings, free preventive care, coverage of preexisting conditions and prohibitions on premium rating because of gender, the cost of insurance company administrative expenses, and taxes and fees, by

the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 367. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO TRANSPARENCY IN HEALTH PREMIUM BILLING.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increased disclosure of any Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) tax in health insurance monthly premium statements, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 368. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO CARBON EMISSIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to carbon emissions, which may include prohibitions on Federal taxes or fees imposed on carbon emissions from any product or entity that is a direct or indirect source of emissions, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 369. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REQUIRING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW STATES TO OPT OUT OF COMMON CORE WITHOUT PENALTY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to prohibiting the Federal Government from mandating, incentivizing, or coercing States to adopt the Common Core State Standards or any other specific academic standards, instructional content, curricula, assessments, or programs of instruction and allowing States to opt out of the Common Core State Standards without penalty, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 370. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to small business tax relief, which may include a permanent increase of the section 179 small business expensing allowance to \$1,000,000 or an increase in the investment limitation to \$2,500,000, by the amounts pro-

vided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 371. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to initiatives to sell or transfer to, or exchange with, a State or local government any Federal land that is not within the boundaries of a National Park, National Preserve, or National Monument, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 372. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROHIBITING FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ARMS TRADE TREATY PRIOR TO SENATE RATIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to funding, which may include prohibiting funding for the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat or any international organizations created to support the implementation of the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty prior to Senate ratification and adoption of implementing legislation by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 373. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REIMPOSING WAIVED SANCTIONS AND IMPOSING NEW SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAN FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE JOINT PLAN OF ACTION OR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR AGREEMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Iran, which may include efforts to immediately reimpose waived sanctions and impose new sanctions against the Government of Iran if the President cannot make a determination and certify that Iran is complying with the Joint Plan of Action or a comprehensive agreement on Iran's nuclear program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 374. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING UNITED STATES CITIZENS HELD HOSTAGE IN THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN TEHRAN, IRAN, BETWEEN NOVEMBER 3, 1979, AND JANUARY 20, 1981.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting United States citizens held hostage in the United States embassy in Tehran, Iran, between November 3, 1979, and January 20, 1981, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 375. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PREGNANT WORKERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to efforts to increase employment opportunities and prevent employment discrimination, which may include measures to prevent employment discrimination against pregnant workers, to provide pregnant workers with a right to workplace accommodations, and to ensure that employers comply with requirements regarding such workplace accommodations for pregnant workers, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 376. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PERMANENTLY ELIMINATE THE FEDERAL ESTATE TAX.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to changes in the Federal income tax laws, which may include eliminating the Federal estate tax, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 377. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting national security, economic growth, and public health by addressing human-induced climate change through increased use of clean energy, energy efficiency, and reductions in carbon pollution by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 378. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REGULATION BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency of greenhouse gas emissions, which may include a prohibition on withholding highway funds from States that refuse to submit State Implementation Plans required under the Clean Power Plan of the Agency, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 379. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROTECTING PRIVATELY HELD WATER RIGHTS AND PERMITS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to protecting communities, businesses, recreationists, farmers, ranchers, or other groups that rely on privately held water rights and permits from Federal takings by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 380. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROHIBITING AWARDING OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS BASED ON AWARD EES ENTERING OR NOT ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS WITH LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to a prohibition on the awarding of construction contracts on behalf of the Government based upon any solicitations, bid specifications, project agreements, or other controlling documents, that require or prohibit bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors to enter into or adhere to agreements with one or more labor organizations or discriminate against or give preference to such bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors based on their entering or refusing to enter into such agreements by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 381. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO STRENGTHENING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening the United States Postal Service, which may include imposing a moratorium to prevent mail processing

plants from closing, reestablishing overnight delivery standards, recognizing the importance of rural delivery, allowing the Postal Service to innovate and adapt to compete in a digital age, or improving the financial condition of the Postal Service by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 382. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PREVENT AMERICAN JOBS FROM BEING MOVED OVERSEAS BY REDUCING THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to preventing American jobs from being moved overseas, which may include a reduction in the corporate income tax rate, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 383. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING EQUAL TREATMENT OF MARRIED COUPLES UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM AND BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to ensuring equal treatment of married couples, which may include ensuring that all legally married spouses have access to Social Security benefits after the death of their spouse and to benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 384. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO INCREASE WAGES FOR AMERICAN WORKERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reaffirming the ability of States to adopt minimum wages higher than the Federal minimum wage level commensurate with the cost of living in the State, which may include the adoption of pro-employment and wage-increasing policies by providing pro-growth tax relief and eliminating excessive government mandates, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 385. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO DETERRING THE MIGRATION OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN FROM EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND HONDURAS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to deterring the attempted migration of unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras into the United States, which may include the expedited removal of unlawful entrants from non-contiguous countries, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 386. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to extending and expanding refundable tax provisions that benefit working families, childless workers, and the middle class, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 387. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING PROPER ECONOMIC CONSIDERATION IN DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL HABITAT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to critical habitat designations, which may include requirements that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service examine the cumulative economic effects of the designation, such as on land or property uses or values, regional employment, or revenue impacts on States and units of local government, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 388. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL DO-NOT-CALL REGISTRY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to compliance with the national do-not-call registry, which may include adjusting or increasing fines, providing flexibility for the relevant regulatory agency, or modifying the conditions of the safe harbor provisions, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 389. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO END "TOO BIG TO FAIL" BAILOUTS FOR WALL STREET MEGA-BANKS (OVER \$500 BILLION IN TOTAL ASSETS).

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to any bank holding companies with over \$500,000,000 in total assets to better protect taxpayers, including such measures as capital or leverage requirements, restrictions on the growth, activities, or operations of a company, or divestiture of assets or operations of any company that is unable to present a credible plan to facilitate an orderly bankruptcy or resolution, without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 390. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENDING WASHINGTON'S ILLEGAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to developing methods that ensure that all Members of Congress, the President, the Vice President, and all political appointees of the Administration procure their health insurance on the individual exchange in the same way as Americans at the same income level, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 391. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN ISRAEL FROM TEL AVIV TO JERUSALEM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increasing funding for United States embassies, which may include the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 392. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REVISE OR REPEAL SEQUESTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels and limits in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports that amend section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or the enforcement procedures under section 251A of that Act to revise or repeal the discretionary spending limits and

enforcement procedures established under those sections, relating to providing relief from sequestration and the reduction in discretionary spending limits for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, split evenly between both the revised security category and the revised nonsecurity category, and offsetting such relief through targeted changes in mandatory or discretionary spending programs (not pertaining to Social Security) and tax expenditures by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025. For purposes of determining deficit-neutrality under this section, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may include the estimated effects of any amendment or amendments to the discretionary spending limits.

SEC. 393. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROMOTING THE RETURN OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN LEGALLY ADOPTED BY UNITED STATES CITIZENS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting the return of children who have been legally adopted by United States citizens from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 394. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW NUCLEAR-CAPABLE CRUISE MISSILE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the development of a new nuclear-capable cruise missile by the Department of Defense and the National Nuclear Security Administration, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 395. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROVIDE EQUITY IN THE TAX TREATMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER DEATH BENEFITS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing tax equity for death benefits paid to the families of public safety officers who lose their lives in the line of duty, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 396. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ELIMINATING THE BACKLOG OF SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE KITS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to eliminating the backlog of sexual assault evidence kits, which may include auditing the hidden backlog of untested sexual assault kits and ensuring that the collection and processing of DNA evidence by law enforcement agencies from crimes is carried out in an appropriate and timely manner, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 397. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO MIXED OXIDE FUEL FABRICATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to mixed oxide fuel fabrication, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 398. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REFORMING OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL AND PREVENTING EXTENDED VACANCIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening and reforming Federal Offices of Inspectors General, reducing vacancies in such Offices, and providing for improvements in the overall economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of Inspectors General by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING RETIREMENT SECURITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving retirement security by making it easier for small businesses to provide retirement plans for their employees by easing the administrative burden and by encouraging individuals to increase their savings by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399a. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-

tions of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving basic science research and development programs in the United States by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399b. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING THAT THE CONSERVATION OF NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT POPULATIONS AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARE COMPATIBLE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), which may include requirements that State conservation plans relating to the northern long-eared bat are given maximum flexibility to be successful so as to preserve and protect local and rural economies before any Federal listing decision is made with respect to the northern long-eared bat, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399c. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO IMPROVE CYBERSECURITY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increased sharing of cybersecurity threat information while protecting individual privacy and civil liberties interests, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399d. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ALLOW THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AND FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION TO ENTER INTO JOINT TASK FORCES WITH TRIBAL AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Drug Enforcement Administration and Federal Bureau of Investigation entering into joint task forces with tribal and local law enforcement agencies by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399e. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENCOURAGING COST SAVINGS IN OFFICE SPACE USED BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-

tions of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to encouraging cost savings in office space used by Federal agencies, which may include encouraging Federal agencies to utilize office space unused by the Federal Government before purchasing or renting additional space, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399f. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES AND ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing technical assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs through small business development centers by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399g. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING THAT MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEET THE NEEDS OF WOMEN VETERANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to ensuring that medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs meet the needs of women veterans by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399h. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING EFFICIENT RE sourcing FOR THE ASIA REBALANCE POLICY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing funding related to supporting efficient resourcing for the Asia rebalance policy by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399i. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PREVENTING ACCESS TO MARIJUANA EDIBLES BY CHILDREN IN STATES THAT HAVE DECRIMINALIZED MARIJUANA.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between

the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to preventing access to edible marijuana products by children in States that have decriminalized marijuana, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399j. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING MORTGAGE LENDING TO RURAL AREAS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing mortgage lending to rural areas by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399k. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF ARCTIC POLAR ICEBREAKERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the construction of Arctic polar icebreakers, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399l. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO RESEARCHING HEALTH CONDITIONS OF THE DESCENDANTS OF VETERANS EXPOSED TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES DURING SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to researching health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399m. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO RAISING THE FAMILY OF FUNDS LIMIT OF THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Small Business Investment Company Program of the Small Business Administration, which may include raising the Family of Funds limit of the Small Business Investment Company Program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399n. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, AND PROSECUTION OF THE OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF WEBSITES WHO KNOWINGLY ALLOW SUCH WEBSITES TO BE USED TO ADVERTISE COMMERCIAL SEX WITH CHILDREN OVER THE INTERNET.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to online child sex trafficking, which may include the detection, investigation, and prosecution of the owners and operators of websites who knowingly allow such websites to be used to advertise commercial sex with children over the Internet, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399o. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO SUPPORT STATE DROUGHT PREVENTION PLANS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to assisting the States in carrying out drought prevention plans by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399p. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROTECTING THE RELIABILITY OF THE ELECTRICITY GRID.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to prohibiting the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from proposing, finalizing, or issuing any regulation that would reduce the reliability of the electricity grid by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399q. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE OPEN INTERNET.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to protecting the open Internet and promoting further innovation and investment in Internet services, content, infrastructure, and technologies by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399r. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REFORMING THE FEDERAL REGULATORY PROCESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the alloca-

tions of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to—

(1) creating an effective mechanism for the review of the existing Federal regulatory burden to identify rules for repeal or modification that—

(A) impose paperwork burdens that could be reduced substantially without significantly diminishing regulatory effectiveness;

(B) impose disproportionately high costs on small businesses;

(C) could be strengthened in their effectiveness while reducing regulatory costs;

(D) have been rendered obsolete by technological or market changes;

(E) have achieved their goals and can be repealed without target problems recurring;

(F) impose the greatest opportunity costs in terms of economic growth;

(G) are ineffective;

(H) overlap, duplicate, or conflict with other Federal regulations or with State or local regulations; or

(I) impose costs that are not justified by benefits produced for society within the United States;

(2) reforming the process by which new regulations are made by Federal agencies, including independent agencies, for the purposes of—

(A) prioritizing early public outreach in the rulemaking process;

(B) ensuring the use of the best available scientific, economic, and technical data;

(C) preventing the misuse of guidance documents to skirt public input;

(D) ensuring the use of best practices for regulatory analysis, including cost-benefit analysis, into each step of the rulemaking process;

(E) facilitating the adoption by Federal agencies of the least costly regulatory alternative that would achieve the goals of the statutory authorization;

(F) ensuring more careful consideration of proposed high-cost rules;

(G) ensuring effective oversight of the Federal regulatory program, including independent regulatory commissions, by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs;

(H) improving the consideration of adverse impacts on small businesses;

(I) providing greater transparency in the rulemaking process; and

(J) improving compliance with section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-554; 114 Stat. 2736A-153) (commonly known as the “Information Quality Act”), the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), and chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Regulatory Flexibility Act”);

(3) enhancing accountability by facilitating fair and effective judicial review of agency actions; and

(4) ensuring that Congress can effectively exercise its appropriate role in the regulatory process through legislation and oversight;

by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399s. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING COVERAGE OF VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPIES AS A COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING TEST UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing coverage of virtual colonoscopies as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399t. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO STRENGTHENING WATERBORNE COMMERCE IN OUR PORTS AND HARBORS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening waterborne commerce in our ports and harbors, which may include increasing the amounts expended from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund that are dedicated to port infrastructure and maintenance in accordance with section 2101(b) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-121), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 and the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399u. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE MODERNIZATION OF THE NUCLEAR COMMAND, CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS ARCHITECTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to modernizing the triad of strategic nuclear delivery systems, the nuclear command and control system, and the nuclear weapons stockpile, and supporting related infrastructure, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399v. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO BARDA AND THE BIOSHIELD SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening our national security, which may include fully funding the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority and the BioShield Special Reserve Fund by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399w. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING THE NUCLEAR FORCES AND MISSIONS OF THE AIR FORCE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the nuclear force improvement program of the Air Force by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399x. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting economic growth and job creation by making it easier for small businesses to plan their capital investments and reducing the uncertainty of taxation by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399y. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to the employer penalties under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), which may include changes to the definition of “full time employee” under that Act, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399z. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE FEDERAL REGULATORY PROCESS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Federal regulatory process by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399aa. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO EXPEDITE AWARDS UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the processing of award submissions, which may include the Internal Revenue Service whistleblower program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399bb. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENCOURAGING THE INCREASED USE OF PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING IN FEDERAL FACILITIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to encouraging the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399cc. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING INFORMATION SHARING BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO INVESTIGATIONS RELATING TO SUBSTANDARD HEALTH CARE, DELAYED AND DENIED HEALTH CARE, PATIENT DEATHS, OTHER FINDINGS THAT DIRECTLY RELATE TO PATIENT CARE, AND OTHER MANAGEMENT ISSUES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving information sharing by the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to investigations relating to substandard health care, delayed and denied health care, patient deaths, other findings that directly relate to patient care, and other management issues of the Department by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399dd. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS THE DISPROPORTIONATE REGULATORY BURDENS ON COMMUNITY BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to alleviating disproportionate regulatory burdens on community banks and credit unions, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ec. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROTECT THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Corporation for National and Community Service, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ff. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENSURING THAT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ATTORNEYS COMPLY WITH DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to ensuring that all Department of Justice attorneys comply with all legal and ethical obligations in criminal prosecutions, which may include legislation that ensures the disclosure to the defendant in a timely manner of all information known to the Government that tends to negate the guilt of the defendant, mitigate the offense charged or the sentence imposed, or impeach the Government's witnesses or evidence, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399gg. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROMOTE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal investments in precision medicine and biomedical research, which may include increasing funding to account for inflation, to support finding ways to prevent, treat, and cure diseases or conditions like Alzheimer's and other life-threatening or chronic illnesses, and to provide long-term cost savings to the Federal Government, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399hh. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO ADDRESS THE HEROIN AND METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE EPIDEMIC IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to expanding efforts to combat heroin and methamphetamine abuse in the United States without raising new revenue, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years

2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ii. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING ACCESS TO NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to developing methods that ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to equipment like eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and speech generating devices by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399jj. SPENDING-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PRIORITIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS THAT ARE OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND PROJECTS IN HIGH PRIORITY CORRIDORS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the prioritization of the Federal investment in the infrastructure of the United States on projects that are of national and regional significance and projects in high priority corridors of the National Highway System by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not raise new revenue and would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399kk. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES' NATO ALLIES TO REVERSE DECLINES IN DEFENSE SPENDING AND BEAR A MORE PROPORTIONATE BURDEN FOR ENSURING THE SECURITY OF NATO.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to encouraging the United States' NATO allies to reverse declines in defense spending and bear a more proportionate burden for ensuring the security of NATO by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ll. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY OF MISSING WEAPONS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT PROVIDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF YEMEN BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the investigation and to the extent practicable the recovery of missing

weapons and military equipment provided to the Government of Yemen by the United States Government to ensure that such items are not in the possession of or used by radical extremist groups operating in the country by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399mm. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION DATA AND TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to improving higher education data and transparency, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399nn. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS FUNDED BY THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965, which may include supporting congregate and home-delivered meals programs, or other programs of assistance to low-income older individuals, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399oo. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO NATIVE CHILDREN.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Native children, which may include establishing a commission to examine existing Federal programs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of services delivered to Native children to improve outcomes, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399pp. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROTECTING THE PERSONAL INFORMATION OF CONSUMERS FROM DATA BREACHES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to protecting the personal information of consumers from data breaches, which may include providing notification to affected consumers or enhancing data security programs, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that

such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399qg. DEFICIT-REDUCTION RESERVE FUND FOR GOVERNMENT REFORM AND EFFICIENCY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to achieving savings through the use of performance data or scientifically rigorous evaluation methodologies for the elimination, consolidation, or reform of Federal programs, agencies, offices, and initiatives, or the sale of Federal property, and reduce the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025. The Chairman may also make adjustments to the Senate's pay-as-you-go ledger over 6 and 11 years to ensure that the deficit reduction achieved is used for deficit reduction only. The adjustments authorized under this section shall be of the amount of deficit reduction achieved.

SEC. 399rr. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO MEDICAL TREATMENT AND COMPENSATION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS, SURVIVORS, AND THEIR FAMILIES INJURED AND MADE ILL BY THE 9/11 ATTACKS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the September 11th terrorism attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the Shanksville Crash site, which may include legislation that extends medical monitoring and treatment services and compensation for first responders, survivors, and their families, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ss. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO CONSTRUCTION OF NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOOLS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to construction of Native American schools, which may include replacement school construction that replaces the entirety or majority of a school campus or replacement facility construction that replaces individual buildings that are beyond cost-effective repair measures, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399tt. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING THE GUARANTEE THRESHOLD FOR THE SURETY BOND GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between

the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the Surety Bond Guarantee Program of the Small Business Administration, which may include exploring or raising the range for surety bonds, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399uu. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INDO-PACIFIC PARTNER CAPACITY BUILDING AND STRATEGY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting a comprehensive multi-year partner capacity building and security cooperation plan in the Indo-Pacific region, including for a regional maritime domain awareness architecture and for bilateral and multilateral exercises, port calls, and training activities of the United States Armed Forces and Coast Guard to further a comprehensive strategy to strengthen United States alliances and partnerships, freedom of navigation, and the unimpeded access to the maritime commons of the Asia-Pacific by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399vv. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ADDRESSING METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to addressing methamphetamine abuse in the United States, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ww. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to achieving theatre security cooperation goals, which may include funding for the National Guard State Partnership Program, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399xx. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF AGRICULTURAL VIRUS OUTBREAKS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolu-

tions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the improvement of prevention and treatment measures to mitigate agricultural impacts from an agricultural virus outbreak, such as the impacts seen from the avian influenza outbreak, which may include investments in vaccine development or research in pathway analysis, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399yy. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION TO ALLOW INDIVIDUALS TO MAKE INFORMED AND EFFECTIVE DECISIONS WITH THEIR FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to financial literacy education, which may include improvements to financial literacy education curricula in schools or which may improve the capacity of teachers to provide effective financial literacy education, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399zz. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to comprehensive mental health reform, which may include legislation that provides increased access to individuals suffering from mental illness and greater workforce opportunities for mental health professionals, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399aaa. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN UNDER MEDICAID.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to initiatives that would improve oral health care for children and pregnant women under the Medicaid program by the amounts provided in such legislation for such purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399bbb. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the protection, preservation, or restoration of the National Park System, which may include a National Park Centennial Fund or other dedicated funding, for infrastructure or natural, cultural, or historic resource preservation and programs in units of the National Park System, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ecc. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING COLLEGE COMPLETION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increasing college completion, which may include expanding Federal Pell Grant eligibility by allowing college students to use Federal Pell Grants for more than 2 semesters in an academic year by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ddd. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENCOURAGING FREIGHT PLANNING AND INVESTMENT THAT INCORPORATES ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING RAIL, WATERWAYS, PORTS, AND HIGHWAYS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports to encourage freight planning and investment that incorporates all modes of transportation including rail, waterways, ports and highways, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399eee. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATED TO PROVIDING FOR FULL FUNDING FOR AT-SEA AND DOCKSIDE MONITORING FOR CERTAIN FISHERIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to supporting at-sea and dockside monitoring for fisheries that have received economic disaster assistance by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399fff. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO TRAINING AND RESOURCES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS RESPONDING TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS ON RAILROADS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates,

and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to the establishment of a public-private partnership tasked with reviewing training and funding allocations for first responders responding to hazardous materials incidents on railroads, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ggg. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ENHANCING AND IMPROVING THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE APPLICATION BACKLOG.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to enhancing and improving the United States Patent and Trademark Office in order to reduce the patent application backlog by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399hhh. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to funding for international counter-propaganda communications in order to combat misinformation, undermine ideologies of violence and hatred, and ensure moderate voices are heard, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399iii. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to reforming and strengthening elementary and secondary education by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399jjj. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INVESTING IN RURAL AND TRIBAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports

relating to the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to designate funds for water projects, which may include authorized rural water projects or tribal water rights settlements or irrigation projects, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399kkk. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATED TO SEXUAL ASSAULT AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports related to sexual assault at institutions of higher education, which may include the implementation of an independent and standardized online survey tool developed and administered by the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Justice, to measure the prevalence of sexual assault at institutions of higher education, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399lll. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SIMPLIFYING AND EXPANDING TAX INCENTIVES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to simplifying and expanding tax incentives for higher education to boost student attendance and completion at colleges and vocational schools, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399mmm. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO AUTHORIZING CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO RETAIN SUCH ELIGIBILITY UNTIL AGE 26.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting children who are eligible to receive health care furnished under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, including by allowing such children to retain such eligibility until age 26, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399nnn. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this

resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to increasing funds for programs that support workforce development through apprenticeships, and providing additional funds to the Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor to expand apprenticeship programs nationally, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ooo. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO THE PRIORITIZATION OF BROAD-BASED CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to broad-based criminal justice reform by the amounts provided in such legislation for that purpose, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ppp. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMY BY ACCELERATING THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES FROM LABORATORIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO THE MARKETPLACE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to strengthening the economy by accelerating the transfer of technologies from laboratories of the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to the marketplace by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399qqq. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORTING TRADE AND TRAVEL AT PORTS OF ENTRY.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to supporting trade and travel at ports of entry, which may include construction at ports of entry or increased staffing at ports of entry, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 and the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399rrr. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPOSING SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GROSS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS OR SIGNIFICANT ACTS OF CORRUPTION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions,

amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to imposing sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or significant acts of corruption by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399sss. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO REFORMING STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to student loan reform, which may include establishing a policy of risk-sharing to require institutions of higher education to assume some of the risk for student loans by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ttt. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE TIGER DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal investments in the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery ("TIGER") discretionary grant program by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399uuu. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROMOTING THE USE OF COLLEGE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting the use of college savings accounts while students are in elementary school and secondary school, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399vvv. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A NEW OUTCOME-BASED PROCESS FOR AUTHORIZING INNOVATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to promoting innovation in higher education, which may include establishing a new outcome-based process for authorizing innovative higher education providers to

participate in programs under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399www. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPROVING COMMUNITY RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to community policing, which may include increasing the number of law enforcement officers who walk patrols that enable them to interact and build relationships with community members, increasing and improving training for law enforcement officers, encouraging the responsible and carefully considered use of body cameras and their recordings by law enforcement officers, encouraging law enforcement to de-escalate confrontations whenever feasible, and ensuring that prosecutions of law enforcement officers are fair and impartial, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399xxx. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO SUPPORT RESEARCH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to Federal investments in scientific research and development, which may include supporting biomedical research to find ways to prevent, treat, and cure diseases or conditions like Alzheimer's and other life-threatening or chronic illnesses, providing long-term cost savings to the Federal Government, and supporting national security, basic energy research, innovative solutions, and American competitiveness, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399yyy. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE, WHICH SHOULD INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF LETHAL DEFENSIVE ARTICLES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing funding to support the Government of Ukraine in reestablishing its sovereignty and territorial integrity, which should include the provision of lethal defensive articles, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399zzz. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING FUNDING TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing funding for programs to counter anti-Semitic activity in Europe, which may include efforts to empower civil society, including diverse religious and ethnic groups, civil and human rights organizations, and the business community, to fight anti-Semitism and discrimination and convening regular consultations with Jewish community organizations and non-Jewish civil and human rights organizations to demonstrate visible support, listen to concerns, and solicit recommendations on improving security and supporting victims, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399aaa. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND TO PROVIDE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES WITH TRANSPARENT, EASILY UNDERSTOOD POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing students and families with transparent, easily understood information about postsecondary education financial aid by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399bbb. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO PROVIDING ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE CONTRACT TOWER PROGRAM OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to providing full and dedicated funding for the Contract Tower Program of the Federal Aviation Administration by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399cccc. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO UNDERGROUND AND SURFACE MINING SAFETY AND HEALTH RESEARCH.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to underground and surface mining safety and health research by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would

not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399ddd. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INVESTING IN ADVANCED FOSSIL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to investing in advanced fossil energy technology research and development at the Department of Energy, to reduce the impacts of climate change while ensuring the reliability of the electric grid, by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399eeee. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUNDS RELATING TO FOREIGN PERSONS.

(a) DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO IMPOSING SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR GROSS VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS OR SIGNIFICANT ACTS OF CORRUPTION.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to imposing sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights or significant acts of corruption by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

(b) DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO INTERAGENCY COOPERATION.—The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to interagency cooperation, which may include expedited interagency cooperation to identify foreign nationals subject to sanctions under title IV of the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal and Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–208), by the amounts provided in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

SEC. 399fff. DEFICIT-NEUTRAL RESERVE FUND RELATING TO SPECIAL TREATMENT OF THE INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR RESEARCH EXPENDITURES FOR STARTUP COMPANIES.

The Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may revise the allocations of a committee or committees, aggregates, and other appropriate levels in this resolution for one or more bills, joint resolutions, amendments, amendments between the Houses, motions, or conference reports relating to special treatment of the income tax credit for research expenditures for startup companies by the amounts provided

in such legislation for those purposes, provided that such legislation would not increase the deficit over either the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 or the period of the total of fiscal years 2016 through 2025.

TITLE IV—BUDGET PROCESS

Subtitle A—Budget Enforcement

SEC. 401. EXTENSION OF ENFORCEMENT OF BUDGETARY POINTS OF ORDER IN THE SENATE.

(a) EXTENSION OF CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ACT OF 1974 POINTS OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.), subsections (c)(2) and (d)(3) of section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 note) shall remain in effect for purposes of Senate enforcement through September 30, 2025.

(2) REPEAL.—In the Senate, section 205 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008, shall no longer apply.

(b) OTHER POINTS OF ORDER.—

(1) PAY-AS-YOU-GO.—Section 201(d) of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008, is repealed.

(2) INCREASING SHORT-TERM DEFICIT.—Section 404(e) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010, is repealed.

SEC. 402. SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION INCREASING LONG-TERM DEFICITS.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ANALYSIS OF PROPOSALS.—The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall, to the extent practicable, prepare for each bill and joint resolution reported from committee (except measures within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Appropriations), and amendments thereto, amendments between the Houses in relation thereto, and conference reports thereon, an estimate of whether the measure would cause, relative to current law, a net increase in on-budget deficits in excess of \$5,000,000,000 in any of the 4 consecutive 10-year periods beginning with the first fiscal year that is 10 years after the budget year provided for in the most recently adopted concurrent resolution on the budget.

(b) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would cause a net increase in on-budget deficits in excess of \$5,000,000,000 in any of the 4 consecutive 10-year periods described in subsection (a).

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL IN THE SENATE.—

(1) WAIVER.—Subsection (b) may be waived or suspended only by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—The provisions of this section shall not apply to any bills, joint resolutions, amendments, motions, amendment between the Houses, or conference reports for which the chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate has made adjustments to the allocations, levels, or limits contained in this resolution pursuant to section 303(1).

(e) DETERMINATIONS OF BUDGET LEVELS.—For purposes of this section, the levels of net deficit increases shall be determined on the basis of estimates provided by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(f) REPEAL.—In the Senate, section 311 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress), the concurrent

resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2009, shall no longer apply.

SEC. 403. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) POINT OF ORDER.—Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that would provide an advance appropriation for a discretionary account.

(2) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “advance appropriation” means any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for fiscal year 2016 that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2016, or any new budget authority provided in a bill or joint resolution making general appropriations or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, that first becomes available for any fiscal year after 2017.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Advance appropriations may be provided—

(1) for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 for programs, projects, activities, or accounts identified in the joint explanatory statement of managers accompanying this resolution under the heading “Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations” in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$28,852,000,000 in new budget authority in each year;

(2) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and

(3) for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, and Medical Facilities accounts of the Veterans Health Administration.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—In the Senate, subsection (a) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

(d) FORM OF POINT OF ORDER.—A point of order under subsection (a) may be raised by a Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 644(e)).

(e) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill or joint resolution, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report or House amendment shall be stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion in the Senate shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

SEC. 404. SUPERMAJORITY ENFORCEMENT OF UNFUNDED MANDATES.

Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 425(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 658d(a)) shall be subject to the waiver and appeal requirements of subsections (c)(2) and (d)(3), respectively, of section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 note).

SEC. 405. REPEAL OF SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST CERTAIN RECONCILIATION LEGISLATION.

Section 202 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008, shall no longer apply in the Senate.

SEC. 406. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “CHIMP” means a provision that—

(1) would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 902) (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) if the provision was included in legislation other than an appropriations bill or joint resolution; and

(2) does not result in a net decrease in outlays over the period of the total of the current year, the budget year, and all fiscal years covered under the most recently adopted concurrent resolution on the budget.

(b) POINT OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider an appropriations bill or joint resolution, or an amendment to, conference report on, or amendment between the Houses in relation to such a bill or joint resolution, that contains a CHIMP that, if enacted, would cause the total budget authority of all such CHIMPs enacted in relation to a fiscal year to be more than the amount specified in paragraph (2).

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount specified in this paragraph is—

(A) for fiscal year 2016, \$19,000,000,000;

(B) for fiscal year 2017, \$16,000,000,000;

(C) for fiscal year 2018, \$12,000,000,000;

(D) for fiscal year 2019, \$8,000,000,000;

(E) for fiscal year 2020, \$4,000,000,000; and

(F) for fiscal year 2021, and each fiscal year thereafter, \$0.

(c) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order under subsection (b) shall be made by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(d) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (b) may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (b).

(e) REPEAL.—In the Senate, section 314 of S. Con. Res. 70 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2009, shall no longer apply.

SEC. 407. PROHIBITION ON AGREEING TO LEGISLATION WITHOUT A SCORE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to vote on passage of matter that requires an estimate described in section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653), unless such estimate was made publicly available on the website of the Congressional Budget Office not later than 28 hours before the time the vote commences.

(b) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—In the Senate, subsection (a) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under subsection (a).

SEC. 408. PROTECTING THE SAVINGS IN REPORTED RECONCILIATION BILLS.

In the Senate, section 310(d)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 641(d)(1)) shall apply and may be waived in accordance with the procedures applicable to

a point of order raised under section 310(d)(2) of such Act.

SEC. 409. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST EXCEEDING FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

(a) POINT OF ORDER.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider a provision in any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that designates for overseas contingency operations, in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)), funds that would cause the total amount of funds designated for overseas contingency operations—

(1) for fiscal year 2016, to be more than \$57,997,000,000; or

(2) for fiscal year 2017, to be more than \$59,500,000,000.

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order under this section shall be made by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) FORM OF POINT OF ORDER.—A point of order under this section may be raised by a Senator as provided in section 313(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 644(e)).

(e) CONFERENCE REPORTS.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill or joint resolution, upon a point of order being made by any Senator under this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report or amendment shall be stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

SEC. 410. SENATE POINT OF ORDER AGAINST PROVISIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION THAT CONSTITUTE CHANGES IN MANDATORY PROGRAMS AFFECTING THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the Senate, it shall not be in order to consider any appropriations legislation, including any amendment thereto, motion in relation thereto, or conference report thereon, that includes any provision or provisions affecting the Crime Victims Fund, as defined by section 1402 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601), which constitutes a change in a mandatory program that would have been estimated as affecting direct spending or receipts under section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (as in effect prior to September 30, 2002) were they included in legislation other than appropriations legislation. A point of order pursuant to this section shall be raised against such provision or provisions as described in subsections (d) and (e).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The determination of whether a provision is subject to a point of order pursuant to this section shall be made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

(d) GENERAL POINT OF ORDER.—It shall be in order for a Senator to raise a single point of order that several provisions of a bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report violate this section. The Presiding Officer may sustain the point of order as to some or all of the provisions against which the Senator raised the point of order. If the Presiding Officer so sustains the point of order as to some of the provisions (including provisions of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Senator raised the point of order, then only those provisions (including provision of an amendment, motion, or conference report) against which the Presiding Officer sustains the point of order shall be deemed stricken pursuant to this section. Before the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may move to waive such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions against which the point of order was raised. Such a motion to waive is amendable in accordance with rules and precedents of the Senate. After the Presiding Officer rules on such a point of order, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on such a point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled.

(e) FORM OF THE POINT OF ORDER.—When the Senate is considering a conference report on, or an amendment between the Houses in relation to, a bill or joint resolution, upon a point of order being made by any Senator pursuant to this section, and such point of order being sustained, such material contained in such conference report or amendment shall be stricken, and the Senate shall proceed to consider the question of whether the Senate shall recede from its amendment and concur with a further amendment, or concur in the House amendment with a further amendment, as the case may be, which further amendment shall consist of only that portion of the conference report or House amendment, as the case may be, not so stricken. Any such motion shall be debatable. In any case in which such point of order is sustained against a conference report (or Senate amendment derived from such conference report by operation of this subsection), no further amendment shall be in order.

SEC. 411. ACCURACY IN BUDGET ENFORCEMENT.

(a) TIMING SHIFTS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “timing shift” means—

(A) a delay of the date on which outlays flowing from direct spending would otherwise occur from 1 fiscal year to the next fiscal year; or

(B) an acceleration of the date on which revenues would otherwise occur from 1 fiscal year to the previous fiscal year.

(2) SCORING.—In the Senate, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall not count timing shifts in estimating the budgetary effects of a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report for purposes of enforcing—

(A) the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.);

(B) any allocation, aggregate, or level under a concurrent resolution on the budget; or

(C) any written statement submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate that establishes allocations, aggregates, and levels for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(b) PROHIBITION OF RESCISSIONS THAT DON'T SAVE MONEY.—In the Senate, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget shall not count any rescission of budget authority or contract authority that does not have an effect on outlays in estimating the changes in budget authority, outlays, or revenues of a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report for purposes of enforcing—

(1) the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.);

(2) any allocation, aggregate, or level under a concurrent resolution on the budget; or

(3) any written statement submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate that establishes allocations, aggregates, and levels for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 412. FAIR VALUE ESTIMATES.

Any estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office for a bill, joint, resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report under the terms of title V of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), shall include, when practicable, an additional estimate of the cost, measured on a fair value basis, of changes that would affect the amount or terms of new Federal loans or loan guarantees or of modifications to existing Federal loans or loan guarantees arising from the bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report.

SEC. 413. HONEST ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BUDGET.—The term “budget” means—

(A) a concurrent resolution on the budget; or

(B) a written statement submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate that establishes allocations, aggregates, and levels for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(2) BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—The term “budgetary effects” means changes in budget authority, outlays, or revenues.

(3) MAJOR LEGISLATION.—

(A) DEFINITION.—The term “major legislation” means any bill, resolution, conference report, or treaty—

(i) for which an estimate is prepared under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653) that indicates that not less than 1 of the amounts described in subparagraph (B), before incorporating macroeconomic effects, is greater than \$15,000,000,000 in any fiscal year of the estimate; or

(ii) designated as major legislation by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate or the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives.

(B) AMOUNTS.—The amounts described in this subparagraph are—

(i) the sum of the individual positive changes in budgetary effects, not including timing shifts, resulting from such measure; and

(ii) the sum of the absolute value of the individual negative budgetary effects, not including timing shifts, resulting from such measure.

(4) TIMING SHIFTS.—The term “timing shifts” means—

(A) a delay of the date on which outlays flowing from direct spending would otherwise occur from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year; or

(B) an acceleration of the date on which revenues would otherwise occur from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR CBO ESTIMATES.—An estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653) for any major legislation shall provide, in addition to the estimate of budgetary effects without macroeconomic effects, an estimate of the budgetary effects from changes in economic output, employment, interest rates, capital stock, and other macroeconomic variables resulting from the major legislation. The total budgetary effects shall delineate between revenue and outlay effects.

(c) REQUIREMENT FOR JCT ESTIMATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An estimate provided by the Joint Committee on Taxation to the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 201(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 601(f)) for any major legislation shall provide, in addition to the estimate of budgetary effects without macroeconomic effects, an estimate of the budgetary effects from changes in economic output, employment, capital stock, interest rates, and other macroeconomic variables resulting from the major legislation and an estimate of the distributional effects across income categories resulting from major legislation.

(2) DELINEATION.—The total budgetary effects shall delineate between revenue and outlay effects.

(d) CONTENTS OF ESTIMATES.—An estimate required to be provided under subsection (b) or (c) shall include—

(1) a qualitative assessment of the budgetary effects (including macroeconomic variables described in subsections (b) and (c)) of the major legislation in the 20-fiscal year period beginning after the last fiscal year of the most recently adopted budget that sets forth appropriate levels required under section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632); and

(2) an identification of the assumptions and the source of data underlying the estimate.

SEC. 414. CURRENCY MODERNIZATION.

In the Senate, for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.), any allocation, aggregate, or level under a concurrent resolution on the budget, or any written statement submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate that establishes allocations, aggregates, and levels for purposes of enforcing the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, any estimate of the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of a provision in a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, amendment between the Houses, or conference report relating to a transition from the \$1 note to a \$1 coin shall—

(1) record the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of the provision in the first year in which the provision takes effect;

(2) determine the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of the provision based on a net present value estimate of the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of the provision over a 30-year period; and

(3) incorporate the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of the provision due to behavioral changes.

SEC. 415. CERTAIN ENERGY CONTRACTS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered energy savings contract” means—

(1) an energy savings performance contract authorized under section 801 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8287); and

(2) a utility energy service contract, as described in the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum on Federal use of energy savings performance contracting, dated July 25, 1998 (M-98-13), and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum on the Federal use of energy saving performance contracts and utility energy service contracts, dated September 28, 2012 (M-12-21), or any successor to either memorandum.

(b) **ESTIMATES.**—In the Senate, for purposes of enforcing any point of order established under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) or any concurrent resolution on the budget, any estimate by the Congressional Budget Office of the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of a provision in a bill, joint resolution, amendment, conference report, or amendment between the Houses modifying the authority to enter, the scope or terms of, or the use of covered energy savings contracts shall—

(1) record in the first year in which the authority would become effective, the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues (as estimated in accordance with paragraph (2)) of any modifications to the authority to enter the covered energy savings contracts;

(2) in estimating the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of the legislation, calculate the costs and savings arising from covered contracts on a net present value basis by adding market risk over the useful life of the services or product to the discount rate in section 502(5)(E) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)(E)); and

(3) classify the effects of the provision to be changes in spending subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in subsection (b) shall be construed to modify the methodology for estimating the changes in budget authority, outlays, and revenues of a provision that does not relate to covered energy savings contracts in a bill, joint resolution, amendment, conference report, or amendment between the Houses that contains a provision described in subsection (b).

SEC. 416. LONG-TERM SCORING.

(a) **SCORING OF LEGISLATION INCREASING THE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING CAPS.**—An estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653) for any bill, resolution, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that increases the discretionary spending limits under section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(c)) shall provide, in addition to the estimate under that section, an estimate of the changes in budget authority, outlays, or revenues under the legislation over the period of fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2045.

(b) **SCORING OF LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.**—An estimate provided by the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 653) for any bill, resolution, amendment between the Houses, or conference report that transfers amounts from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Highway Trust Fund shall provide, in addition to the estimate under that section, an estimate of the changes in budget authority, outlays, or revenues under the legislation over the period of fiscal year 2016 through fiscal year 2045.

SEC. 417. REQUIRING CLEARER REPORTING OF PROJECTED FEDERAL SPENDING AND DEFICITS.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual update to the Budget and

Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall provide a projection of Federal revenues, outlays, and deficits for the 30-year period beginning with the budget year, expressed in terms of dollars and as a percent of gross domestic product, as part of its annual update required by Public Law 93-344.

SEC. 418. REPORTING ON TAX EXPENDITURES.

The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall include in the report submitted under section 202(e)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 the following:

(1) An estimate of the cost of tax expenditures as a share of gross domestic product for the budget year and the 9 years following the budget year.

(2) Historical data on the cost of tax expenditures as a share of gross domestic product for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1965 and ending with the budget year.

SEC. 419. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATES.

(a) **REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.**—In the case of any legislative provision to which this section applies, the Congressional Budget Office shall prepare, to the extent practicable, an estimate of the outlay changes during the second and third decade of enactment.

(b) **LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES.**—This section shall apply to any spending legislative provision—

(1) which proposes a change or changes to law that the Congressional Budget Office determines has an outlay impact in excess of 0.25 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States during the first decade or in the tenth year; or

(2) with respect to which the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of either the Senate or the House of Representatives has requested an estimate described in subsection (a).

SEC. 420. TO REQUIRE TRANSPARENT REPORTING ON THE ONGOING COSTS AND SAVINGS TO TAXPAYERS OF OBAMACARE.

When the Congressional Budget Office releases its annual update to the Budget and Economic Outlook, the Congressional Budget Office shall report changes in direct spending and revenue associated with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152), including the net impact on deficits, including both on-budget and off-budget effects, in its annual update required by Public Law 93-344. The information shall be presented in a format similar to that of table 2 of the Congressional Budget Office's March 20, 2010 estimate of the budgetary effects of the Health Care and Educational Reconciliation Act of 2010, in combination with the effects of H.R. 3590, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), as passed by the Senate.

SEC. 421. PROHIBITING THE USE OF GUARANTEE FEES AS AN OFFSET.

In the Senate, for purposes of determining budgetary impacts to evaluate points of order under the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, this resolution, any previous budget resolution, and any subsequent budget resolution, provisions contained in any bill, resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that increases or extends the increase of, any guarantee fees of the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation shall not be scored with respect to the level of budget authority, outlays, or revenues contained in such legislation.

SEC. 422. ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEQUESTRATION REPLACEMENT.

(a) **MECHANISM FOR IMPLEMENTING INCREASE IN DISCRETIONARY LIMITS.**—If a measure be-

comes law that amends the discretionary spending limits established under section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(c)), the adjustments to discretionary spending limits under section 251(b) of that Act (2 U.S.C. 901(b)), or the enforcement procedures established under section 251A of that Act (2 U.S.C. 901a), the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate shall adjust the allocation called for in section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and may adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits contained in this resolution, as necessary, consistent with such measure, up to the amounts specified and reserved in subparagraph (b).

(b) **AMOUNTS SPECIFIED AND RESERVED.**—The amounts specified (and to be reserved from the allocation called for in section 302(a) allocation of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate until such time as the conditions specified in subsection (a) are met are—

(1) for fiscal year 2016—

(A) for the revised security category, \$37,000,000,000 in budget authority (and the outlays flowing therefrom); and

(B) for the revised nonsecurity category, \$37,000,000,000 in budget authority (and the outlays flowing therefrom); and

(2) for fiscal year 2017—

(A) for the revised security category, \$37,000,000,000 in budget authority (and the outlays flowing therefrom); and

(B) for the revised nonsecurity category, \$37,000,000,000 in budget authority (and the outlays flowing therefrom).

SEC. 423. TO CONVEY CLEAR INFORMATION TO CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC ABOUT PROJECTED FEDERAL OUTLAYS, REVENUES, AND DEFICITS.

As part of the annual update to the Budget and Economic Outlook required by section 202(e) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 602(e)), and at any other time the Congressional Budget Office releases projections of Federal deficits over any term of years, the Congressional Budget Office shall publish with its projection a 1-page statement—

(1) summarizing and categorizing total outlays, including tax expenditures, receipts, surpluses, and deficits of the Federal Government on a unified basis for that same prospective time period;

(2) categorizing and subtotaling separately—

(A) outlays for mandatory programs and for discretionary programs;

(B) outlays, tax expenditures, payroll tax revenue, and offsetting receipts for Social Security and for Medicare;

(C) the surplus or deficit of revenues over outlays for Social Security and for Medicare; and

(D) revenues.

SEC. 424. ADJUSTMENT FOR WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION FUNDING.

If a measure becomes law that amends the adjustments to discretionary spending limits established under section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)) for wildfire suppression funding, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocation called for in section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)) to the appropriate committee or committees of the Senate, and may adjust all other budgetary aggregates, allocations, levels, and limits contained in this resolution, as necessary, consistent with such measure.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions**SEC. 431. OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE.**

In the Senate, all committees are directed to review programs and tax expenditures within their jurisdiction to identify waste, fraud, abuse or duplication, and increase the use of performance data to inform committee work. Committees are also directed to review the matters for congressional consideration identified in the Office of Inspector General semiannual reports and the Office of Inspector General's list of unimplemented recommendations and on the Government Accountability Office's High Risk list and the annual report to reduce program duplication. Based on these oversight efforts and performance reviews of programs within their jurisdiction, committees are directed to include recommendations for improved governmental performance in their annual views and estimates reports required under section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632(d)) to the Committees on the Budget.

SEC. 432. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISCRETIONARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

In the Senate, notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633(a)(1)), section 13301 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 632 note), and section 2009a of title 39, United States Code, the joint explanatory statement accompanying the conference report on any concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in its allocations under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to the Committees on Appropriations amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and of the Postal Service.

SEC. 433. APPLICATION AND EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.

(a) **APPLICATION.**—Any adjustments of allocations and aggregates made pursuant to this resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) **EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS AND AGGREGATES.**—Revised allocations and aggregates resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) as allocations and aggregates contained in this resolution.

(c) **BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.**—For purposes of this resolution the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period of fiscal years shall be determined on the basis of estimates made by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate.

SEC. 434. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts or definitions, the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)).

SEC. 435. EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING POWERS.

Congress adopts the provisions of this title—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of the Senate and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such other rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of the Senate to change those rules at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as is the case of any other rule of the Senate.

GOLD STAR WIVES DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 131.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 131) designating April 5, 2015, as "Gold Star Wives Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 131) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of March 26, 2015, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 133 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 133) supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 133) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 114-1

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy

be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on April 13, 2015, by the President of the United States: Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Japan, Treaty Document No. 114-1.

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith, for the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification, the Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Japan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and a related agreement entered into by an exchange of notes (together the "proposed Protocol"), both signed on January 24, 2013, at Washington, together with correcting notes exchanged March 9 and March 29, 2013. I also transmit for the information of the Senate the report of the Department of State, which includes an overview of the proposed Protocol.

The proposed Protocol was negotiated to bring U.S.-Japan tax treaty relations into closer conformity with current U.S. tax treaty policy. For example, the proposed Protocol provides for an exemption from source-country withholding tax on all cross-border payments of interest, and updates the provisions of the existing Convention with respect to the mutual agreement procedure by incorporating mandatory arbitration of certain cases that the competent authorities of the United States and Japan have been unable to resolve after a reasonable period of time.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the proposed Protocol and give its advice and consent to its ratification.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 13, 2015.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 14; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each. I further ask that the

Senate recess from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. for the all-Senators briefing and that it recess again from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:09 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

DEAN A. REUTER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 14, 2016, VICE JULIE FISHER CUMMINGS, TERM EXPIRED.

SHAMINA SINGH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 6, 2019, VICE ALAN D. SOLOMONT, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

GABRIEL CAMARILLO, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, VICE DANIEL GINSBERG.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

JOYCE LOUISE CONNERY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 18, 2019, VICE PETER STANLEY WINOKUR, RESIGNED.

JOSEPH BRUCE HAMILTON, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 18, 2016, VICE KENNETH L. MOSSMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

JONATHAN ELKIND, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS), VICE DAVID B. SANDALOW, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WILLIAM A. HEIDT, OF PENNSYLVANIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA.

DAVID MALCOLM ROBINSON, OF CONNECTICUT, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE COORDINATOR FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND STABILIZATION, VICE FREDERICK D. BARTON, RESIGNED.

DAVID MALCOLM ROBINSON, OF CONNECTICUT, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (CONFLICT AND STABILIZATION OPERATIONS), VICE FREDERICK D. BARTON, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES J. BURKS

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JAMES C. BALSERAK
BRIG. GEN. STEVEN J. BERRYHILL
BRIG. GEN. KEVIN W. BRADLEY
BRIG. GEN. PETER J. BYRNE
BRIG. GEN. GRETCHEN S. DUNKELBERGER
BRIG. GEN. RICHARD J. EVANS III
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT M. GINNETTI
BRIG. GEN. JEFFREY W. HAUSER
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM O. HILL
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH K. KIM

BRIG. GEN. JEROME P. LIMOGNE, JR.
BRIG. GEN. PAUL C. MAAS, JR.
BRIG. GEN. JOHN P. MCGOFF
BRIG. GEN. BRIAN C. NEWBY
BRIG. GEN. MARC H. SASSEVILLE
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL E. STENCHEL
BRIG. GEN. CAROL A. TIMMONS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. KYLE W. ROBINSON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ROBERT D. CARLSON
BRIG. GEN. DANIEL J. DIRE
BRIG. GEN. MARY E. LINK
BRIG. GEN. HUGH C. VAN ROOSEN

To be brigadier general

COL. VINCENT B. BARKER
COL. LISA L. DOUMONT
COL. ROBERT D. HARTER
COL. JOHN F. HUSSEY
COL. SCOTT R. MORCOMB
COL. GERARD L. SCHWARTZ
COL. RICHARD K. SELE
COL. TRACY L. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be brigadier general

CHAPLAIN (COL.) THOMAS L. SOLHJEM

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) MARK L. LEAVITT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. EUGENE H. BLACK III
CAPT. DELL D. BULL
CAPT. WILLIAM D. BYRNE, JR.
CAPT. EDWARD B. CASHMAN
CAPT. MOISES DELTORO III
CAPT. STEPHEN C. EVANS
CAPT. GREGORY J. FENTON
CAPT. JOHN V. FULLER
CAPT. MICHAEL P. HOLLAND
CAPT. HUGH W. HOWARD III
CAPT. JEFFREY W. HUGHES
CAPT. THOMAS E. ISHEE
CAPT. STEPHEN T. KOEHLER
CAPT. YANCY B. LINDSEY
CAPT. FRANCIS D. MORLEY
CAPT. CATHAL S. O'CONNOR
CAPT. JEFFREY E. TRUSSLER
CAPT. WILLIAM W. WHEELER III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ANN M. BURKHARDT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JAMES P. DOWNEY
CAPT. STEPHEN F. WILLIAMSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DANIELLE M. BARRETT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAEL W. ZARKOWSKI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID G. MANERO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. RONALD C. COPLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. PAUL PEARIGEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ANNE M. SWAP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. PETER G. STAMATOPOULOS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JOHN W. KORKA

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

TROY S. THOMAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 9333(B) AND 9336(A):

To be colonel

LINELL A. LETENDRE

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333(B) AND 4336(A):

To be colonel

JAMES J. RAFTERY, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND AS PERMANENT PROFESSOR AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 4333(B) AND 4336(A):

To be colonel

DAVID A. HARPER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

STEVEN R. ANSLEY, JR.
KAREN S. HANSON

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

BRIAN L. TICHENOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

CHERYL GOTZINGER

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AS A MEMBER OF THE COAST GUARD PERMANENT COMMISSIONED TEACHING STAFF UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 188:

To be lieutenant commander

BRIAN J. MAGGI

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 13, 2015:

THE JUDICIARY

ALFRED H. BENNETT, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MR. GREGORY L.
REITZE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Gregory L. Reitze for his lifelong dedication as a firefighter in his community of Middletown, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Reitze has been a member of Middletown Fire Company for the past 50 years. His duties have ranged from Assistant Engineer to Fire Chief, in 1997 and 1998. He has been named Fireman of the Year twice, in 1966 and 1998. For 50 straight years, Gregory has been named "A Top Ten of Middletown Fire Company responders." When not fighting fires, he owns and operates a contracting business in Middletown Township and sits on the Middletown Township Planning Commission.

Mr. Reitze has dedicated his life to serving others in his community, putting the safety of others before himself. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Gregory Reitze's 50 years of service to Middletown Township. On behalf of the 7th district of Pennsylvania, we thank him for his efforts.

JOHNS MANVILLE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Johns Manville for their leadership and commitment to utilizing new and advanced technologies.

Johns Manville focuses on developing materials to make diverse environments stronger, more durable, and more energy efficient and comfortable. The company manufactures premium quality building and mechanical insulation, commercial roofing, glass fibers and nonwoven materials for commercial, industrial, and residential applications. JM products are used in a variety of industries including building products, aerospace, automotive and transportation, filtration, commercial interiors, waterproofing and wind energy. The company has 7,000 employees globally and provides products to more than 85 countries and operates 45 mfg. facilities around the world.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Johns Manville for their well-deserved Innovative Technology Award and their continued contribution to Jefferson County.

HONORING ADELE WOODS, CEO
COOS COUNTY FAMILY HEALTH
SERVICES

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Adele Woods from New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, who is retiring after 33 years of service at Coos County Family Health Services.

Adele has been instrumental in growing CCFHS from a small organization helping low-income women and their children into a comprehensive Federally Qualified Health Center serving the primary care needs of the Granite State's Androscoggin Valley.

After joining CCFHS in 1981, Adele became the director for their Women, Infants, and Children Program, which provides health services and helps meet the nutritional needs of women with young families. In 1989, as Executive Director, she managed a staff of 32 people on a meager budget. Under her guidance, CCFHS successfully applied for federal funds that enabled the agency to become a Federal Community Health Center and to begin hiring physicians to provide full scope primary health services.

Approached by the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in 2002, CCFHS soon acquired their outpatient services operation. CCFHS now has a staff of 125 people working from three offices in Berlin, one medical office in Gorham, and a RESPONSE outreach in Groveton providing sexual and domestic violence services for New Hampshire's North Country.

Under Adele's leadership, CCFHS is now recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home and meets the highest standards of quality patient care. CCFHS became a founding member of the North Country Health Consortium, a rural health network addressing common health issues in the region. CCFHS become an Accountable Care Organization and one of the first in the country to receive funding from the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services.

Adele is a valued member of numerous commissions and committees at both the state and national level. I am honored to recognize Adele Woods' leadership and service to her community, the Granite State, and the United States of America.

HONORING DR. EDWARD ZIGLER
ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HEAD START

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise today to pay

tribute to Dr. Edward Zigler, the father of Head Start, as we mark the 50th Anniversary of this inspired early learning program. President Lyndon B. Johnson once said, "We must open the doors of opportunity. But we must also equip our people to walk through those doors." That is what exactly what the Head Start program has done for millions of children across our nation for the last five decades.

In his 1964 State of the Union Address, President Johnson declared a War on Poverty. Central to this effort was the idea that access to a comprehensive child development program which ensured school readiness could make all the difference for disadvantaged families. As policy makers, we often look to those with field expertise for advice and counsel. There are few that have served in these halls in the last fifty years who will not recognize the name Dr. Edward Zigler. A member of the National Planning and Steering Committee for Project Head Start, Ed was appointed the founding Director of the Office of Child Development, now the Administration on Children and Families, to lead the Head Start program and he has served as a consultant to every Administration since the program's inception. Designed to break the cycle of poverty and based on the fundamental idea that education is critical to success, Head Start began as an eight-week demonstration project and has grown exponentially. Today, Head Start serves over one million children in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. territories.

Re-authorized and expanded under each Administration over the last fifty years, there is no doubt that Head Start has had an impact on the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens. Today, as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Head Start, we also pay tribute to the man whose invaluable contributions, not only in its inception but throughout its implementation, have been the driving force behind Head Start's success. Ed Zigler, with his extraordinary vision and unwavering tenacity, has changed our understanding of the connections between poverty and education, shaped our public policy, and changed the course of millions of lives.

It has been my great privilege to have the opportunity to work closely with Ed on issues both here in Washington and in Connecticut. I find myself in constant awe of his intellect and commitment and consider myself fortunate to call him my friend. Today, on behalf of the millions of families that have been changed for the better by Head Start, I am honored to join the National Head Start Association in extending my deepest thanks and sincere gratitude to Dr. Edward Zigler. He has left an indelible mark on our nation and his is a legacy that will continue to improve the quality of life of those most in need for generations to come.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN RECOGNITION OF BENEVOLENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S 162ND ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Benevolence Missionary Baptist Church in Randolph County, Georgia as the church's membership and leadership celebrates a remarkable 162 years. The congregation of Benevolence Missionary Baptist Church celebrated this very significant anniversary on Sunday, April 12, 2015 at the church near Cuthbert, Georgia.

Tracing its roots back to the pre-Civil War era, the church was founded in 1853 when a group of former slaves set off from their landowners' church and boldly founded their own place of worship. This establishment would stand the test of time, becoming Benevolence Missionary Baptist Church.

The Reverend Green McCarthy served as the first pastor of the new congregation, Jake Knighton served as the first deacon, and Dan Knighton served as the first usher. Since none of the members could read or write, Brother T.J. Coram served as records keeper until an African-American member, Brother Phelm Knighton, could become clerk.

From the beginning, members paid what they could. Ideally, this was ten cents—raised to twenty-five cents in 1890—but when chickens, eggs, or vegetables were all people could come by, these were accepted instead. What mattered most then, as now, was not the money. It was the people—the people who overcame oppression, the people who took a risk in founding a new institution, and the people who renewed a community. So long as they remained united in their faith, they remained unshakeable to the core, and the details would be arranged in time.

This ardent community of believers has extended its circle to include more and more members as the years have gone by, though it has never lost its essential character. Today, the spirit and faith of its people are manifested through four choirs, a Sunday school, a Mission and Vacation Bible School, a Trustee Board, and Junior and Senior Usher Boards. That same faith and spirit shine on even as light from the new stained glass windows paints churchgoers in colored, living vibrancy. And this faith and spirit extend beyond the church doors, in the presence of members who give fully of themselves wherever they go.

Throughout the years, many ministers have been licensed or ordained from the church, and a number of pastors, deacons, and clerks have contributed to its legacy. The Reverend J.L. Kegler serves as the current pastor, alongside deacons Roy Burks, Richard Lee, Rodney Burks, Allen Steve White, and William Harrison, and clerks Yvonne Mitchner, Keisha Burks, Donella Knighton, and Monica Harris.

The story of Benevolence Missionary Baptist Church, which recounts a long history of a group of believers coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and wor-

ship the Lord, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in God.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Benevolence Missionary Baptist Church in Randolph County, Georgia for its congregation's enduring commitment, despite adversity, to each other and to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May their actions continue to inspire the community in courage, in dedication, and in faith.

RECOGNIZING MR. W. SCOTT REITZE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. W. Scott Reitze for his lifelong public service to Middletown, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Reitze has been a member of the Middletown Township Fire Company since 1965. Throughout his tenure he has held positions of Chief Engineer, the Chairman of Company Apparatus Committee, and Fire Chief for the Company for 14 years. He was named Fireman of the Year in 1970 and 2002. Scott now sits on the Board of Directors. He is a retired engineer with the Kimberly Clark Corporation.

Over the last 50 years, Scott Reitze has put others before himself and he continues to do so. His years of dedicated service are a testament of what the Middletown Township community means to him. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to recognize Mr. W. Scott Reitze and thank him for his service to Pennsylvania.

REMEMBERING EARL HARRIS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and sincere admiration that I take this time to remember a dear friend and one of Indiana's finest legislators, State Representative Earl Harris of East Chicago. On Monday, March 23, 2015, Earl, a member of the Indiana House of Representatives for the past thirty-three years, passed away at the age of 73. Remembered by his colleagues and constituency as a consummate gentleman and champion for Northwest Indiana, Earl will be deeply missed by his devoted family, beloved friends, and the citizens he so faithfully served.

Earl Harris was born in Kerville, Tennessee, on November 8, 1941. Following his graduation from Woodstock High School in 1959, he relocated to Northwest Indiana to further his education. Earl attended both Indiana University Northwest and Purdue University Calumet, located in Northwest Indiana, as well as the Illinois Institute of Technology. Although he was well-known for his career in public office, Mr. Harris's lifetime of service to his fellow citizens predates his election to the Indi-

ana General Assembly. To those who knew him, it is no surprise that, as a young man, Earl spent six years as an enlisted member of the Navy Reserve. Throughout his life, Mr. Harris was also a small business owner, an employee of Inland Steel, and a fixed assets administrator for the School City of East Chicago.

Since his election to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1982, Representative Earl Harris proved himself to be, first and foremost, a devoted public servant. His colleagues in Indianapolis will forever remember him as a true visionary, a tireless advocate for the people of Northwest Indiana, and the finest of role models for any young legislator to emulate. Among his legislative accomplishments was the creation of a Lake Michigan marina development commission intended to promote economic development along the lake. This idea later got folded into the Marquette Plan that the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority is now implementing in Lake and Porter Counties.

His constituents will remember his kindness and his willingness to help in any way he could. I will miss working with Earl, as I have for many years, but will never forget his warmth and his compassion, as well as his relentless desire to leave Northwest Indiana, and the entire state, better than he found it.

While he was tirelessly committed to the people of Indiana, Earl Harris leaves to cherish his memory the most important people in his life, his devoted wife, Donna, and loving son, Earl Jr., as well as his extended family and the many people who were fortunate to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to one of Indiana's finest, State Representative Earl Harris, for his outstanding leadership, devotion to his community, and commitment to improving the quality of life for residents of Northwest Indiana and throughout the state. His dedication to his family, friends, and those he so faithfully served is worthy of our admiration. I am proud to have called him my friend.

PASON SYSTEMS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Pason Systems for their community leadership and economic contribution to Jefferson County.

Pason is a leading global provider of specialized data management systems for drilling rigs. The company's solutions, which include data acquisition, well site reporting, remote communications and web-based information management, enable collaboration between the rig and the office.

Pason expanded from 37,000 to 52,737 sq. ft. in Golden's Coors Technology Center. The company hired an additional 11 employees after the facility was complete, bringing employment to 254 people.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Pason Systems for their well-deserved Business Recognition Award.

RECOGNIZING JOB CORPS' 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Job Corps' 50-year anniversary. Born in 1965, Job Corps was designed as a collaboration between public agencies and private sector businesses and employers to help poor and unemployed young people gain the credentials and employment skills to build careers. Fifty years later, more than 3 million jobless and under-educated youth, employers and local communities have benefitted from this successful model—a comprehensive residential, academic and career preparation program. Each year, more than 50,000 at-risk youth obtain the employment and life skills necessary to start a career. More than 80 percent of Job Corps graduates obtain jobs, enroll in higher education, or enter the military.

Furthermore, Job Corps facilities play an important role in their local communities. With 125 campuses across America, Job Corps represents a base of economic activity in American communities that is particularly important during challenging economic times. For example, 228 local jobs are directly or indirectly supported by the average Job Corps campus each year, and \$1.91 in local economic activity is generated by each dollar invested in Job Corps. The Pine Knot Job Corps in McCreary County, Kentucky and the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center in Floyd County, Kentucky are two successful Job Corps facilities in my district that have made important contributions to their communities.

Each year, more than 50,000 high school dropouts, homeless young adults, young parents, students with learning disabilities, and youth aging out of the foster care system enroll in Job Corps because it provides everything they need to start successful careers and become financially independent. Job Corps' open-entry, open-exit model allows dedicated academic and vocational professionals to create self-paced work plans for youth. Counselors, academic and vocational instructors, and residential advisors work with students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, not only on career pursuits but also on life skills, such as financial literacy and responsible citizenship.

I thank Job Corps for its dedication to changing the lives of America's at-risk, jobless and disenfranchised youth. Job Corps remains a community-changing program that affects thousands across the United States. Job Corps continues to evolve and adapt to the changing needs of our youth, businesses and economic conditions and I appreciate their continued dedication.

HONORING THE PASSING OF MRS. BARBARA CROWTHER STUART EDWARDS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the passing of Barbara Crowther

Stuart Edwards. Mrs. Edwards passed away peacefully on March 5, 2015, at Westminster Canterbury in Richmond, Virginia. She is survived by her four children, Charles Edward Stuart III; Anne Ruth Stuart and Elizabeth Stuart Valentine; and The Hon. Richard Henry Stuart and their grandchildren, as well as her brother Rudolph Prosser Crowther and several nieces and nephews. Mrs. Edwards was a loving mother and grandmother, who enjoyed spending time with her family. When she wasn't with her family Mrs. Edwards was either teaching or serving as a devoted member of Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church. Mrs. Edwards will be missed by members of her community, students, and family.

MEDICARE ACCESS AND CHIP REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on March 26th, the House passed H.R. 2, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015. H.R. 2 will repeal the flawed Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula and replace it with a bipartisan agreement to improve the Medicare payment system and return stability to physician payments.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created SGR in an attempt to control spending in the Medicare program, and it was adopted for TRICARE as well. For years, this methodology has consistently produced unrealistic expenditure targets that trigger untenable reductions in payment rates to doctors providing services to Medicare patients.

Congress has repeatedly buried the true cost of this policy through annual Congressional overrides of these scheduled cuts. Each of these short-term "doc fixes" has achieved the important goal of averting an immediate crisis in access to physicians for Medicare beneficiaries, but has exacerbated a longer-term crisis in Medicare financing.

Continued reliance on short-term patches creates instability in the health care system and the economy as a whole. Doctors have been hamstrung by yearly doubt about what reimbursement rates will be, and patients have had to pay the eventual price in uneven, sub-standard quality of care. Enactment of H.R. 2 will bring stability back to our health care system.

I voted for H.R. 2 because this legislation not only repeals the SGR, but also preserves and extends the Children's Health Insurance Program and provides funding for Community Health Centers through 2017. These programs are important in ensuring that those who need it most have access to health care. I remain concerned that the bill included an unnecessary provision restating current law on abortion coverage restrictions. The Hyde Amendment language, which has been included in annual appropriations bills since 1976, restricts women's access to health care and disproportionately discriminates against women of color, immigrants, and young people. Moving forward, we must work to ensure that women get access to health care, not continue policies that limit it.

Medicare has guaranteed essential health protections to seniors and certain disabled persons for nearly four decades. Fixing the physician Medicare reimbursement system is important to ensuring continued high quality care for Americans. I believe Medicare is more than just a program; it is a covenant that exists between the government and the American people, and I supported H.R. 2 to keep that covenant.

TRIBUTE TO MS. ERMELLE SMART CREW WILLIAMS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, reaching the age of 88 years is a remarkable milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Ermelle Smart Crew Williams was born on March 23, 1927 and today she is celebrating that milestone; and

Whereas, Ms. Williams has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; she is a member of Turner Chapel Baptist Church and a sister in the local Prince Hall Order of Eastern Stars; and

Whereas, Ms. Williams is celebrating her 88th Birthday with her family members, church members and friends here in Georgia, she celebrates a life of blessings; as a Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, friend, community servant and leader; and

Whereas, the Lord has been her Shepherd throughout her life and she prays daily and is leading by example a blessed life; an advocate, faithful matriarch and a community leader; and

Whereas, we are honored that she is celebrating the milestone of her 88th birthday in Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Ermelle Smart Crew Williams for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all, now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 23, 2015 as Ms. Ermelle Smart Crew Williams Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 23rd day of March, 2015.

COORSTEK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud CoorsTek for their community leadership and economic contribution to Jefferson County.

CoorsTek develops, manufactures and sells engineered solutions for a multitude of industrial and commercial applications that incorporate advanced materials such as technical ceramics, engineered components, assemblies and systems.

CoorsTek origins lie in cookware and pottery when in 1910, Adolph Coors, a board

member of the original company, assumed ownership and eventually renamed it Coors Porcelain Company. During WWI, the US government sought out ceramic companies to assume the manufacture of critical products such as chemical and scientific lab ware, which had been supplied by Germany. Coors Porcelain answered the call and began making critical components in a variety of ceramic materials. In 1986, the company name was changed to Coors Ceramics Company to better reflect its core competencies in a variety of technical ceramics. In 1992, Coors Ceramics was one of four subsidiaries spun-off from the brewery family of companies and became part of ACX Technologies, a new holding company.

CoorsTek recently purchased a 300,000 sq. ft. facility in the Coors Technology Center to expand its manufacturing operations. In 2014, the company announced the opening of its new plant in the Coors Technology Center to produce premium lightweight ceramic proppants, sand-sized solid materials used to keep induced hydraulic fractures open allowing oil and gas to flow.

I extend my deepest congratulations to CoorsTek for their well-deserved Business Recognition Award.

CONGRATULATING 2015 BLUE STAR NEIGHBOR AWARD WINNER

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mark Johnson who received the 2015 Blue Star Neighbor Award from Blue Star Families, Inc.

Mark spent the winter of 2014 clearing the steps and driveways of service members and their families while they were deployed. He demonstrated leadership, kindness, generosity and a true sense of community through his willingness to lend a helping hand, going above and beyond for his neighbor, Chief Warrant Officer Sean Durkee and the veterans in the city of Waltham, Massachusetts.

Blue Star Families, Inc. held an essay contest about neighbors who helped servicemen while deployed. Friend Kelly Durkee-Erwin, and sister of Sean, entered Mark's story in the contest. In January of 2015, Kelly was alerted that Mark's volunteerism, service and friendship would be rightfully recognized through the Blue Star Neighbor Award.

First Lady Michelle Obama, Jill Biden's Joining Forces, The Creative Coalition and Mark Johnson were recently recognized by Blue Star Families, Inc. in Washington, DC for their service, achievements and support of military families.

Mark is an inspiration to us all. His actions motivate us to strengthen our communities by giving back. I thank him for his service to Waltham families and congratulate him for his achievements.

TRIBUTE TO GARY PAGLIANO

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the career of a distinguished servant of Congress in the field of international energy and national defense. Gary Pagliano, whom I am proud to represent, will retire this month from the Congressional Research Service with 40 years of continual service to his country and to Congress, having joined CRS in 1974.

Gary graduated from the State University of New York in 1971 and received a Master's degree in Public Administration from Cornell University in 1974. He is a proud graduate of the National War College from which he received a Master's degree in National Security Strategy in 1997.

As a CRS specialist, first in energy policy and then in defense policy, Gary wrote about a variety of issues, including U.S. energy programs and policies, OPEC and world oil markets, defense acquisitions, defense contractors, the defense industrial base, and NATO. In 1984, Gary became the first CRS Senior Fellow to spend a year at the Atlantic Council, a program that then ran for many years. In 1997, he was appointed to manage CRS's Defense Budget Section, a position he held with distinction until late last year.

Over the decades, Gary Pagliano has helped set the standards of excellence for which CRS is known today. He leaves behind not only a distinguished public service career but a legacy of leadership and mentorship to colleagues, congressional staff, and defense policy analysts. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and appreciation to him for his four decades of service to Congress and to our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF LES WILLIAMS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember an amazing American and an outstanding patriot. Mr. Les Williams has died at the age of 95. Mr. Williams was one of the heroic Tuskegee Airmen. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his service to this nation. He was also a Stanford undergraduate and law school graduate, and a distinguished attorney in my district for many years.

Mr. Williams grew up in San Mateo and was part of a middle-class African American community in San Mateo until the Great Depression financially devastated his family. In order to earn money for his college education, he started a business teaching dance. When America entered World War II, Mr. Williams volunteered to join the Army Air Corps. Only after the war did he learn that his original application was denied because he was African American.

The Army drafted Mr. Williams and placed him into a laborer's job working on the docks, a job that ordinarily would have ended his flying career before it began. As disappointed as

he was, however, Mr. Williams was a patriot. As he later said, "I became a worker. I wasn't very proud of that. I had to go. One thing though, I was going to do what my country told me to do because I was an American and I'll always be an American."

Mr. Williams and others also formed a band and Mr. Williams danced. After a performance at a Kaiser shipyard, a general congratulated Mr. Williams and the band. The general also asked if he could help the men in any way and Mr. Williams immediately volunteered, again, to fly. Shortly thereafter, Les Williams was on his way to Tuskegee, Alabama, truly a rendezvous with history.

His training in Tuskegee was rigorous, but even more demanding was the culture of discrimination in Tuskegee. As he later noted, discrimination existed in his hometown of San Mateo, but it was nothing like Tuskegee. For example, failing to wait for a white person to cross the street could get you dragged from the car and beaten. This was a level of violence that Les Williams had not faced before.

Les Williams was a great pilot. He'd never been near a plane before going to ground school, but Les Williams excelled. The white officer who gave him his check out flight test had a 100% record of washing out African American students. But he didn't wash out Les Williams. At the time, the officer noted that Mr. Williams was cocky, but also noted that fighter pilots needed to be cocky. Mr. Williams eventually switched to bombers and enjoyed flying the B-25. However, the war wouldn't wait. By the time the Army Air Corps assembled a full cockpit bomber crew, the war was over.

After the war, Captain Les Williams returned to San Mateo and started a successful dance studio. Here, in his hometown, he again faced a lot of prejudice. He won the right to build his dance study on a 3-2 vote of the City Council, with at least one resident throwing her purse at him in anger over the idea that an African American could be allowed to build a new structure in a largely white part of town. By 1947, Mr. Williams also entered Stanford University on the G.I. bill, graduating with a degree in history. He continued operating his dance studio for about 25 years and eventually returned to Stanford to study law, graduating in the 1970's. He was an active and distinguished attorney in our community for many years. He is survived by his wife, Elsie, daughters Penny and Paula, two grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, through his dedication to America Les Williams proved one thing beyond a shadow of a doubt: He was a patriot. A man who loved America and who worked hard to overcome the barriers placed in his path, he personified the energetic pursuit of opportunity in this nation. We owe the Tuskegee Airmen our gratitude for helping to break the color barrier, but we owe Les Williams our respect because he not only broke the barrier but also set the bar of achievement higher for all America.

Today, let us remember Les Williams when we think of equality under the law. At 95 years old upon his passing, Les Williams is a man who willed to each of us decades of opportunity, provided we have the wisdom to preserve and to nurture his legacy.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SOFIA
MENDOZA**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Sofia "Sophie" Mendoza. Her passing was unexpected, and represents a huge loss to the community in San José. Sophie was born in 1934 in Fillmore, California. Her father was a labor organizer, and would often move the family in search of new opportunities. After relocating to Arizona in 1939, Sophie settled in San José while attending Campbell Grammar School and Campbell High School.

Sophie's father would often tell her "we are born into this life with a purpose to help one another." Sophie would go on to dedicate her life to fight injustice wherever she saw it, eventually becoming one of the most accomplished community organizers in California's history. She frequently crossed paths with leaders such as United Farm Workers founder César Chavez, author Ernesto Galarza, and playwright Luis Valdez.

Sophie's first major accomplishment came early in high school. Campbell High School, which had few Latino students, had French, German, and Math clubs but no Spanish club. Frustrated, she complained to her father who encouraged her to find a solution. Refusing to be marginalized, she circulated petitions, talked to teachers and raised enough signatures to establish the Spanish Club at Campbell High. It was the beginning of a journey pursuing equity and recognition for all.

Sophie met her husband, Gilbert Mendoza, shortly after completing high school and began studying at San José State University. At the end of her third year, the couple married and started a family. Sophie involved her children in organizing from the beginning. Her son was able to name every San José City Councilmember before he started the first grade.

Sophie went on to start United People Arriba, an umbrella organization that brought together grassroots community organizations and managed multiple political projects. She was instrumental in establishing the first major health clinic in East San José, personally led a 2,000 person demonstration against police brutality, and worked with international delegations from Nicaragua and El Salvador to promote peace. When she learned that her children's schools were receiving unequal funding, she organized the first student walkout in California history. She was a trailblazer who left a lasting impact in San José. I am here today to recognize her as one of San José's most influential leaders.

Sophie is survived by her children Rick, Agustín, Sandra and William, with five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The oldest sibling of five children, Sophie is survived by her siblings Robert, Larry and Margaret.

Mr. Speaker, we commend Mrs. Sophia Mendoza for her years of dedication and commitment to San José and the Latino community. Her contributions serve as an example of what can be accomplished by uniting our communities and working toward positive change.

BLACKHAWK EQUIPMENT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Blackhawk Equipment for their community leadership and economic contribution to Jefferson County.

Blackhawk is a leader in the air compressor industry and provides comprehensive air solutions and services. The company has over 100 years combined experience in the industry and employs four DOE Certified AirMaster + Specialists. Blackhawk is the premier rotary screw, oil-free, and centrifugal air compressor distributor in Colorado. They also specialize in air dryers, cooling towers, air audits, air tools, custom controls, skid packages, portables and rental air.

Recently, Blackhawk expanded in the city of Arvada by moving from a 10,000 sq. ft. facility into a 26,500 sq. ft. facility to accommodate growth. The company hired 5 new employees in 2014 and added \$500,000 in new capital investment.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Blackhawk Equipment for their well-deserved Business Recognition Award.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: HONORING
DR. JULIETA V. GARCIA
AND IRMA RANGEL**HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of Women's History Month. The 34th Congressional District of Texas is home to inspirational women who have broken barriers and significantly improved the quality of life for countless South Texas families. Today, I take the time to honor two of them—Julietta V. Garcia and Irma Rangel.

Dr. Julieta V. Garcia built her legacy on making higher education accessible to South Texans. She served as the president of the University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) from 1992 to 2014. In 2009, Time Magazine listed Dr. Garcia among the top ten college presidents, and last year, she was named by CNN Money/Fortune as one of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders. During Dr. Garcia's tenure, her relentless advocacy for increasing access to higher education in South Texas is reflected in UTB's enrollment statistics. The UTB student body is 91% Hispanic, and 71% are first-generation college students. Her forward-thinking leadership laid the foundation for establishment of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Recently, Julieta Garcia took on a new role as the first executive director of The University of Texas—Americas Institute, which focuses on developing the next generation of leaders through a non-partisan venue that convenes discussions on critical issues of global significance.

Irma Rangel, a St. Mary's Law School graduate, served in the Texas State Legislature from 1976 to 2003. She was the first Mexican American woman elected to the Texas House of Representatives. Her legislative career fo-

cused on the concerns of women and children and how to provide them a mechanism for progress. She established education and employment programs for mothers on public assistance, built centers to protect victims of abuse, and labored to make voting more accessible for all Texans. In 1994, Irma Rangel was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame. Rangel's contributions will live on through the many families her work brought into the middle class. She died on March 18, 2003, from cancer. The Irma Rangel College of Pharmacy opened its doors at Texas A&M University-Kingsville on August 10, 2006.

During Women's History Month, we are reminded of those who broke down barriers for future generations. I encourage all to take a moment today to reflect on the contributions women have made to our nation. I thank these women and others who have dedicated themselves to service.

HONORING WILLIAM 'ZEKE'
GRADER, JR.**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, NANCY PELOSI, MIKE THOMPSON, and JACKIE SPEIER, to recognize the incredible legacy of William 'Zeke' Grader, Jr., who has tirelessly served California's fishermen and coastal communities and as an environmental champion and community leader for many decades. Always willing to share his vast knowledge and expertise with others, Zeke has helped fishermen to define their interest in battles over offshore oil and gas development, land-use, timber harvesting, water allocation, and other issues of social equity and sustainability.

From an early age, Zeke Grader grew up in the coastal fishing community. His father founded Grader Fish, Co., in Fort Bragg, California, to buy, process, and broker fresh, local fish. Zeke spent much of his childhood on the family dock, helping fishermen to unload their catch. He graduated from Fort Bragg High School and moved south to attend Sonoma State University, where he studied political science and graduated in 1970.

Zeke Grader served his country in the United States Marine Corps before obtaining a law degree from the University of San Francisco and passing the California State Bar in 1975. At that time, Congress was deliberating how to assert our national sovereignty over a two-hundred mile wide economic zone in order to curb foreign overfishing in U.S. waters, allow depleted stocks to recover, and conserve fishery resources. Amidst such explosive public interest in natural resource protection, some in the fishing industry felt threatened by the burgeoning environmental movement. Zeke Grader was asked to serve as the executive officer of the newly formed Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA), and he led the organization in a more productive and effective direction by embracing efforts to protect the coastal environment.

With Zeke at the helm, the PCFFA took a leading role in crafting important state and federal legislation to preserve the coastal fishing

industry. Zeke lobbied strongly for California's 1988 Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Anadromous Fisheries Program Act, which called for a statewide salmon conservation plan to double the present numbers of wild salmon. He pushed for modernization of the federal Fishery Conservation and Management Act, litigated to expedite water quality restoration under the federal Clean Water Act, and fought for protections of fishing grounds by organizing for the prevention and clean-up of petroleum spills.

In 1988, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration honored Zeke Grader with its prominent Environmental Hero award. For many Zeke has been a hero over many decades and his tireless efforts to protect the wild California Coast have ensured the present vitality of our fishing communities.

Our friend and former colleague George Miller is one of those who counts Zeke as an inspiration. He passed along this message to us to include in the RECORD: "Zeke Grader has been my friend almost my entire time in the Congress. During that time Zeke has been a leader in our state, on the Pacific Coast and in our nation to give voice and rights to the men and women of our vital and historic commercial fishing industry. The Pacific coast fisheries from time to time are threatened with droughts, economic downturns, high fuel prices, habitat destruction, and bad public policy. Through it all, Zeke Grader has led this magnificent group of fishers to maintain and grow our fisheries. So many people in California's diverse economy are dependent on their success. The commercial fishers of the Pacific coast must both catch and protect this magnificent species. Zeke Grader for so many years has successfully advocated for both the fish and the fishers. All of us owe him great thanks."

Today, Zeke continues his strong advocacy by working with and advising leaders at every level of industry and government. His legacy shows us the lasting positive impact that one man can have on countless others and he has shown that you can build a thriving and sustainable economy without depleting natural resources for future generations. Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we honor Zeke today for his work in representing the fishing community, and we express our deepest appreciation for his friendship and his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRIS KYKER

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable individual for her dedication to the State of Texas. I would like to congratulate and thank Mrs. Chris Kyker for her hard work and her passion for service.

She has spent the last 90 years simply giving back to the world around us. I was recently informed that she was honored by the Texas Legislature in naming the Texas Silver Haired Legislature Foundation. This achievement served as an indication of the hard work, determination, joy, and kindness that she has continued to embody.

Chris is a leading volunteer for the state of Texas. She has served as the Founding Direc-

tor of the West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging (1974–1979), she has served as the Founding Executive Director of the Texas Department on Aging (1979–1984), she assisted with the transition of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (2003–2005), and she served as the Founding President and CEO of Disabilities Resources Inc. of Abilene, Texas. She has served in more than 32 volunteer offices, and in 2014 the Chris Kyker Endowment for Seniors Fund was established. From serving the state to serving her fellow man, Chris' accomplishments have been appreciated. Her passion and drive are commendable. In our rapidly shifting world and fast-paced lifestyles it is always impressive to find someone like Chris that give so generously of their time and effort to positively impact the lives of people of Texas.

While we take the time to reflect on all of Chris' achievements, it is important to acknowledge that her belief in giving to those around her comes from the genuine kindness of a remarkable woman.

I want to express my heartiest congratulations and thanks to Chris Kyker on her outstanding accomplishments and for her immense contribution to the State of Texas.

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and women who have provided distinctive service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage and a dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

Four years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, CLEA, to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

This year, I will present congressional law enforcement awards to the following winners chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community.

Officer Steven Oglie of the Holmes Beach Police Department will receive the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award and will be named Congressional Officer of the Year.

Sergeant William F. Pascoe of the Florida Highway Patrol will receive the Career Service Award.

Deputy Dan Durrance and Deputy Christopher Folds of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Sergeant Brian Woodring and Deputy Ryan Frailing of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Patrolman First Class Dustin Cohen of the North Port Police Department and Officer Lucciano Diaz of the Palmetto Police Department will receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Detective Robert Armstrong of the Sarasota City Police Department, Master Patrol Officer

Jose Santos of the Bradenton Police Department, Detective John McHenry of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Sergeant Scott King of the North Port Police Department and Officer Ruth Terry of the Venice Police Department will receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

The following Members of the Sarasota County civilian community response team FOCUS: Pastor Kelvin Lumpkin, Pastor Peter Greenidge and Minister Leslie Harrell of the Light of the World Church, Dr. Trevor Harvey, President of Sarasota Florida NAACP, Carolyn Mason, Sarasota County Commissioner and Dr. John Walker of Bethel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church will receive the Associate Service Award.

MEURER RESEARCH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Meurer Research for their community leadership and economic contribution to Jefferson County.

Meurer Research engineers and manufactures sophisticated products to solve complex issues facing water and wastewater treatment facilities worldwide. Founded in 1978, MRI has over 50 patents, both foreign and domestic, and over 5,000 installations. The company offers a range of products geared to optimizing water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Meurer Research, Inc. expanded into a 43,320 square-foot facility in the Coors Technology Center, located in Golden. The company also has plans to grow to 95 employees over the next couple of years, with new capital investment for the expansion expected to be more than \$2 million.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Meurer Research for their well-deserved Business Recognition Award.

TRIBUTE TO BLESSED SACRAMENT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special recognition to the Blessed Sacrament Catholic School as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School was founded in 1915 as the first Jesuit sponsored school in Hollywood. Initially founded on Hollywood Boulevard, the Blessed Sacrament Catholic School was relocated to Sunset Boulevard where it currently stands. The new parish was later designated as an official historic landmark.

Throughout its hundred year service, the school has been dedicated to its mission statement, "As a learning community, we commit ourselves to the education of the whole person by developing mind, body, and spirit of

our children. We are focused on teaching responsible communication skills that fosters excellence in self-expression and community involvement." The school has developed a rigorous curriculum consisting of a balance between college preparatory classes and voluntary community outreach. By providing such an academically rich, faith filled learning environment, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School has shaped its students into successful business owners, film producers, community leaders and philanthropists.

While upholding strong academic excellence, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School truly reflects the rich diversity of Los Angeles. Currently the school exceeds the state's average private school diversity rate, with students coming from a multitude of backgrounds. The school's success not be possible without a highly dedicated faculty, staff and administration who selflessly invest their time into productively influencing each student.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring Blessed Sacrament Catholic School upon the celebration of its 100th year of educating children in the Jesuit tradition and bettering the Hollywood community.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz—forever a symbol of human evil and depravity—and the end of WWII, history's bloodiest war claiming 50 million lives, along with celebrating the 67th anniversary of the State of Israel reborn in its wake, we are duty-bound to remember these milestones that humanity may yet be free from threats to its very survival.

As a son of Polish Holocaust survivors who spent his early childhood in Kazakhstan, Poland, Austria and Germany, I wrote the following poem, "So unpredictably, in a humble corner/Of the Displaced Persons Camps/Exhibit in Richmond's Virginia Holocaust/Museum, a family's trying past at/Last has come to rest./Guarded on a consecrated wall./Inviting home, allowing unreservedly to/Shed a flowing tear; among the/Remnant of a people deemed expendable/It finds acceptance that only/Those touched by common loss/Provide, for they have shared/The fire and the pain."

We cherish the victims, survivors and liberators. The majority of the Holocaust survivors have lived in Israel where I grew up beginning in 1949, and those still alive along with their descendants and all Israelis, Jews and Arabs, are vulnerable given Iran's genocidal agenda begrudging Jewish survival and the one and only Jewish state. Iran's agents of terror are active on Israel's south and north borders. I travelled this past January on a Leadership Mission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), witnessing firsthand Israel's unique security concerns. We visited Moshav Netiv Ha'asarah on Gaza's border that was hit during the recent 50-day Gaza War and saw an opening of a tunnel dug from Gaza. Israel's resilient people have

been terrorized by Hamas' rockets and shells far too long. From Mt. Bental on the Golan Heights at a UN observation post, we gazed on a cold and foggy day at ominous Syria, aware that Hezbollah there and in nearby Lebanon possesses 150,000 rockets at Iran's command.

Shiite Iran's drive for a nuclear capability is an overriding goal for its dictatorial clerics whose menacing tentacles pose unacceptable risk not only to Israel, alarming enough, but also to the entire Sunni Arab world whose domination it seeks. Israel's incredible and unshakable bond (so should it remain!) of mutual benefit and common vision with the United States whom Iran calls the "Great Satan," further makes Israel, the "Little Satan," a target for a repressive regime finding the West's progressive democracy anathema. While ISIS (The Islamic State) continues planting death and destruction in a widening range of global aspirations, with brazen barbarism of medieval darkness challenging civilization's norms. Brutal President Assad's genocidal assaults on his own Syrian people have so tragically passed the fourth year mark, with over 200,000 dead, thousands tortured in prisons, 3.9 million refugees mostly in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, and 7.6 million displaced within Syria, with the international community shamefully watching a catastrophe of a profusely bleeding wound infecting an entire region and beyond.

Israel, treating wounded and willing Syrians and ever present when disaster strikes anywhere, is the only source of stability and modernity in that troubled part of the world, and in its recent democratic elections Israeli Arabs freely participated (a right denied in the neighboring Arab States) winning the third largest bloc in the Knesset. The arduous search for peace with the Palestinians, who are yet to recognize Israel as the Jewish state it is, remains a steadfast goal in spite of Hamas' avowed aim to fight Israel, and its alliance with the Palestinian Authority. Israel struggles to address its socioeconomic gap and the Jewish pluralism issue, recognizing its astonishing and leading accomplishments testimony to being heir to the great Jewish legacy enriching the human family. The misguided BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement only serves to weaken Israel and the prospects for peace that only a strong Israel can conclude, being the world's only democracy whose very existence and identity are questioned. A growing anti-Semitism in Europe, scene of the unfathomable Holocaust, with murderous acts in Belgium, France and Denmark, threatens Europe's historical Jewish presence.

At this season of sacred and soaring remembrance, we recall the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, the preceding "Bloody Sunday" of March 7, 1965, and the following Voting Rights Act. Rabbis and Jewish laypersons were disproportionately involved in the Civil Rights Movement and stood by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to uplift America to live up to its glorious promise for all. My synagogue is the world's only home to two African-American churches.

The forthcoming Tiananmen Square Massacre 26th anniversary on June 6th, 2015, prompts me to share my experience, "The Kaddish letters grow/Small in this overwhelming/Space of invisible evil./I shield them in the pocket./Close to my heart./Away from

the menacing/Look of the Chinese soldier./To protect memory." May our anguished planet know soon, in partnership with the Most High, Shalom's essential blessings of healing, hope and harmony. Amen.

Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founding rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach.

TRIBUTE TO TONY ALEXANDER

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tony Alexander's 43 years of service to FirstEnergy. As FirstEnergy's longest-serving chief executive officer, Tony is responsible for propelling the company to the forefront of the energy industry.

Since joining FirstEnergy in 1972, Tony has served in a number of unique roles. His leadership has contributed to FirstEnergy's success every step of the way. Over the course of his career, he guided the company through significant mergers and acquisitions, regulatory challenges, and a range of operational and financial issues.

For example, Tony was instrumental in the merger of Ohio Edison and Centerior Energy, which formed FirstEnergy. A year after he was named president of First Energy, the company doubled in size and Tony deftly managed the company through significant regulatory, financial and environmental challenges during his career.

Not only is Tony a leader in our business community, he has also dedicated much of his life to serving the Greater Akron area. Currently, Tony serves on the Board of Trustees of Akron Tomorrow and Team NEO, and as an advisory trustee to the University of Akron Board of Trustees. In addition, he is on the President's Advancement Council of the Austen BiInnovation Institute and serves on the Institute's board of directors.

Northeast Ohio is grateful for his service. I wish Tony the very best in his retirement.

RED ROCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Red Rocks Community College for their dedication and commitment to Jefferson County and higher education.

Red Rocks Community College, with campuses in Lakewood and Arvada, offers more than 150 programs and 650 courses leading to two-year degrees or professional certificates. Since 1969, Red Rocks Community College has delivered a quality education to an eclectic mix of students of all ages, incomes and backgrounds. Serving 14,000 students each year, Red Rocks is the convenient community college down the street and a program that is worth traveling halfway around the world.

Red Rocks is also expanding its campus in Arvada for Health Careers, Technologies, and

Science program expansion. The expansion is estimated to be completed in late 2016 and will allow Red Rocks to respond to the growing workforce needs in the community.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Red Rocks Community College for their well-deserved Genesis Award and their economic contributions and leadership within and outside of Jefferson County.

TRIBUTE TO LARRIE WEST STALKS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Larrie West Stalks, and the many contributions she made as a dedicated public servant in Essex County.

Born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, Mrs. Stalks had an extensive career in public service and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of others in her community. In 1974, Mrs. Stalks was elected as Essex County Register of Deeds and Mortgages and served four consecutive five year terms. In her fourth term she was the only African-American Constitutional Officer serving on a County level in New Jersey.

As a trailblazer, she served as Director of Health and Welfare and Executive Secretary of the Newark Central Planning Board, where she became the first African American appointed department head and cabinet member in the history of Newark municipal government. In 1984, Mrs. Stalks achieved another first, when she was elected President of the County Officers of the State of New Jersey. Following her election, she also served on the National Association of County Officers (NACO) Human Services Steering Committee. Mrs. Stalks was then appointed to the Board of Directors of NACO which represented 48 states.

During her tenure in municipal government, she developed and supervised federally funded anti-poverty programs and instituted Newark's first mobile health unit program, which served as a national model. She then founded the Municipal Career Women of Newark and became a mentor for numerous women who worked in government. Mrs. Stalks spearheaded the development of 426 units of affordable housing and a shopping mall. She also chaired the Long Range Planning Advisory Budget Committee for St. Michael's Hospital.

A staunch democrat, her previous home at 41 Rector Street in Newark was affectionately referred to as "The House for Democrats." Mrs. Stalks resided in the Village of South Orange Township for the past 40 years but she always proudly said, "I am Newark first!" Mrs. Stalks had numerous awards reflecting her civic activities, professional affiliations and political involvement.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the House of Representatives agree that Mrs. Larrie West Stalks was an integral part of the growth and development of Essex County. This tribute recognizes her life's work, her stellar career and her personal commitment to improving the lives of her fellow man.

TRIBUTE TO COACH ANDREW TRENKLE AND THE MAINE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION TEAM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Coach Trenkle and the Maine South High School Constitution Team for their achievement in winning the Illinois State Title of the "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

This year's competition marks the twenty-third time the Maine South team has won the title in the last twenty-four years.

The "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" program, sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, promotes civic competence and responsibility through course study and mock Congressional hearings.

To succeed in this competition, students must demonstrate a deep understanding of Constitutional principles as well as an ability to apply critical thinking skills and to work together. The Maine South team rose to that challenge in winning this competition and I am sure they will apply those same skills to achieve success in the future.

Congratulations to all the members of the 2014-2015 Maine South Constitution team: Coach Andrew Trenkle, Lauren Acker, Anthony Alvizu, Valerie Asimacopoulos, Chris Brendza, Paul D'Ambrosio, Tomy Deeter, Cailin Devereux, Alex Ellyin, Michael Gabel, Victoria Gawedzki, Michael Harris, Dan Hopkinson, Matt Kelly, John Klages, Meghan Martin, Bjorn Olafsson, Guy Olson, Matt Pierucci, Alex Ponder, Jake Ritthamel, Julia Samulak, Mary Grace Sharp, Elizabeth Skoronski, Alex Solberg, Lucie Sullivan, Sabrina Tamas, Mark Tamvakis, Savannah Theil, Isabelle Tobolski, and Melissa Walek.

On behalf of the Ninth Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate you on your success, and wish you the best of luck in the national competition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARIE PULLIN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman, Dr. Marie Pullin, who gave of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, her legacy of dedicated service to enrich the children and others in her community through her volunteerism, creative ability and unwavering advocacy for the youth, the elderly, the poor and the arts are present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see; and

Whereas, this remarkable, positive woman with a beautiful smile gave of herself, her heart and her talent; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift, expose and inspire those in need; and

Whereas, she led by example from behind the scenes, as well as front and center for the

state of Georgia, DeKalb County and the City of Atlanta, multiple ministries, homeowner associations, the Atlanta Edgewood-Kirkwood Neighborhood Center; and in her beloved church, Israel Baptist Church; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, a wife, a daughter, a friend, a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Dr. Marie Pullin for her leadership, friendship and 50 years of service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Dr. Marie Pullin of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor"—Dr. Marie Pullin, U.S. Citizen of Distinction, in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of March, 2015.

HONORING EVELYN KEISER

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Evelyn Keiser, co-founder of Keiser University, who will be inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame, for her dedication to improving the lives of women and all citizens of Florida.

Evelyn was born Evelyn Cahn in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1924. She graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology, one of only a few women in what was then a predominately male field of study. She traveled throughout the United States where her education and ambition for the medical field led to her employment in several hospitals and medical labs.

In 1977, alongside her son Dr. Arthur Keiser, she opened the Keiser School on Oakland Park Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale with one student and 2,400 square feet of classrooms. She took a chance and paved a path for educators to better serve career-motivated students, the state, and specifically the Florida communities in which her students learn, work and raise their families.

Now, 38 years later, her dream has transformed into Florida's second largest independent university. With 15 locations statewide, Keiser serves nearly 20,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees and employing 3,500 staff and faculty. Sixty-two percent of Keiser University students graduate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and healthcare fields, providing the talented workforce needed for Florida to compete globally. Over 20 percent of students are members of the armed services, veterans, or military family members.

Ms. Keiser has held positions of co-founder, instructor, program director, chairwoman of the board of advisors, and more. Throughout her career, she has received multiple accolades including "Teacher of the Year" and "Educator of the Year." In February 2004, Ms. Keiser was awarded an honorary doctorate from Beijing University citing her commitment to educational articulation agreements between China and the United States.

At 91 years young, Evelyn remains active in the university, serving as Chairwoman of the Board of Advisors. Ms. Keiser is still the first to arrive at the main campus in Fort Lauderdale each morning.

In honor of her dedication and service to South Florida, I am pleased to recognize Evelyn Keiser's legacy of achievement and I wish her continued success.

SUREFIRE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Surefire for their leadership and commitment to utilizing new and advanced technologies.

Surefire relocated and expanded its manufacturing and headquarter operations to a 20,840 square-foot facility. New to Jefferson County in Westminster, the move brought 39 high-paying jobs to the county over the next five years. New capital investment from the relocation is expected to be \$3.9 million.

Surefire's expansion consisted of relocating from the Adams county portion of Westminster to the Jefferson county portion of Westminster in 2014. This expansion was also a consolidation of operations. This took place by relocating the manufacturing operations from Florida to the new Jefferson county facility.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Surefire for their well-deserved Innovative Technology Award and their continued contribution to Jefferson County.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify my position on rollcall votes cast on March 16, 2015.

On Rollcall Vote Number 113, on consideration of H.R. 647 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

On Rollcall Vote Number 114, on consideration of H.R. 648 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

On Rollcall Vote Number 115, on consideration of H.R. 876 I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "yea."

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. BOGAARD

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William J. Bogaard, who is retiring from his position as Mayor of the City of Pasadena, California. Well-known and well-respected on a local, state and national level as an outstanding leader and a man of great civility, impeccable character and immense integrity, Mayor Bogaard is the city's first directly elect-

ed mayor and has skillfully led Pasadena with distinction for over two decades.

Born in 1938, William Joseph "Bill" Bogaard was born and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. He majored in English at Loyola University, now Loyola Marymount University in California, and after serving as a Captain in the United States Air Force, he graduated from Michigan Law School. In 1961, Mr. Bogaard married Claire Whalen of San Francisco, and after residing in Morocco, Michigan and Los Angeles for nearly a decade, they moved with their family in the early 1970's to Pasadena, fully immersing themselves in the community, joining their neighborhood association and the local Parent Teacher Association. In 1978, Bill ran for the Pasadena City Council where he served for eight years, including a rotation into the mayoral position for two years.

Mayor Bogaard's many accomplishments include guiding the city through a major recession, overseeing the establishment of new arts institutions, investment in new housing, and major capital improvement projects at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena City Hall and the Colorado Street Bridge, and the construction of a new convention center. Mr. Bogaard was instrumental in leading the Gold Line light rail transit project, the preservation of Old Pasadena into a national role model for redevelopment and walkable live/work urban planning, making crucial investments in city personnel and police and fire resources, and establishing partnerships with Pasadena's schools, businesses, and arts organizations. In addition, Bill represented the city in many organizations, including the California League of Cities, where he served as President. With an impressive record of past community service, Mayor Bogaard is currently a member of the Gold Line Foothill Construction Authority and the Urban Land Institute, is Chair of the Pasadena Bioscience Collaborative, and serves on the President's Advisory Council for California State University Los Angeles and the Leadership Advisory Council of the Pasadena Educational Foundation. Mr. Bogaard has received the City of Pasadena's highest honor, the Arthur Noble Award, the University of Michigan's David B. Hermelin Volunteer Fundraising Leadership Award, and Loyola Marymount University's Distinguished Alumni Award.

In his professional career, Mr. Bogaard was in private law practice, served as Executive Vice President of First Interstate Bancorp and taught law at USC Law School and the University of Michigan. Married for fifty-four years, Bill and his wife Claire have four children, Michele, Jeannine, Joseph, and Matthew, and seven grandchildren.

Mayor Bill Bogaard has been an invaluable asset to the City of Pasadena and its residents. I ask all Members to join me in thanking Bill Bogaard for over two decades of dedicated public service.

RECOGNIZING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD & THE LINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC EDUCATION AWARD

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the School District of South Or-

ange and Maplewood and the Linden Public Schools for receiving recognition as one of the Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) from the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM). This association only recognized 388 school districts around the nation this year and I am very proud of each district's achievement.

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) gives its distinction for outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders to emphasize the importance and accessibility that every child have to music education. The BCME program evaluates districts and schools based on funding, staffing of highly qualified teachers, commitment to standards, and access to music instruction.

Music education helps develop educational, cognitive, and social skills. Listening to music strengthens the ability to perceive speech within noise, pay attention, and develop memory abilities. Music exposure reveals different aspects of brain function and addresses language and learning difficulties, such as the neural timing precision between speech syllables.

The School District of South Orange and Maplewood and the Linden Public Schools have done an excellent job in promoting music education and in successfully exceeding any challenges and barriers that may have appeared along their pathway. I hope they continue empowering the community with their leadership and enthusiasm in music education.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,064,358,207.58. We've added \$7,525,187,309,294.50 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

SENIORS' RESOURCE CENTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Seniors' Resource Center for being honored with the 2014 Excellence in Not-for-Profit Leadership award.

According to LeadingAge, an organization focused on education, advocacy, and applied research in the field of aging, who awarded Seniors' Resource Center, the award recognizes organizations that are models of excellence in not-for-profit leadership and exemplify to the highest degree the seven key attributes that characterize high-performing nonprofits and distinguish the sector from any other. The

seven attributes are: Productive, Empowering, Effective, Enriching, Reliable, Responsive and Caring. The Seniors' Resource Center embodies all of these attributes with their dedication to the community and their high-quality programs.

The Seniors' Resource Center, located in Jefferson County, Colorado, is an important community partner that provides services to enhance independence, dignity and quality of life for senior citizens in our community. Seniors' Resource Center ensures all of their customers receive outstanding care in the adult day and respite program.

I extend my deepest congratulations to the Seniors' Resource Center for this well-deserved recognition. Thank you for everything you do in our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF VERA MEDLY FOSTER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Vera Medley Foster, who passed away on February 25, 2015 at the age of 90. A selfless servant to the underprivileged youth in Western New York, Mrs. Foster was a prominent member of the community.

Vera Medley Foster was born on November 3, 1924 in Helena, Arkansas. During her early life she lived on expansive land with her family, where she was brought up learning wholesome values from her family and schooling. She went on to marry her high school sweetheart, the late Bernard Austin and moved to St. Louis in the 1940's to open her own ice cream parlor and sandwich shop.

After Ms. Foster's endeavors, she found herself settling in Buffalo where she met her life partner Mr. Clinton Modis Foster. Together they had three children whom she devoted her life and love to. While raising her children she returned to her entrepreneurial roots and opened a beauty salon in her home. Her salon became a staple of the community and the influence of her kind heart began to touch more people. As her children grew older she became more involved in the community with the Parent Teachers Association of Buffalo Public School #23; the Delavan-Moselle Community Center and the Wider Horizons Tutoring and Enrichment Program.

Ms. Foster's influence did not stop there; later she became involved with the City of Buffalo's leadership and served on mayoral cabinets. She served as an advocate for the youth of the City and set up many for success through the Mayors Summer Youth program. Ms. Foster served on the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park Steering Committee, as well as on the board of directors for the Masten Boys and Girls club for 32 years. Her passion for business never faded, as time went on Ms. Foster founded and served as president of the North Fillmore Business Association.

Ms. Foster was beloved by the community she served. She has been honored by over one hundred proclamations and awards from the City of Buffalo and organizations. Ms. Foster also has been honored with a day in her name, August 3, 2013 was proclaimed as

Vera Medley Foster Day, and shall always be remembered as such. Her name is also engraved in the streets of Buffalo with Vera Medley Foster Way in the heart of the city.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the life of Vera Medley Foster. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the Foster family, and to celebrate the exemplary work she did to enrich the communities of Western New York.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO VFW POST 101 IN DOWNTOWN COLORADO SPRINGS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to VFW Post 101 in downtown Colorado Springs on the occasion of their 95th Anniversary.

As the oldest and friendliest post in the city, Post 101 has positively impacted the lives of tens of thousands of local veterans and their families.

The post helps welcome home troops, attends memorial services, hosts retirement and promotion parties, provides scholarships to local students, advocates for our veterans, promotes patriotism, and supports family members during difficult deployments.

Please join me in wishing VFW Post 101 a happy anniversary and thanking them for the tremendously important services they provide to our military community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. EDWARD L. KEYTON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Minister Edward L. Keyton is celebrating thirty-four (34) years in ministry this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Minister Edward L. Keyton, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained the Church of Christ at Bouldercrest as Senior Evangelist, he has enhanced the church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Minister Edward L. Keyton is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his church, but with our district and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Minister Edward L. Keyton as he celebrates thirty-four years in

ministry and to salute him as he retires from ministerial leadership; A true Man of Excellence; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 17, 2015 as Minister Edward L. Keyton Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 17th day of April, 2015.

45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROLLA AREA SHELTERED WORK- SHOP

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 45th anniversary of the Rolla Area Sheltered Workshop in Rolla, Missouri. It is a place that empowers individuals to use their skills working in a sheltered environment with caring staff. Since its establishment in 1970, the workshop has provided quality employment for individuals with disabilities of all kinds.

Beginning in January 1969, the mother of a disabled son saw a need for a sheltered work environment for those who were too old for a State Training School. Together, the mother and two women who were involved with the Jaycettes, developed the idea for a sheltered workshop in Rolla. With the help and support of the entire community, the Rolla Area Sheltered Workshop opened its doors a little over a year later. Today, the workshop has 75 disabled employees who have found an environment where they can work productively and independently. Alongside a supportive staff of eight, the employees work on printed material, collating, sorting the different kinds, packing and labeling bags, among other projects.

For the many years of service and commitment to helping others, it is my pleasure to recognize the Rolla Area Sheltered Workshop before the United States House of Representatives.

LUTHERAN MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Lutheran Medical Center for their community leadership and economic contribution to Jefferson County.

What began in 1905 as the Evangelical Lutheran Sanitarium for patients suffering from tuberculosis continues today as one of the busiest and most respected hospitals in the nation. Exempla Lutheran provides a wide range of medical services as well as community programs.

Lutheran started as the first senior emergence room in the region and in Colorado, but later built a larger and more spacious Senior ER to meet and increased need for specialized services for elderly patients. The new Senior ER opened with 14 specially-designed, private patient rooms and a 40 percent increase in space.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Lutheran Medical Center for their well-deserved Business Recognition Award.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRITZ COLEMAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor San Fernando Valley resident and Los Angeles' iconic weathercaster, Mr. Fritz Coleman.

Mr. Coleman started his early career as a disc jockey and radio talk show host for numerous stations across the nation. In 1980, he moved to Los Angeles and soon became a regular act at many of the local comedy clubs. His humor and improvisational stand-up experience propelled him to work on various comedy specials and series, such as "Fritz and Friends" and "The Perils of Parenting" in addition to producing and starring in three one-man plays. His performances have earned him many accolades including four Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards.

In February 1982, Mr. Coleman joined the National Broadcasting Company Southern California news (NBC4) as the weekend weathercaster. Shortly afterwards, he became a weekday weathercaster and has since delivered laughter-filled weather reporting on the evening news. Mr. Coleman once remarked, "Weather can be funny. Your big mission as a weatherman in Southern California is to try to make the same forecast sound slightly different and entertaining every day between April and November when the weather is exactly the same." His tireless work ethic, charisma, and commitment to the community led him to become the face of NBC4's weather segment in Southern California and led him to be named "the Best Weathercaster" by every major newspaper in Southern California.

Always willing to serve the community, Mr. Coleman has organized numerous entertainment fundraising events for local service and civic organizations, and has also served as master of ceremonies for many Southern California community events. His selflessness and dedication to bettering the Los Angeles area has been recognized by many organizations including the Burbank Chamber of Commerce and the California Hospital Medical Center. Mr. Coleman has also been named a "Treasure of Los Angeles" by the City of Los Angeles and has received the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the United States House of Representatives.

It is my great honor to call Fritz a friend, and commend him for his unquenchable community spirit. I ask all Members of Congress to join me in recognizing Fritz Coleman for his exemplary service to the greater Los Angeles community.

MR. R. WAYNE LOWE

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. R. Wayne Lowe today for his contributions to central

Georgia. He has been a leader in his community, and will be honored with the golden eagle award for his achievements.

Sixty years ago, Mr. Lowe became a youth member of the Boy Scouts of America. Throughout his life, he has lived up to the ideals he learned in the scouts, following the principles of the scout oath and scout law.

In his community, Mr. Lowe has achieved distinction as a corporate officer, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and public servant. He has given distinguished service to his community and nation as board member of Houston County School Board; director and shareholder of Planters First Bank; lifetime member of the Air Force Association; board member of the Museum of Aviation; member of the First United Methodist Church; member of the 21st Century Partnership; member of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association; friend of Scouting in the Central Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America; and supporter of many worthwhile organizations.

Through his actions, service, and devotion, Mr. Lowe has demonstrated that he is a leader, a mentor, and a friend of scouting.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF CARMELA TRIPPI**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Carmela Trippi, a stalwart supporter of the Democratic Party, who passed away on April 2, 2015 at the age of 105. A beloved voice in Western New York politics, Mrs. Trippi's commitment helped shape our region in a positive way.

Mrs. Trippi's passion for democratic values began in the 1940's where she advocated on behalf of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. She went on to become an influential committeewoman for the Democratic Party. In her early political life she contributed to President John F. Kennedy and New York Senator Robert F. Kennedy campaigns and she then became the founder of the Jacqueline Kennedy Woman's Democratic Club, and served as president for over fifty years.

Mrs. Trippi was a prominent voice in the Western New York community. She had ties to former Mayor of Buffalo, Frank Sedita and Former Congressman of Western New York, Henry Nowak. Mrs. Trippi helped influence sweeping change while serving on Congressman Nowak's staff for eighteen years. She also served on the staff of current New York Court of Appeals Judge Eugene Fahey while he was a Buffalo Common Council member.

Mrs. Trippi signified her place in Western New York Political history by working first hand with voters, knocking on doors in the community. Her passion for campaigning never faded. She would go door to door even into her 90's and never wavered in her commitment and support as an Erie County Democratic Committee member.

Mrs. Trippi's work in Western New York has not gone unrecognized. In 2004 she was nominated for the Western New York Women's

Hall of Fame. While her milestone birthdays were always recognized by the community, her 99th birthday was honored by the Erie County Legislature. Mrs. Trippi will be remembered fondly by all members of the Western New York community and recalled for her passion and commitment to Democratic values. Mrs. Trippi believed politics are an essential aspect of life and urged all involved to be genuine and compassionate while serving the public.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Mrs. Carmela Trippi. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to her family and friends. Her good work and selfless devotion to Western New York will inspire many others to stand behind their principles and be involved in their communities.

**36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT**

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an important friend and staunch ally of the United States: Taiwan, as we celebrate the 36th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) of 1979.

This important legislation remains to be the cornerstone of U.S.—Taiwan relations. It stipulates that it is the policy of the United States to "make available to Taiwan such defense articles and defense services in such quantity as may be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability."

In 2001, the Bush Administration agreed to help Taiwan obtain eight diesel-electric submarines. Fourteen years later, Taiwan's submarine fleet continues to consist of four submarines, two of Dutch construction from the 1980s, and two ex-U.S. Navy Guppy-class boats built at the end of World War II. As Beijing has not disavowed the use of force to one day take possession of Taiwan, as Beijing has rapidly expanded and modernized its military across the board since the beginning of this century, and as the balance of military power in the Taiwan Strait continues to shift in Beijing's favor, the rationale for Taiwan to acquire a robust submarine force in order to defend itself from any amphibious threats is obvious.

Late last year, Taiwan decided that it can wait no longer, and is moving ahead with plans to design its own submarine fleet. I believe the U.S. Government should allow American shipbuilders and submarine-technology manufacturers to work with Taiwan, both to assess Taiwan's capabilities and to bid on systems work. Finally, I urge the Obama Administration to encourage other manufacturers of diesel-electric subs to work with Taiwan, regardless of pressure from Beijing.

As we celebrate the 36th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, I am honored to have had the opportunity today to lend my voice to the chorus of support for reaffirming our nation's strong bond with the government and people of Taiwan, and I ask my colleagues to support this important issue over the course of this Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOCTOR JOHN
INGLE

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize and acknowledge Dr. John Ingle for his tremendous contributions to healthcare and endodontics.

Dr. John Ingle was a pioneer in endodontics dentistry. He attended Northwestern University Dental School then continued on to earn two graduate degrees in endodontics and periodontics from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry in 1948. Dr. Ingle is also one of the many military heroes that served valiantly in World War II as part of the U.S. Army Air Force. Dr. Ingle initiated the graduate endodontics program at the University of Washington in 1959 and served as chairman of the combined Department of Periodontics and Endodontics, one of only five such programs in the world at that time. He then moved to the University of Southern California where he served as dean and professor of the USC School of Dentistry for 8 years. After leaving USC, Dr. Ingle joined the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences here in Washington, DC. Later he became president of Palm Springs Seminars in California, a leading institution of dental continuing education.

The landmark book *Endodontics* was penned by Dr. Ingle. Published in 1965, it is now on its sixth edition. Dr. Ingle was a founding member of the American Board of Endodontics and the past president of the American Association of Endodontists.

Dr. Ingle gave much of his life to the study and expansion of dental practices and exploration into endodontics and periodontics. His care extended past his patients to new generations of dentists, clinicians, teachers and researchers that continue to give to the field he loved so much.

The American Association of Endodontists and I are proud to honor Dr. Ingle for his great contributions to dentistry and endodontics. As a fellow dentist, I am personally thankful for the dedication of Dr. Ingle to expand modern dentistry and empowering so many others to serve more effectively in the same craft.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 23, 2015, I was unable to be present for recorded votes due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted: "no" on rollcall vote No. 130, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 131.

EMMA FISCHER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emma Fischer

for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Emma Fischer is a 12th grader at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emma Fischer is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emma Fischer for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF NAN TUCKER McEVoy

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on March 26th, San Francisco lost a great civic leader, philanthropist and beloved friend. Nan McEvoy was a trailblazing, entrepreneurial woman whose wisdom, courage, and generosity, reminded us of our responsibility to improve our communities and our world. Nan strengthened our democracy through her service at the newspaper her family founded, the San Francisco Chronicle, and set a sterling example as a compassionate and concerned global citizen as an early Peace Corps volunteer.

All of Nan's many friends knew that, although her commitment to public service was well known and respected, her love of her family as a mother and grandmother was first and foremost in her life.

Phyllis Ann Tucker was born into a prominent publishing family on July 15, 1919 in San Mateo, California. Her grandfather, M.H. de Young, founded the one hundred and fifty year old newspaper, the San Francisco Chronicle. During the war, Nan worked as a writer and a reporter for the newspaper, and helped cover the founding of the United Nations in San Francisco.

After the war, Nan made her home in Washington, D.C., where she became an active leader in public service, philanthropy, and politics for four decades. She participated in the 1956 presidential campaign of Democratic candidate Adlai Stevenson and, in 1961, became a top aide to Sargent Shriver, the founding director of the Peace Corps, where she was later chosen to run the Corps' African programs. In 1965, she opened the Washington office of the Population Council, a non-profit agency addressing global issues of population, poverty, development and health. She also served as a U.S. delegate to UNESCO, the cultural arm of the United Nations.

Returning to San Francisco, she assumed leadership of the family newspaper as Chair of the Board of Chronicle Publishing from 1981–1995. She was a true believer in journalism and wholly committed to preserving the family company. She served as a board member at the University of California, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the San Fran-

cisco Symphony, among other San Francisco organizations, and was the first woman to chair the governing board of the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C.

After Chronicle Publishing was sold, Nan devoted her energies to producing premium extra virgin olive oil at her ranch outside Petaluma in Marin County. The company is now the country's largest producer of certified organic estate-produced extra-virgin olive oil and has been rated as among the best in the world.

Our country has lost a pioneer woman, our community has lost a gracious leader and my family has lost a dear friend. May it be a comfort to Nan's son, Nion, her grandchildren, Helen, Nion, Jr. and Griffin, and her entire family that so many people mourn their loss and that Nan's legacy will always be an inspiration to the nation she loved.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BEVERLY DANIEL
TATUM

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Thirteen years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve as President of Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum has enhanced the academic curriculum at Spelman, increased the goodwill of the college throughout the community and she has created a legacy that has provided for the students through scholarships and servitude; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a friend, a fearless leader and a servant to ensure that Spelman students receive the best education and skills to become outstanding leaders of our communities and nation; and

Whereas, Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum on her retirement as President of Spelman College and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 as Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 24th day of April, 2015.

RECOGNIZING RONALD WILEY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a stalwart Rochesterian and a beacon in our community: Ronald Wiley, a man who dedicated his life to building the bonds on which our nation stands.

A native son of Watertown, New York, Ronald graduated in 1949 from Watertown High

School and attended St. Lawrence University Collegiate Center in Watertown. During the Korean War, Ronald answered his country's call by proudly serving in the U.S. Navy as a journalist. His service during the war marked the start of his career in journalism and life-long concern for others.

Attending college on the G.I. Bill, Ronald graduated from the University of Virginia in 1958 and then moved home to Watertown where he worked at the Watertown Daily Times as a reporter and later as a copy editor. While working at the Daily Times, Ronald honed the writing skills that would serve him so well for the rest of his life.

In Rochester, Ronald served for 14 years as editor-in-chief of Kodak's weekly employee newspaper, Kodakery. In this capacity, he helped to lift the spirit of the Kodak family and kept them connected, informed.

On top of his commitment to Kodak, Ronald was a pillar of Rochester's business and civic communities. As an officer in the International Association of Business Communicators, Ronald helped others learn the trade that he had so clearly mastered at Kodak. He was also active in the Irondequoit United Church of Christ and served for many years as an assistant scoutmaster with Boy Scout Troop 154. There is no doubt that Ronald's teaching, mentorship, and example inspired untold young people to lift their eyes to the mountaintops, inspiring them to consider the wisdom and power of nature.

Together with Eva, his loving wife of 47 years, Ronald raised two children and four grandchildren. While living in Rochester, Ronald and Eva enjoyed square dancing and playing cards, particularly Hearts. Ronald and his family were avid hikers who frequently explored the Adirondack High Peaks. In fact, Ronald summited all 46 high peaks of the Adirondacks and was named an Adirondack Forty-Sixer.

In tribute to Ronald's lifetime of service in Rochester and beyond, I stand to honor him today. As his family and friends mourn his passing, let this record celebrate his legacy of love, compassion, and good works. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Wiley strengthened every community he called home and his dedication to his fellow American shows us the best of our nation's soul.

Ralph Waldo Emerson described the successful life like this: "To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends. To appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."

Surely, Ronald succeeded.

LAWN CARE MONTH DECLARATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize April as national lawn care month.

The landscape industry employs approximately one million people across America and contributes an estimated eighty billion dollars to this economy. From the national mall to an opening day outfield, and even to our own front and back yards, images of beautiful lawns and yards are often iconic depictions of American culture and the American dream.

As we recognize these images, we must also recognize the work that goes into the upkeep of such lawns. Landscape and lawn care professionals play a vital role in ensuring that these important lawns are not only maintained, but also healthy, as healthy grass and turf have important environmental benefits. Healthy grass produces oxygen, reduces runoff, which improves water quality, removes carbon dioxide from the air, acts like an air conditioner—cooling everything around it, reduces noise, and acts as a firebreak.

IN TRIBUTE TO LEO RIES

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leo Ries, the Executive Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Ries is retiring after 15 years with this organization; the office he ran is part of LISC's national network.

Mr. Ries has spent much of his career helping improve neighborhoods in Milwaukee. Prior to his employment at LISC, he worked for the City of Milwaukee for 10 years, ultimately serving as Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development. Mr. Ries' heart has always been in neighborhood work; he brought people and organizations together in order to create projects that had a real impact on struggling neighborhoods. He has remained optimistic regarding the future of Milwaukee's neighborhoods even while acknowledging the challenges of people struggling against "hopelessness and helplessness"; he sees promise and opportunities in the resurgence of urban living especially by the millennial generation.

The son of a Sheboygan mink rancher, Ries is the youngest of seven children. He attended a seminary high school and thought for a time he wanted to be a priest. Leo Ries has enjoyed an unusual and varied working life. He worked as a volunteer at Casa Maria Catholic Worker House, a cab driver, registered nurse in an intensive care unit and as business manager for two inner-city Catholic churches.

Mr. Ries has worked on many initiatives during his tenure at LISC but he has identified two recent projects as being especially meaningful. The relaunching of the Associates in Commercial Real Estate (ACRE) program, which Marquette University oversaw from 2005 to 2010, to help introduce minorities to careers in commercial real estate and working with the Milwaukee Police Department on proactive community safety strategies. He sees both of these initiatives as providing a structure for building relationships among people; people from different races came together for these two projects with a shared interest in building Milwaukee's future.

LISC has accomplished so much under the leadership of Leo Ries; programs initiated

under his tutelage have become models for the nation and made Milwaukee a strong, prosperous community for all of its residents. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Leo Ries for so many years and wish him much success as he transitions into a different phase of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Leo Ries and I am proud to call him friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of his ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. Leo, I thank you for all that you have done. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Leo Ries.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAY BARBER OF BOZRAH, CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor an exceptional constituent from Bozrah, Connecticut whose lifetime of service, leadership, and expertise was recently recognized by the New London County Fire Chiefs' Association upon his installation as their next president.

Ray Barber is a local institution with an extensive history of community and public service dating back to his teen years when he joined the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Company in 1952. As Chief and then President of the BVFC, Mr. Barber served through the town's acquisition of its first fire truck in 1953, and through the decades, helped grow the emergency services the town provides to its residents. Today, Bozrah is a heart-safe community with a full complement of EMTs and ambulance services thanks in large part to Mr. Barber's commitment to improving safety.

Mr. Barber's contributions expand well beyond the BVFC. He served in the U.S. Army, as First Selectman in Bozrah, for 20 years, on the Bozrah Board of Finance, and in the Connecticut Council of Governments. It would be an understatement to say that his skills and passion for the region made his new role as President of the New London County Fire Chiefs' Association a richly deserved honor.

As President, Mr. Barber will lead an 83-year-old institution with 65 member organizations and will represent the interests of volunteer and career fire fighters across the region—over 3,000 personnel. I ask the House to join me in thanking Ray Barber for his service, congratulating him on this deserved honor, and wishing him success in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL RANDOLPH E. ROSIN

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Randolph E. Rosin of New Jersey for his military achievements, contributions, and service to the people of New Jersey and the United States of America.

Originally from Watertown, Connecticut, Colonel Rosin enlisted in the Army in 1979 after his high school graduation. While serving, he was accepted to the United States Military Academy Prep School at Fort Monmouth, NJ, later going on to West Point and concentrating in Middle Eastern studies and Arabic. Afterwards, Col. Rosin served with the 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, TX, and the "Hell on Wheels" 2nd Armored Division. Colonel Rosin greatly benefited from this training post-graduation as he served in Saudi Arabia for Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM as the coalition warfare operations office for the Army Forces Central Command. His most significant effort during that war was his initiative to develop the anti-fratricide measures used by all Coalition forces, such as the inverted "V" which saved countless lives from friendly fire.

After completing psychological operations career field training, Colonel Rosin was deployed as a Middle Eastern-focused psychological operations officer in Saudi Arabia and later to Egypt, Jordan, and Yemen. He also participated in Operation DESERT FOX. Additionally, Colonel Rosin was a part of a core group of planners that was responsible for planning our nation's response to the 9/11 attacks.

More recently, Colonel Rosin has worked in the Office of Military Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy in Egypt, as well as part of the Information Operations Chief for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, leading a large staff that worked on degrading extremist threats and legitimizing the Iraqi government.

After returning to the United States, Colonel Rosin worked as the Chief of the Information Operation of the Middle East Region in the U.S. Central Command, countering violent extremist propaganda on the web. Serving as the direct representative of the Secretary of Defense to the U.S. Ambassador and Government of Yemen, he oversaw military operations to prevent attacks on the U.S. Homeland and develop cooperation programs throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Randolph E. Rosin is a great American who exemplifies true love for our country. His service, which has been honored by 20 awards, is one that should be remembered as he retires from our Armed Forces.

RECOGNIZING THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the parishioners of St. Bede the Venerable on the anniversary of the founding of the church that has provided spiritual guidance for 50 years, the first Catholic church in Northampton Township. St. Bede parishioners also are recognized and commended for the contributions they have provided to the spiritual and moral well-being of the greater Northampton community. Yours is a history that began on May 26, 1963 with the announcement of the founding by His Eminence John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia. An elementary school followed in 1966 and con-

tinued until the 2012–13 school year when St. Bede the Venerable School was merged with Assumption BVM, of Feasterville to become St. Katharine Drexel Regional School. This school, kindergarten through 8th grade, continues the tradition of providing an exemplary, faith-based curriculum, while the parish has grown to include more than 3,200 families and 11,000 parishioners. May your mission continue to the community of the faithful—with all good wishes for the future.

HONORING PADS OF LAKE COUNTY

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize PADS of Lake County for the exceptional work they do providing emergency shelter to families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Providing advocacy, dignity and shelter, PADS Lake County works to combat homelessness with compassion and respect. PADS strives to end homelessness by helping clients commit to their own health and recovery and assisting them in gaining self-sufficiency through affordable housing.

PADS is the first point of contact when homelessness strikes and often the only hope for individuals, families and veterans facing a long night in the cold or extreme heat. In this way, PADS truly does save lives.

In short, PADS services provide a safe environment for people to get back on their feet, and the Tenth District is fortunate to have an organization like PADS providing critical services to our individuals and families most in need.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL WARTELL COMMUNITY SERVANT, ARMY VETERAN AND GOOD SAMARITAN

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have taken to this floor many times to mourn the tragic deaths caused by senseless death acts of gun violence that have too frequently plagued our communities in recent years.

I rise today to remember Michael Wartell of Houston, Texas, a constituent of mine who died last Thursday, March 26, 2015, when he was caught in the crossfire of a gun fight and struck by a stray bullet.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Wartell lost his life doing what he lived for, helping others.

The reason he happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time on that fateful day is because he was there to do the right thing for the right reason.

As the Houston Chronicle reported, "the 62-year-old Army veteran made a habit of going out of his way to protect the people he cared about, to make sure they were safe, [including] out for the owners of a tiny laundromat less than half a block from his Fifth Ward home."

After a robbery there, Michael Wartell often would go to the laundromat to see to it that the owners made it safely to their cars at the end of the day; once he broke up a fight at the laundromat, persuading a gunman to put away his weapon.

Born and raised in Houston, after high school Michael Wartell enlisted in the United States Army, serving two tours of duty.

After his service in the military, he worked as a truck driver driving across the country in his 18-wheeler for over twenty years, before retiring to move back home so he could care for his aging mother, Earline.

Michael Wartell loved to read, particularly books about history and cooking and he loved to cook, spend time with his dog, and lend a helping hand to people in his neighborhood.

Unfortunately, last Thursday Wartell was caught in the crossfire, struck by a stray bullet as he tried to run to safety.

Mr. Speaker, this terrible tragedy is simply the latest reminder that action is needed, and needed now, to prevent gun violence.

As a member of the House Democratic Task Force on Gun Violence Prevention and the Ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, I understand that changing the pervasive culture of gun violence will not happen overnight.

This tragedy is another powerful reminder of the urgent need to enact sensible policies to reduce the incidence of gun violence, beginning with the adoption of universal background checks which are supported by nearly 90% of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the death of Michael Wartell is a tragedy for his family and loved ones, for the Houston community, and for the nation he served with honor and distinction as a member of the Armed Forces.

He will be deeply missed and I ask that a moment of silence be observed in his memory.

HONORING THE LIFE OF Yael HORNSTEIN GALPERIN

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Yael Hornstein Galperin—mother, wife, grandmother, professional opera singer, and school administrator—who passed away on April 5, 2015, at the age of 87.

Yael met every challenge in life head on, with integrity and great intellect. Born in Israel to Russian immigrant parents, she took a job at a salt factory so that she could help support her family. She went on to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces and its elite security service, and later pursued a career as a professional opera singer.

In 1949, she married a fellow opera singer, Levi Galperin, a Holocaust survivor and rabbi from Romania. The young couple moved to Philadelphia, where Yael was awarded a full scholarship to the Academy of Vocal Arts, and was a prized performer.

Yael embraced motherhood, putting aside her full-time pursuit of opera to raise her children. She continued to sing, but also began to

teach and work as a school administrator. Upon her move to California in the 1980s, she began to work with the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, where she worked in the Bureau of Jewish Education for over 13 years.

Yael was an avid reader, spoke multiple languages, and embraced adventure by traveling the world and constantly taking on new challenges. She is survived by her husband, Rabbi Dr. Levi Galperin, her son, L.A. City Controller Ron Galperin, her daughter Leora Krygeir, her sons-in-law, David Krygier and Rabbi Zachary Shapiro, and her grandchildren, whom I hope take comfort in the way Yael lived her life as an accomplished and astounding woman. May her memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, for sixty-two years the United States and Taiwan have built and maintained a close relationship that has been of mutual political, economic, cultural and strategic benefit.

April 10th of this year marked the 36th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) which ensured that the United States would have continued commercial and cultural relations with Taiwan. Even though the Taiwan Relations Act is only 36 years old, Taiwan has been a friend and ally to the United States for much longer. Since the signing of the TRA in 1979, Taiwan has become a beacon of democracy in a part of the world where free elections are uncommon and many people are denied their basic freedoms.

Taiwan has also developed into an economic powerhouse over the last three decades. Their economy is robust and Taiwan has become one of the largest and most invaluable trading partners for the United States.

I want to thank the Taiwanese people for their continued friendship and support. It is my hope that the United States and Taiwan will continue to work together to promote enduring peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.

RECOGNIZING MILWAUKEE JOB CORPS ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Job Corps Program. Established in 1964, it was one of the central initiatives of President Johnson's War on Poverty and modeled after President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Initiative called the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC employed thousands of people during the Great Depression to help rebuild our country's infrastructure.

This is certainly a milestone year for the Job Corps Program nationally. I am honored, as an elected official, to have had a role in bringing this worthwhile program to the 4th Con-

gressional District of Wisconsin. Job Corps assists low-income student ages 16 to 24 improve the quality of their lives through vocational and academic training. Because of its emphasis on providing academic and "hands on" training, graduates of Job Corps' program are assured the all-around skills needed to succeed in a career and in life.

The Milwaukee Center is just one of 125 Job Centers nationally serving 60,000 students each year. Since its inception, Job Corps has served more than three million young people. The benefits of this no cost education and career technical training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor are both tremendous and life changing. Over 80 percent of the Job Corps graduates obtain jobs, enroll in higher education or enter the military. In fact, Job Corps is the nation's largest and most successful residential training program.

In addition to the direct services provided to participants, Job Corps impacts the local communities in which they are sited with economic benefits. 228 local jobs are directly or indirectly supported by the average Job Corps campus each year and \$1.91 in local economic activity is generated by each dollar invested in Job Corps.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply proud of Job Corps success over the past 50 years. I commend them for their work and dedication to our nation's at-risk, jobless and disenfranchised youth. I will continue to lend my support to the Job Corps mission of teaching eligible young people the skills they need to become employable or further their education. Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of Job Corps and continued success in the 4th Congressional District and around the country.

CONGRATULATING A SAFE PLACE ON ITS NEW MUNDELEIN FACILITY

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, every nine seconds a woman is assaulted or beaten in the United States, and one in four women will experience domestic violence at some point in her lifetime. The statistics are, quite simply, alarming.

I want to recognize an organization in our district working to combat the very real and disturbing violence behind these statistics. A Safe Place of Lake County transforms the lives of victims of domestic violence by providing counseling, shelter, support groups, training, legal support and outreach to prevent further abuse. Its goal is to encourage a whole community to break the cycle of violence through education and speaking out against destructive behavior.

A Safe Place transforms hundreds of families by giving them the opportunity to receive the help they need and a chance to start a new chapter in their lives. I stand with A Safe Place because everyone deserves a safe and healthy life.

RECOGNIZING THE VICTIMS OF THE SMOLENSK AIR CRASH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those who died 5 years ago in the tragic Smolensk air crash. On the morning of April 10th, 2010, Polish Air Force One went down at Smolenski North Military Airfield in Western Russia, killing 96 passengers. Among the passengers onboard the flight were Poland's President Lech Kaczynski, First Lady Maria Kaczynska, political and military officials, and civilian families.

That day, Polish Air Force One was headed to an event marking the 70th Anniversary of the massacre of thousands of Polish prisoners of war by Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Secret Police, known as the Katyn Forest Massacre. Now, on this day, we not only remember those who died 70 years ago, but also those who tragically lost their lives just 5 years ago. I pray for the families of those who lost loved ones, and pray for a strengthened and united Poland in years to come.

In recognition of the 5th Anniversary of the Smolensk Disaster, Polish community members in my district, and the surrounding area, will gather at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown to honor those who lost their lives. I join them in marking this important date with reflection and prayer.

Today, Poland remains one of America's strongest allies, with mutual interests advancing the causes of liberty and freedom at home and around the world. We must continue to have a strong United States—Poland relationship in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF RITZ THEATER COMPANY'S 30TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Ritz Theater Company's 30th anniversary. For thirty years, the Ritz Theater has provided Haddon Township and New Jersey with unprecedented cultural experiences.

Since 1986, the Ritz Theater Company has made renovation, restoration, and preservation of their historic building a major priority. Now with their 30th anniversary approaching, the theater company has begun construction of their set for the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "A Streetcar Named Desire" from 1947. This ambitious undertaking is just an example of the quality events the theater company has provided to the community for three decades.

The Ritz Theater Company has received ample support from the community over the years. For example, local volunteers spent three weeks constructing the "Streetcar" set and two weeks installing it. This kind of community support maintains the vital bond between the theater and its audience.

The Ritz Theater Company acknowledges the importance of community involvement for a growing, local theater and each season, the

theater adds an assortment of student productions, concerts and films. During the off season, the Ritz holds a summer program for youth performers, providing scholarships to students in the Haddon Township community. To mark their 30th anniversary, the Ritz Theater Company will expand on its youth programs and scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, The Ritz Theater Company is a unique establishment that connects the beauty of the arts to the beauty of working together to accomplish greatness. I look forward to seeing what the next thirty years bring for The Ritz Theater Company, Haddon Township and New Jersey.

REMEMBERING CESAR CHAVEZ,
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, LABOR
LEADER, AND CHAMPION OF
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of one of the greatest Americans produced by our beloved country, Cesar Estrada Chavez who died on April 23, 1993 at the age of 66.

Cesar Chavez was a civil rights activist, labor leader, and champion of social and economic justice.

Throughout his life Cesar Chavez fought for justice for the poor, the young, the vulnerable, and those living on the margins and in the shadows of the richest and most powerful nation on earth.

Because of Cesar Chavez, migrant farmworkers and their families now enjoy more humane living and working conditions.

Cesar Chavez knew firsthand how hard the life of migrant farm workers was because he lived it himself, beginning with his work in the fields of the Central Valley at the age of ten to help support his family.

In 1945, Chavez served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy as he fought in the latter part of World War II.

Cesar Chavez began his consequential career as a field organizer for the Community Service Organization in 1952 and steadily rose through the ranks until he became CSO National Director.

In 1965, Cesar Chavez co-founded the National Farm Workers Association with Dolores Huerta which evolved into the United Farm Workers union.

The National Farm Workers Association was successful in securing fair wages and safe working conditions for farm workers.

The UFW also led a worldwide grape boycott that helped ensure farm workers had a voice in contract negotiations.

In 1972 Cesar Chavez fasted in response to Arizona's passage of legislation that prohibited boycotts and strikes by farm workers during the harvest season.

With his death also came a great sense of pride for all the progress that Cesar Chavez brought as a direct result of his unwavering commitment to farm workers' rights.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had the honor of being the Grand Marshal for the 16th annual Cesar Chavez Day Parade in Houston.

The parade serves as a great opportunity not only to remember a great man, but to re-

mind us of our responsibilities to each other and to fight for equal justice for all persons.

Mr. Speaker, in addressing the Commonwealth Club in 1984, Cesar Chavez said:

Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore.

Mr. Speaker, Cesar Chavez was an agent of change.

He educated his people and instilled in them a sense of pride.

He taught them to be unafraid to fight for justice and human dignity.

Cesar Chavez made a difference, and he made our country better.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Cesar Estrada Chavez.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JACK
FORD, MAYOR EMERITUS AND
PRESIDENT OF CITY COUNCIL,
FORMER STATE REPRESENTA-
TIVE AND MINORITY LEADER OF
THE OHIO HOUSE OF REP-
RESENTATIVES

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jack Ford, who passed from our community on Saturday, March 21st.

Jack Ford was one of a kind. He gave his life, decade after decade, to our entire community. We hold an abiding gratitude for his lifetime of dedicated and honorable service to us. I particularly appreciated his genius and wry sense of humor. He never missed a beat. Our entire region has benefited from his generous and focused life on behalf of others.

Born in Springfield, Ohio to Edna and Stanton Ford, Jack Ford graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in social work. Already on a path to public service, he began his career with the Ohio Youth Commission. He came to Toledo in 1974 to earn his law degree from the University of Toledo. He then became director of the Lucas County Mental Health Board and consolidated county agencies into Substance Abuse Services Inc—known as SASI—which he directed.

Jack began his service in elected life in 1987, when he successfully ran for Toledo City Council, eventually serving as Council President in 1993. Beginning in 1994, Jack served in the State legislature until he reached his term limit. Always, he understood the interconnections of our City to the world beyond it. His knowledge was hard-earned and unique.

Jack Ford also made history. As an educator, health professional, and political activist, Mayor Ford became the very first African American Mayor elected in Toledo, in 2001. With his election as Mayor, he elevated our community to a more inclusive and progressive place. He made us proud. He was all business, and always demonstrated a hands-on, can-do attitude. He was a master of the City budget and directed his Administration to make long neglected improvements.

Following his tenure as Mayor, Jack was elected to the Board of Toledo Public Schools

and, most recently, returned to Toledo City Council to continue his service to our community. All the while, Jack imparted his knowledge to young people, encouraging and teaching at the university level. Even when not feeling well, he carried forward his duties in a soldierly and persevering manner, earning respect from all who knew him.

Jack always had a twinkle in his eye and a knack for presenting the unvarnished truth to all whose paths he crossed. He had a very kind heart and generously shared his beloved family and adopted family like Reverend John McKissick and his lovely wife Mrs. Pearl "Mother" McKissick. What beautiful memories I hold of these self-giving, intelligent, productive citizens. Jack brought everyone together for a greater good to which he pledged his worthy efforts. He reserved a special place in his life for students and youth he mentored. He took particular pleasure in the classroom. Teaching at the University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University allowed him to inspire many leaders for the next generation.

It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest sympathy to the Ford family: his wife Cynthia, his children, and his friends and associates. May the angels carry Jack Ford to a place of peace and rest. He has been truly a good, faithful, and honorable servant.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 23; Tuesday, March 24; Wednesday, March 25; and Thursday, March 26, 2015, I was out on medical leave while recovering from surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Yes" on rollcall vote No. 130 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 360), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 131 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 162), "no" on rollcall vote No. 132 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 163), "no" on rollcall vote No. 133 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 163), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 134 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 216, as amended), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 135 (on approving the journal), "no" on rollcall vote No. 136 (on agreeing to the Ellison Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 137 (on agreeing to the Butterfield Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 138 (on agreeing to the Stutzman Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 139 (on agreeing to the Van Hollen Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 140 (on agreeing to the first Tom Price Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 141 (on agreeing to the second Tom Price Amendment to H. Con. Res. 27), "no" on rollcall vote No. 142 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Con. Res. 27, as amended), "no" on rollcall vote No. 143 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 173), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 144 (on passage of H.R. 2).

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR PLAY
FAIR PAY ACT OF 2015**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, this is an amazing time for everyone who loves music. We have more ways to listen, incredible new paths to discover new artists, and “anytime anywhere” access to almost any type of music. Just as television has moved from a homogenized three-network world to the dynamic multi-platform competition of today—bringing us better and more varied programs than anyone could have imagined just a decade ago—radio has done the same. New digital services offer a dizzying area of choices and stations, and are pushing traditional AM/FM to innovate and break new ground as well.

But the rules governing radio music haven’t kept up with the times. After decades of legislative stopgaps, special interest exceptions, and congressional gridlock, radio businesses today operate under an absurd patchwork of inconsistent royalty standards and licensing rules. The result is a serious distortion of the economics of the radio business that artificially props up some services, and tilts the playing field steeply against others. And more than anything—it massively shortchanges artists and other music creators who, to this day, get paid nothing when their performances are aired on AM/FM radio.

Today in your dashboard you might have an AM/FM radio, a SiriusXM receiver, and an on-line link to Pandora. If you hear a song on Pandora, the artist and his or her accompanying musicians get a decent royalty, since Internet radio is governed by a fair market value royalty standard. However, if you hit a different button and hear the exact same recording on SiriusXM, the artist gets a much smaller royalty for the exact same song, because satellite radio pays below market royalties thanks to a 15 year old “grandfathered” exception from the normal royalty standard. If you tune in on AM/FM, the artist gets nothing for the same performance. Not a cent.

And if you click over to a song recorded before February 15, 1972, some of the biggest and most successful digital services have ceased paying royalties to older musicians, many of whom are past their working years and have no other way to make ends meet.

In the end, everybody loses under this chaotic system. Radio services are forced to compete in an unfair and distorted market that props up the oldest broadcast technology at the expense of innovative new services. How is it fair that companies like Pandora and SiriusXM, who pay royalties on all (post-1972) music, must compete against big radio conglomerates that don’t pay any royalties on most of the music they use? Even within the digital space, Pandora has loudly—and rightly—complained that its competitor SiriusXM pays royalties that are much lower based on totally arbitrary government decisions.

The Fair Play Fair Pay Act, which I am honored to introduce today along with my colleagues Congressmen MARSHA BLACKBURN (R-TN), JOHN CONYERS, JR. (D-MI) and TED DEUTCH (D-FL), corrects this unfair and illogical system. It harmonizes the rules for licensing of sound recordings across all platforms

and establishes a simple, fundamental principle for the radio business: Fair pay for all artists on all platforms. At the same time, it protects truly small, local, and non-commercial AM/FM radio stations by ensuring that their royalties are affordable, capped at \$500 a year for stations with revenue below \$1 million a year and at \$100 a year for noncommercial broadcasters.

It sets down a clear marker on the need to resolve the dispute over pre-72 music—making clear what should already have been obvious, that all music has value and all who create it should be paid regardless of age. The courts have begun the process of protecting the rights of older artists under state law. In the meantime, the provision in this bill can serve as a placeholder as we continue to monitor those developments, and work toward a long term solution that benefits all stakeholders.

The bill also addresses the distribution of royalties, codifying industry practices that simplify the allocation of royalties to music producers and engineers. And it requires direct pay in direct licensing deals for music that is eligible for the existing statutory license. We are aware that there are ongoing discussions about direct pay for direct licensing, and the final provisions of the bill on this point will be informed by those discussions and by our commitment to protecting the rights and equities of all music creators, artists, independent labels, and majors.

And it includes a concrete and enforceable protection for songwriters—stating in unambiguous terms that the changes made by this law cannot be used to lower or reduce songwriting royalties in any way.

It is a great time for music lovers today—but if we don’t fix the corrosive distortions that are eating away at the core of the radio business that won’t be true forever. Artists already struggling with the steep decline in album sales will find it more and more difficult to make a living. Music as a career path will be closed off to many—and if that happens we all lose.

We look forward to working with our colleagues on both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate to consider this legislation and pass it into law.

COMMEMORATING EQUAL PAY
DAY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT
FOR THE PAYCHECK FAIRNESS
ACT**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Equal Pay Day, a day in which President John F. Kennedy, on June 10th, 1963, proposed the simple principle that women deserve equal pay for equal work.

The symbolism of this day is expressed in that, as we are more than three months into that, as we are more than three months into that, women’s wages are only now beginning to catch up to what men were paid the previous year.

Today, women on average make 78 cents for every dollar earned by men, amounting to an annual disparity of more than \$10,876 dollars between full-time working men and women.

It is important to understand what 78 cents to every dollar means to a family: \$10,876 could purchase 86 more weeks of food; \$10,876 could afford more than 3,200 additional gallons of gasoline; \$10,876 could support families in incredible ways, and yet, even today, \$10,876 annually is exactly what women currently do without simply because of being women.

For African American women and Latina women, the wage gap is even higher. African American women on average earn only 64 cents, while Latina women earn 54 cents to every dollar earned by white, non-Hispanic men.

In my home state of Texas, however, the average wage gap for African American women is 59 cents to the dollar. For Latina women, it is an abysmal 45 cents to the dollar.

This is why I support H.R. 1619, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which addresses loopholes in the 1963 Equal Pay Act.

H.R. 1619 would protect employees who voluntarily share their own salary information at work from retaliation by an employer and remove obstacles in the Equal Pay Act to facilitate plaintiffs’ participation in class action lawsuits that challenge discrimination.

H.R. 1619 would also better align key Equal Pay Act defenses with those in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, requiring employers to prove that pay disparities exist for legitimate, job-related reasons.

On this Equal Pay Day, I call upon House Republicans, all of whom have so far refused to co-sponsor the Paycheck Fairness Act, to answer this simple question: why are you opposed to woman earning the same amount as men?

I ask House Republicans to stop wasting the time of this Congress with attempts to defund the Department of Homeland Security and focus your energies on legislation that would actually help the American people.

Let us call this opposition to the Paycheck Fairness Act, and opposition to all acts of Congress dating back to the 1960’s that have attempted to ameliorate the glaring disparities in wages between women and men, for what it is: deliberately and blatantly sexist.

I ask all my colleagues to come help make the Paycheck Fairness Act a reality.

We should remember: equal pay is not simply a women’s issue—it is a family issue.

It is time now to update antiquated pay equality laws and to eliminate the wage gap entirely between men and women.

It is time for equal pay for equal work.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHUCK
BROCKMAN**HON. CANDICE S. MILLER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Chuck Brockman, a devoted husband, son, brother, uncle, boater, philanthropist, newspaperman, friend, and retired soldier.

Chuck was born on May 28, 1934, in Mount Clemens, Michigan. He spent his early years in Mount Clemens with his father, Harvey, and mother, Roma, and his sister, Janet. At the age of 20, Chuck entered the U.S. Army and

admirably served our nation in Munich, Germany. During this time, he traveled extensively in Europe and began what was soon-to-be many decades of adventure.

Soon after, he married the love of his life, Margarite "Scotty" Brockman. Although Chuck and Scotty never had any children of their own, they were known for their generosity and willingness to "adopt" individuals they mentored throughout their lives. This epitomizes the man that Chuck Brockman was—he was always willing to take care of others as if they were his own family.

Chuck worked in the composing room at the Macomb Daily newspaper for 34 years before he semi-retired in 1999. At that time, he launched a boating column to share his passion for sailing and the sea with others. An avid recreational boater, he would write about places to go and the stories behind them. Instead of retiring and quietly enjoying the twilight of his life, in his usual adventurous style, Chuck chose to continue sharing his fearless experiences on the beautiful waters of the Great Lakes for all to learn more.

Chuck continued his advocacy about the natural wonders of the Lakes and its maritime heritage when he founded and ran the Save Our South Channel Lights, an organization devoted to restoring historically important lighthouses in Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River. These South Channel lighthouses, also known as the Twin Sisters, were built before Abraham Lincoln was President of the United States and were used for many years by mariners sailing across Lake St. Clair and entering the South Channel up to the St. Clair River. Unfortunately, they fell into disrepair and were neglected, and many thought they would simply fall into the lake and be forgotten. That is, until Chuck Brockman made it his mission to save them. He was a passionate spokesperson for this project that raised funds for equipment and worked to maintain structures of lighthouses that were falling into the lake. Because of his tireless efforts, Chuck's organization raised about \$900,000 and now has lighthouses listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Chuck was able to recruit and inspire so many dedicated individuals into this project. Because of this, even though he has sailed on, this work will continue; this is a true legacy.

I first met Chuck when I was a Harrison Township Supervisor in the 1980s. We instantly formed a bond because of our common love for boating. Later when I became Secretary of State, I relied on Chuck's sage advice for many projects impacting southeast Michigan, particularly the lighthouses. As Secretary of State for Michigan, I established a license plate fundraising program that financially supported the preservation of all 124 of Michigan's lighthouses. Like Chuck, I also appreciate the austere beauty of lighthouses and the important role they play for all sailors. Chuck and I worked closely during my time as Secretary of State and then when I entered Congress to preserve these structures. I was amazed and inspired by his enthusiasm, zeal, and quiet strength in accomplishing what many thought was an insurmountable feat. I considered him an advisor on these issues and a loyal friend.

On March 1, 2015, Chuck passed away peacefully in his home on Harsens Island. I know that I am not alone in saying that I will miss his positive outlook on life and stories of his adventures—both on and off the water.

Mark Twain once said:

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Chuck's life was the embodiment of this saying. In the 80 years that he spent on Earth, he explored, sailed, loved, taught, mentored, learned, gave, and most importantly, lived.

Chuck has left a sizeable legacy for the people of Michigan. It is people like him that forever leave an imprint in our minds and on our hearts.

Fair winds and following seas, Chuck.

HONORING AN INSPIRING HERO IN NEVADA'S STATE ASSEMBLY: HARVEY MUNFORD

HON. CRESENT HARDY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a great legend in the Nevada State Assembly today. Elected in 2004, Assemblyman Harvey Munford (D-Las Vegas), broke boundaries with a storied career in Nevada. Standing 6 feet, 8 inches, Harvey was destined to be on the basketball court. While being the first black man to attend and graduate from Montana State University at Billings, he laced up his shoes and hit the hardwood quickly becoming an All-American in the sport. After a record setting career in college, Harvey was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers only to be sidelined permanently from the game with a knee injury. Turning to the classroom, Harvey settled in and became a towering presence in lives of students for over 36 years teaching at both the high school and community college level. After retiring from teaching, he turned his attention to the Statehouse and decided to become an opposing figure in the Assembly. Bringing his non-stop work ethic to debates, I quickly respected and enjoyed being around Harvey. That is why Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Harvey Munford today for a storied career in public service representing Nevada residents.

PRAKUL SURESH'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Prakul Suresh attends Elkins High School in Missouri City, Texas. The essay topic is: in

your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

A government is an establishment created by citizens in order to protect and provide for the people of the country. Personally, I believe the role of a government is to do what is best for its citizens in a just manner. The government ought to try to protect its subjects and uphold societal welfare in the best way possible, whether it is through action or inaction.

A primary goal of the government is to ensure the country is safe from foreign attacks. For example, after the September 11th terrorist attacks, America responded with force and began operations against Al-Qaeda and Osama Bin Laden in order to protect our homeland. The American government has an obligation to keep its citizens safe against war as well. There are many ways in which a government can approach this. One method is to fight against enemies to keep America safe. Another method is to try to keep peace without compromising our interests and principles in order to ensure Americans do not have to unnecessarily fight. The task of protecting our nation is extremely difficult, considering the plethora of threats that nations such as the United States get. However, it is vital that America protects the safety of the nation.

Another duty is to ensure all Americans have the opportunity to succeed. One mechanism through which the government can do this is by making public education affordable and within reach to the common man. By promoting a properly functioning public education system, the government guarantees that anyone, regardless of gender, race or any other factor, has an opportunity to succeed. The government should also have an environment that encourages innovation, success and hard work, not an entitlement society. The government is obligated to give everybody equal opportunities at success, which is a foundation for a prosperous society.

Finally, I believe the government ought to try to create a stable, powerful economy. Businesses employ people, provide a sense of purpose to the people, pay taxes to fund the nation, and promote what makes America great: hard work, innovation and a powerful economy. By creating stable policies and providing incentives to draw investors and businesses, as well as supporting existing businesses, America can grow its dynamic economy. Policies such as low tax rates and simplified laws can help incentivize investing in the United States. It would be in the public's best interest to have a powerful economy, which leads to a powerful nation.

As Ronald Reagan once said, "government's first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives." The government should ensure that society is protected, whether it be protecting against foreign threats, protecting the opportunity to succeed, or protecting the economy. Through protection, the government can take the best actions and inactions regarding numerous issues.

A TRIBUTE TO JASON WILLIS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Jason Willis for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on the combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Jason has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work at the Willis Auto Campus. As general manager, Jason's work-ethic and drive allow him to continue his family's tradition of service and dedication to the Des Moines area. Jason spends his free time supporting causes he believes in, raising critical funds. Joshua's outstanding work ethic and dedication to service, both professionally and personally, makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Jason in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Jason on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the 50th Anniversary of the landmark legislation: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. When this bill was signed into law 50 years ago, President Johnson understood that "full educational opportunity" should be our nation's primary goal. This momentous legislation affirmed that every child has an equal right to a quality education regardless of zip code.

Our public education system has come a long way since 1965, and though we have made great strides in closing achievement gaps and increasing the graduation rate, the law is not perfect. There is still much, much work to be done. As Congress looks to rewrite this law, we must remember the core tenants of Elementary and Secondary Education Act. We must seek to ensure that our public education system offers equal opportunity for all, and that the needs of our nation's most vulnerable children are being met.

Education is our nation's great equalizer. For 50 years, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act has been our nation's driving force for educational equity. Education is critical to lift children out of poverty and afford opportunities that once seemed unachievable. We should expand support for elementary and secondary education—not limit it—so that all Americans can receive the education they deserve.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JESS T. HAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to recognize Mr. Jess T. Hay of Dallas, Texas. During his lengthy career in corporate America, Mr. Hay served as director and presiding director of Viad Corp, chairman and CEO of Lomas Financial group and Lomas and Nettleton Financial Corporation. He has also served on the board of directors for companies such as Exxon Mobile and the Greyhound Corporation.

Born in Forney, Texas in 1931, Jess Hay is a lifelong resident of Texas. He completed his studies at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, earning his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1953 and his Juris Doctorate in 1955. Mr. Hay's passion for education and research led to his appointment to the University of Texas Systems Board of Regents by former Texas Governor, Dolph Briscoe in 1977. Following his initial appointment, he served as Chairman of the Board from 1985–1987. Mr. Hay believed that high quality basic research produces good applied research, which, in turn, would produce more jobs and more revenue to sustain American prosperity.

Jess Hay is truly a phenomenal leader. A man fueled by dedication and committed to public service, Mr. Hay's leadership and his commitment to impacting the political landscape. He had a tremendous impact on Dallas politics. He paved the way for Dallas leaders, myself included, to effectively work for change in communities across the Dallas Metroplex.

Jess Hay was not just committed to business and politics. He was a dedicated family man. He and his wife, Betty Jo, are the loving parents of two daughters, Debby and Patricia.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor Mr. Jess Hay and to thank him for his work in service to the people of Dallas and the great state of Texas.

HONORING THE MINORITY LEADER IN THE NEVADA STATE ASSEMBLY: MARILYN KIRKPATRICK

HON. CRESENT HARDY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor the current Minority Leader in the Nevada State Assembly, Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D–North Las Vegas) for her service to the citizens of the Battle Born State. I consider Marilyn both a colleague and a friend. She has served nobly since first being elected in November of 2004. Through a tenacious work ethic and a strong ability to get things done, Marilyn rose to a leadership position and was elected by her colleagues as Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly from 2013–2014 in a chamber that was often filled with heated debates and battles. Marilyn and I frequently had inspiring discussions, and at the end of the day, I respect her prowess for

policy and I stand here today recognizing her for her many accomplishments. While juggling various Assembly commitments, Marilyn continued to serve as a mentor and a leader to her Girl Scouts of America. I seriously don't know how she could multitask on so many important issues, both inside the Statehouse and outside of the Statehouse. It was truly inspiring to observe Marilyn as she guided young Members with her wealth of institutional knowledge. Mr. Speaker, I commend Marilyn on her service to Nevada and wish her the best of luck on her next endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SARA SCHULER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Sara Schuler for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Sara has the determination and drive to be successful in anything she does, and her exemplary work with Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co. is a testament to that. As the Human Resources Director she utilizes her abilities to help people grow and develop. In her free time she serves her community through charitable organizations such as the Junior League of Des Moines, the St. Francis of Assisi Parish, and Hawthorn Hill. In all aspects of her life, Sara is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Sara in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Sara on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JAMES C. BINNICKER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved Chief Master Sergeant James C.

Binnicker. Chief Binnicker served our Nation with honor and distinction for more than 33 years in the United States Air Force, rising to the highest enlisted position: Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force.

Chief Binnicker was born in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and graduated from Aiken High School in 1956. Following his high school graduation, Chief Binnicker enlisted in the Air Force, where he completed his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base. During his long and distinguished Air Force career, Chief Binnicker served both at home and abroad in various capacities including as a life support specialist, air operations superintendent, Vietnamese linguist, First Sergeant and Command Chief Master Sergeant. Serving in such a wide array of challenging positions is a testament to Chief Binnicker's assiduous work ethic and unwavering commitment to duty, and his successful service in myriad capacities led to his selection for various senior leadership positions.

Thanks to his leadership abilities and wide-ranging experience, Chief Binnicker was selected in 1977 to serve as the Air Force Senior Enlisted Advisor on the President's Commission on Military Compensation, before going on to serve in a number of senior leadership roles. As a result of his exceptional service, Chief Binnicker was selected in 1985 for the 33-year extended tenure program, and in July 1986 he became the ninth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. During his four-year tenure as Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Binnicker served as an adviser to Secretary of the Air Force Edward C. Aldridge Jr. and Air Force Chief of Staff General Larry D. Welch. In this position, he advised Secretary Aldridge and General Welch on matters concerning welfare, effective utilization and progress of enlisted members of the Air Force. During his distinguished career, Chief Binnicker received a number of major awards and decorations, including: the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; Vietnam Service Medal with three service stars; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm; and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

As with so many of our Nation's brave servicemembers, the leadership skills and executive experience gained by Chief Binnicker during his military career translated to immense success in the civilian world. Following his retirement from the Air Force, Chief Binnicker worked for a number of years as a senior vice-president at a major insurance company, before being selected to serve as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Air Force Enlisted Village, Inc. in beautiful Shalimar, Florida. In this position, Chief Binnicker oversaw the operations of Teresa Village, Bob Hope Village, and the Hawthorn House, ensuring a first-class retirement life for more than 400 residents.

In addition to his military service and successful business career, Chief Binnicker was also a leader in the veterans' community and in Northwest Florida's civil society. He served as the director of numerous organizations, including the Air Commando Association; the Air Force Memorial Foundation; the Air Force Sergeants Association Museum Foundation; and Emerald Coast Hospice. As a result of his

leadership and excellence, he received numerous awards, including the Air Force Sergeants Association's Americanism Award and the Executive of the Year Award from the Florida Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.

To some Chief Binnicker will be remembered as a patriot who served his country with honor and distinction, reaching the highest echelons of Air Force enlisted service as a result of his character and commitment to service; to others he will be remembered as a successful business executive and leader in civil society; to his family and friends he will forever be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored and privileged to recognize the life of Chief Master Sergeant James C. Binnicker. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Jan; children, Carmen and Michael; and granddaughter, Julia.

NAIMAH SARWAR'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Naimah Sarwar attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

I come from a household where there is one rule I have learned from observation when it comes to discussing politics: DON'T. I remember countless times after dinner parties, where my dad would walk out of the parlor where the men would sit to drink tea. Instead of looking like he had just enjoyed a steaming cup of chai, he looked like he had walked out of a war zone. "Three hours," he would say, much to my amusement. "They've been pointlessly arguing about politics for three hours." Instead of simply agreeing to disagree they created a vicious cycle of destructive and in my opinion, hilarious conversation. I have always been obstinately opinionated but rather than joining the conversation, I always chose to remain the casual observer. Why go to the trouble of arguing against someone who would always disagree with you?

But I believe that is the root of the problem when it comes to American involvement in the political process. We have become complacent. We have become detached. We have become scared to raise our voices. We live in one of the greatest democracies in the world. However, I think that sometimes politicians and constituents alike forget what that means. They forget that as citizens, it is up to us to speak up for what we believe in, and that politicians have a duty to rep-

resent those beliefs. The American public needs to be reassured of the strength of its political efficacy because that is what makes our government tick.

After attending Texas Girls' State this summer I made several wonderful friends, who encouraged me to speak up about my opinions. Although we might not agree with each other when we argue about healthcare reform or foreign policy, which embarrassingly enough makes up our "girl talk", we are friends. We agree to disagree. Oftentimes people feel as though their ideas and solutions are so central to their identities that they must defend their beliefs as though defending themselves. I have not only become self-assured enough to share my opinions, but open to hearing the disagreement of others. It is important for people to care about the state of their government, and we must break through the stigma that it is a taboo topic. Bipartisanship not be considered rare. Conversations need to continue. Ideas need to be shared. Although one voice can't swing an election, or pass a law, it can make a difference.

A TRIBUTE TO BRIAN SCHWARTZ

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Brian Schwartz for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Brian has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work with Baker Group. As an Account Executive, his ability to work well with others is critically important because he oversees multiple programs and events. In his free time, he serves his community through charitable organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Boot Camp for New Dads program. In all aspects of his life, Brian is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Brian in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Brian on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

RECOGNIZING THE WOMAN'S CLUB
OF ARTESIA-CERRITOS

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos and their 100 years of service. It is an honor to represent a distinguished organization that embodies leadership, service, and commitment to the community. I am proud to represent an organization such as the Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos whose dedication and accomplishments over the past 100 years have had a profound impact on the community.

Founded in 1915 as the Westside Reading Club, the Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos is one of the oldest community service organizations in both cities. Their community service has supported local programs and charities, including the Community Family Guidance Center, Friends of Cerritos Library and Artesia Library, and the Long Beach Veteran's Hospital.

Each year the Woman's Club hosts a number of events and educational programs, and organizes volunteer services to support local community programs and charities. Their hard work and dedication illustrate the positive influence that women have in our community.

The positive impact the Woman's Club has had, not only in the community they represent, but also in the surrounding neighborhoods is worthy of recognition. I wish them continued success and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos as they celebrate their 100 Year Anniversary.

HONORING MARK WRAY

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride to honor the life of Mark Wray, a dedicated family man who committed himself to his community in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Mark Daniel Wray, Sr. was born on January 30, 1960 in Los Alamos, New Mexico. When Mark was one year old the family decided to move to nearby Santa Fe. It's here, in Santa Fe, where Mark built his life, raised his family, and watched his children grow in a community he loved dearly.

It did not take long for Mark to find and marry the love of his life. Shortly after graduating, Mark and his high school sweetheart Elizabeth Salazar tied the knot and embarked on a lifelong journey together. That journey began with Mark's new job with the Santa Fe Fire Department, an experience that molded Mark into the man he became. In 21 years of dedicated service, Mark ascended to rank of Captain earning a reputation for his selfless bravery. He took many risks to save people's lives; his greatest joy was to see the smiles on the faces of those he saved.

In September 1999, Mark's beloved Elizabeth was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

Mark spent countless hours volunteering with the local Multiple Sclerosis Support Group and National Multiple Sclerosis Society, helping with pot lucks, securing resources, and raising money for the society to develop a cure for the disease. Mark's support for his loved ones was unwavering, and he saw his community as an extension of his family.

Mark was known as "Team Dad" among members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) at Santa Fe High School and the Pony Express Drill team at St. Michael's High School. He was a Boy Scout leader, a leader at the local Little League and All Star baseball teams, helped build props for his children's classes, and volunteered at many organizations, including the St. Francis Catholic School and National Dance Institution of NM.

While Mark is no longer with us, his lasting contributions are still a presence in the community to this day. His character is espoused in the individuals he inspired throughout his life, and his enduring principles live on in the hearts and minds of all those he met. May the memory of Mark continue to live on in all of us.

OBSERVING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago, when Congress passed the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, they recognized the fact that education is a right, not a privilege.

President Johnson celebrated this achievement, stating, "it will offer new hope to tens of thousands," and will help "children of poor families overcome their greatest barrier to progress: poverty."

Today, millions of children face similar challenges, as the gap between the very rich and the very poor continues to grow and the path to the middle class is disappearing.

Instead of ideologically-driven cuts to education that undermine our economic future, we should invest in early learning programs that yield high economic returns. We should protect the ESEA's investments in the students, teachers, and families who need it most.

We need an education law that gives teachers the tools and flexibility they need to do what's best for their students.

We have to protect our country's most fundamental promise to children: the promise of opportunity—that all children deserve a fair shot and a high-quality education regardless of their zip code; and regardless of the size of their parents' bank accounts.

Communities across the country are working hard to meet today's economic challenges. They deserve a Congress that will roll up its sleeves, make the tough decisions, and work together on an education law that puts kids first.

A TRIBUTE TO KATIE STOCKING

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Katie Stocking for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Katie has the determination and drive to be successful in all of her pursuits, which is highlighted by her exemplary work with Happy Medium LLC. As the Founder and Owner of Happy Medium, she utilizes her go-getter attitude to continuously advance the vision of her company. In her free time, she serves her community through volunteering with Beacon of Life, Youth Emergency Shelter & Services and WesleyLife Meals on Wheels. In all aspects of her life, Katie is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Katie in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Katie on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID HOLMES SWINTON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. David Holmes Swinton in recognition of his 20 years of service as president of Benedict College. In commemoration of his two decades of leadership, he has been presented with the college's Legacy Award, an honor of which he is most deserving.

Dr. Swinton's tenure at Benedict has been exemplary. He has guided the institution through two successful regional accreditations as well as the national accreditation of seven schools and programs. He has overseen a remarkable transformation of the Benedict campus, acquiring over 120 acres of new land and overseeing the construction or acquisition of numerous facilities, including a football stadium, six residence halls, a business development center, an administration building, a student health center, and a state-of-the-art campus center and dining hall. He also spearheaded the redevelopment of the surrounding

neighborhood through Benedict's nationally recognized Community Development Corporation, led negotiations with the U.S. Department of Education for the MSIs/HBCUs on Title IV issues, and served as Chairman of the United Negro College Fund Member Presidents.

Dr. Swinton's able stewardship has achieved results. Last year, Benedict ranked 14th in Washington Monthly's baccalaureate college rankings, which rated schools based on their contributions to social mobility, research, and service. In 2011, the college received the Higher Education Civic Engagement Award from the Washington Center in recognition of its outstanding contributions to our community. People have taken notice—since Dr. Swinton became president, the college's enrollment has more than doubled.

The presidency of Benedict College is only the most recent position in which Dr. Swinton has distinguished himself. He previously served as Dean of the School of Business at Jackson State University and as Director of the Southern Center of Studies in Public Policy at Clark College. He is a renowned scholar, specializing in the economic status of African Americans. His scholarly work has been featured in an impressive array of publications, including the National Urban League's *The State of Black America*, *American Economics Review*, *The Review of Black Political Economy*, *Public Administration Review*, *Journal of Urban Analysis*, *Business in Society*, and "... And Miles to Go Before I Sleep," a scholarly collection published by the Institute for Public Service and Policy Research of the University of South Carolina in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision.

With Benedict's emphasis on community service, it is fitting that Dr. Swinton has used his economic expertise to benefit the public. He was the first African American Chairman of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce Board in the organization's 92-year history. He helped organize a group of investors to create South Carolina Community Bank, the only minority-owned bank in the state. Dr. Swinton has shown his commitment to be long-term, having served as an economic advisor to the National Urban League since 1980 and on Black Enterprise magazine's Board of Economists since 1990.

With such an illustrious career, it is no surprise that Dr. Swinton has received numerous honors and awards, including the National Economic Association's Samuel Z. Westerfield Award, the Phi Beta Sigma Lifetime Achievement Award in Education, and the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor. In 2007, he was elected to the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Swinton on this milestone. I look forward to continuing to work with him in the years to come, and I wish him Godspeed.

IN HONOR OF THE ROTARY CLUB
OF ZANESVILLE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many achievements of the Rotary

Club of Zanesville on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the club's founding.

For a century, the citizens of Zanesville and Muskingum County have benefited from a group of men and women who are committed to promoting community service. A milestone such as this certainly deserves recognition. The Rotary Club of Zanesville's history spans two World Wars, the birth and demise of the Soviet Union, the spread of mass transportation and the advancement of high speed, global telecommunications. Throughout this, the Rotary Club of Zanesville's members have served their community and worked to improve the lives of their neighbors.

Service to others and service to the community are timeless American traditions and hallmarks of what has made our nation so great. For 100 years, the members of The Rotary Club of Zanesville have fashioned a reputation that reflects their core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. Through projects like The Phoenix Award and the Rotary Club Christmas Party for Zanesville Special Needs Students, the club continues Rotary International founder Paul Harris' vision of a group of business professionals gathering in friendship and fellowship to create positive, lasting change in their community and around the world.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I thank the Rotary Club of Zanesville for their service to the community. I wish them continued success in the next 100 years.

BRITTANY EXLEY'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Brittany Exley attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

"No matter where you stand politically—even if you are unsure of what your political ideology is—it is important to take part in the process of shaping our government" (Brad Henry). The awareness gained by being involved in the political process is not only a good thing but a fantastic thing because ignorance can be dangerous. Also being active in politics is one of the very few ways, in today's world, that one human can change the nation just by voting or stating their ideas and opinions.

If more people were involved in politics there would be more people that are more aware of what is happening in the world outside of themselves. They could listen to the reports on other nations and their relationships with each other. However, they

wouldn't just hear about other countries and their problems but what is going on within our own nation, both good and bad aspects of it. Young people are the biggest group of non-voters within the United States' population of able voters. They believe that they have too much work and things to do that they do not vote, which is one of the few ways that they could influence the government's direction and create a bigger voice for themselves. If they were to get involved they would be more aware of the occurrences happening in all the world's countries and every relationship each nation has with one another. Therefore the young people would be more knowledgeable, less ignorant, and have more ability to state and try to stand up for their views in the political process.

If you had the chance to change the world for the better by one simple action, would you? Being active in shaping the government is one way to do this. Voting for the change or way you believe the government should be ran is your voice, why not use it? One person's vote can determine who is in office, what bills are passed, and the actions of the government. If a person votes it takes their values, beliefs, and opinions are one more step closer to actually happening. Voting, stating, and claiming their ideas and opinions can influence other people's beliefs around them and can eventually shape the government.

Taking an active role in the government can transform politics to fit your own views, and change for the better of the nation. It can also make you more aware of your surroundings and less ignorant of what is actually happening in the world. Being active within the political process can change the world in many ways.

TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT 36TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on April 11, we marked the 36 year anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which serves as the legal foundation of our nation's important and enduring relationship with Taiwan.

The United States and Taiwan are united in common interests and a shared commitment to freedom and democracy. The Taiwanese people share our same cultural values of respect for individual liberties, freedom of speech, adherence to the rule of law, and support for human rights. Taiwan also shares a similar political system and works with our nation on issues of global security and counterterrorism.

In addition to this close cultural, political, and security relationship, the United States and Taiwan also share a thriving economic partnership. Bilateral trade between the United States and Taiwan surpassed \$67 billion last year, making Taiwan now our 10th largest trading partner—an impressive feat considering Taiwan's relatively small size of only 23 million people. In fact, my home state of Florida exported nearly \$300 million worth of goods to Taiwan in 2013 alone, supporting jobs and livelihood for American workers.

Over the last few decades, Taiwan's economic and political ascension, with close American cooperation, has proven to be one of the great success stories in Asia, and we look forward to many more decades of friendship and mutual support.

A TRIBUTE TO EMILEE
RICHARDSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Emilee Richardson for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Emilee has the determination and drive to be successful in all of her pursuits, which is highlighted by her exemplary work with the Science Center of Iowa. As the Marketing and Communications Manager, she utilizes her management abilities to develop new programs, like the Girls in Science Initiative to encourage girls to explore careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. In her free time, she serves on several boards to help young people in her surrounding community such as the Lead Like a Lady, Young Nonprofit Professionals Network and American Marketing Association Iowa. In all aspects of her life, Emilee is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Emilee in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Emilee on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

HONORING LYDA HILL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor Lyda Hill, the 2015 recipient of the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award from Southern Methodist University's Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility.

Ms. Hill has been a philanthropic fixture in the Dallas community for many years and has generously donated to the many causes in which she strongly believes. An alumnus of the Hockaday School in Dallas, Ms. Hill donated \$20 million to fund the all-girls school's science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program. Ms. Hill recently donated \$10 million to the "I Stand for Parkland" campaign at Parkland Hospital in Dallas and \$50

million to the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center's Moon Shots Program in Houston which has a goal to eliminate cancer through improved detection and treatments.

Ms. Hill has tirelessly advocated for science through her generosity and time dedicated to the causes in which she believes. In 2013, Ms. Hill was recognized as the only single woman on the Philanthropy list for her estimated hundreds of millions of dollars in donation to organizations focused on "game-changing" innovation and science research. In 2010, Ms. Hill became a member of The Giving Pledge, an initiative created by Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett that encourages the world's wealthiest people to commit a large majority of their wealth to charity. Ms. Hill certainly gives strategically and generously and has pledged to donate all of her assets to charity, mostly during her lifetime.

Ms. Hill is the daughter of the late Margaret Hunt Hill, for whom the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge which spans the Trinity River in Dallas was named. Ms. Hill supported the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge project and several other community revitalization projects in the Dallas area. Ms. Hill has chaired non-profit groups such as the Crystal Charity Ball, Junior League of Dallas, and the Dallas and Texas chapters of the American Heart Association.

Ms. Hill was the recipient of the President's Volunteer Action Award and the Best of America Award in 1985 and in 1988, she was named "Outstanding Volunteer in Texas" by the Governor. Ms. Hill has earned many awards throughout her lifetime as her contributions to health, science, public radio, education, and veterans generously continue. I appreciate the opportunity to recognize and congratulate Lyda Hill on the occasion of her winning the J. Erik Jonsson Ethics Award.

PAOLA OBISPO'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Paola Obispo attends Manvel High School in Manvel, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

In order for our current government to function at its optimal levels, participation in our democracy is vital. If citizens of the United States are not aware of how the political process works they are powerless and have furthermore failed to aide their country in reaching its full potential. It is imperative that today's citizens be knowledgeable about politics because it is only by actively participating in our political system that

change and improvement will come to our nation. The question "Why should people be politically active?" has a simple answer. People should be politically active so that the government reflects the interests of the people who are being governed. In order for all important problems in our government to be addressed all stakeholders must make known their intent to be heard.

The bigger and better question in politics should be: Why are some groups of people not voting or further becoming politically active? According to the PBS News hour website, only 34.6% of eligible voters turned up for the 2014 midterm election.¹ This number had not been so low since 1944 when World War II was being fought. Statistics like this reveal the truth behind our democracy and the fact that the majority of the people do not rule as most Americans do not participate.² Although considerably more people do vote in presidential elections the percentage only rises to 58.2%.³ This new presidential turnout percentage while impressive compared to the midterm participation percentage appears dull when compared to political participation found around the world. It would be easy to point an accusatory figure at those how abstain from voting as lazy, irresponsible, and ignorant people who deserve underrepresentation. However, by accepting this stance it is assumed that a vast number of Americans poses those negative characteristics. Therefore, there must be an underlying cause to this systematic disenfranchisement epidemic.

Possible causes to this disenfranchisement would include the effects of voting dilution through political gerrymandering and restrictive voting procedures. It is impossible to deny that gerrymandering those not occur as the odd shapes that compromise districts speaks for itself and the fact that they tend to always benefit the artist of such bizarre and abstract divisions leaves a lot to be said. However despite laws that prohibit this malicious practice, lawmakers still blatantly ignore the law. This act is not only harmful to the opposing part as they lose an election, it is harmful to democracy itself as it teaches Americans that their voice is not important and will be impeded by those very people meant to protect their liberty. Another possible cause of voter discouragement could be stricter voting requirements such as the Voter ID law that was conveniently passed right before the election. The most malicious aspect of this law is that it was passed right before an election and stripped many voters of their right to vote.

HONORING CONSUELO RAYMOND
KAZEN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Consuelo Raymond Kazen, a lifelong Laredoan and wife of our former colleague, the late Congressman Abraham "Chick" Kazen, Jr.

Consuelo R. Kazen died Sunday, March 22, 2015 in Laredo, Texas. Over the course of her long life, Mrs. Kazen gave her "considerable creative talents and passion" to a number of community organizations, building up a reputation as a widely revered citizen and well-respected teacher.

She was actively involved in the Pan American Round Table, the Texas Senate Ladies Club, the Texas State Teachers Association,

the Congressional Texas State Society, the Society of Martha Washington, and the Laredo Doll Club. A devoted Catholic, Connie was also a Lady in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

Consuelo Raymond Kazen was born the 6th of May 1919 to Mr. and Mrs. Manuel J. and Santos Zapata Raymond Jr. who preceded her in death. Her beloved husband, Congressman Abraham "Chick" Kazen, Jr.; sisters, Teresa Raymond Flores and Mary Sanchez; and brother, Adolfo Raymond have also preceded her in death. Mrs. Kazen is survived by her sisters, Gloria Woods, Chabela Martinez and Zita Coffey; brothers, Manuel J. (Angelina) Raymond Jr. and Rolando (Amada) Raymond her children, Abraham Kazen III, Norma Kazen, Christina (Ronny) Attal, Catherine Kazen, and Jo Betsy Kazen as well as eleven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She will be remembered as a "nurturing mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend" who will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to have the opportunity to honor the legacy of this great Laredoan, Consuelo Raymond Kazen. Her many contributions to South Texas and the City of Laredo will not be forgotten.

A TRIBUTE TO CAILIN STOCKDALE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Cailin Stockdale for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Cailin has the determination and drive to be successful in all of her pursuits, which is highlighted by her exemplary work with Boys & Girls Club of Central Iowa. As the Director of Marketing and Communication, she channels her compassion and desire to help others and grow this wonderful organization. In her free time she serves her community through volunteering with Everybody Wins! Iowa, GDMLI and The Principal Charity Classic's Networking on the Green Committee. In all aspects of her life, Cailin is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Cailin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Cailin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work

and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

THAILAND'S FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Freedom to say what you believe is a universal human right but certain rulers do not seem to get that.

On March 25th, Prayuth Chan-ocha, the junta leader and acting Prime Minister of Thailand warned journalists, "You don't have to support the government . . . but you should report the truth . . . or we'll probably just execute [you]."

Prayuth and his fellow generals took over the elected government in a coup last May. The country has been under martial law ever since then. Prayuth can ban any political gathering and the military can arrest and detain whoever whenever they want—including journalists.

This latest threat should be taken seriously. Freedom of speech is our first amendment for a reason. It's the building block of all other rights and to promote change for the good of the people.

The rulers in Thailand should immediately make clear that freedom of speech, including freedom of the press, is a right that all the people of Thailand can and should exercise.

And that's just the way it is.

YUSSRA HAMID'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Yussra Hamid attends Manvel High School in Manvel, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Euthanasia is the "act or practice of killing or permitting the death of hopelessly sick or injured individuals . . . in a relatively painless way". Throughout the 20th century there were events that brought the legalities of euthanasia to the spotlight of American politics, and recently, euthanasia has once again emerged as a topic of debate amongst the American public. Brittany Maynard, a twenty-nine year old American diagnosed with malignant brain cancer (she was given six months to live), died on November 1st by taking a lethal dose of medication in Oregon where assisted suicide is permitted.

Before her death, Maynard defended her decision by stating that she would rather die with dignity than suffer the harsh symptoms her brain cancer would inflict upon her. The case of Brittany Maynard facilitated great discussion over the topic of euthanasia and whether it should be made legal across the United States of America or not. While advocates for assisted suicide may appear to have a compelling argument, euthanasia should not be permitted because its legalization will corrupt the medical field and assisted suicide is not protected by the Constitution.

When practicing, medical personnel are required to abide by the Hippocratic Oath, an affidavit that establishes that physicians will "[will not] give a deadly drug to anybody who [asks] for it." Opponents of assisted suicide state that if euthanasia were legalized, it would breach the oath. Dr. Leon Mass of President's Council on Bioethics argued that physicians should not participate in the administration of lethal drugs because "the taboo against doctors killing patients . . . is the embodiment of reason and wisdom . . . without it, medicine will have lost its claim to be an ethical and trustworthy profession". The practice would cause the deterioration of physician-patient relationships because the patient would not know if the doctor has his/her best interest in mind or if (the physician is receiving money from euthanasia advocates for promoting the practice or from insurance companies that no longer want to cover the terminally ill patient. While terminal diseases generally do lead to the fast death of the individual, such pressure on a patient could cause him/her to make an impulsive decision that would violate the patient's right to the pursuit of happiness, one guaranteed by the US Constitution.

As cases like Maynard's gain attention, euthanasia will continue to spur controversy and its legality will be questioned in the Supreme Court. However, until the world becomes a utopian society where malpractice is nonexistent, euthanasia should be illegal because the practice violates the basic principles of medicine and the Constitution.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID WOLNERMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David Wolnerman of Des Moines, Iowa, for his bravery and resiliency during a very dark time in world history. David was born in Mocev, Poland, to Pinchas and Hannah Wolnerman and at the age of 12 was taken to his first work camp. Not long after, David was moved to a concentration camp, before he was ultimately liberated by General Dwight D. Eisenhower at Dachau. It wasn't until after his time in the concentration camps that he met his wife Jennie. After the war, Jennie and David lived in Munich, Germany, before eventually making their way to the United States.

David and his family currently reside in Des Moines, and as the last Holocaust survivor in the state David has the unique opportunity to tell his story. Later this week he will be recognized by the Greater Des Moines Jewish Federation for his accomplishment and a book detailing his life experiences will be shared with the world.

I would like to thank David for his dedication to the State of Iowa and showing us just how

resilient the human spirit can be. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating David and his family for their accomplishments. I wish them nothing but the best in the future.

**RECOGNIZING CAROL SCHATZ'S
TENURE AS PRESIDENT/CEO OF
CENTRAL CITY ASSOCIATION OF
LOS ANGELES**

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol Schatz on being honored with the Heart of the City Award at this year's "Treasures of Los Angeles" luncheon. As president and chief executive officer of the Central City Association (CCA) of Los Angeles, Carol has played an integral role in making Los Angeles one of the world's great cities—a growing and thriving metropolis, welcoming to businesses, investors, developers, and travelers.

This year, Carol celebrates her 25th year at the Central City Association of Los Angeles. That is a remarkable milestone, and it is worth reviewing her successes during that time.

Under Carol's leadership, CCA has been one of the leading business advocacy organizations in the City and County of Los Angeles, coordinating with community leaders and elected officials to make Los Angeles a better place to live and work.

In Downtown Los Angeles, development and investment are at record levels. Downtown is now home to more than 50,000 residents, with units to house another 15,000 under construction or in the process of being approved.

Carol has played a critical role in Downtown's renaissance. At her direction, CCA has worked to transform and revitalize the area through a broad set of strategies ranging from mixed-use/mixed-income projects to new transportation amenities. Carol initiated an Adaptive Reuse Ordinance to make Downtown a housing destination, and coordinated state funding and incentives to help developers turn empty office buildings into brand-new housing. CCA also joined with the Los Angeles City Council to help reinstitute the Civic Center Authority, which developed a master plan for the area.

In 1997, Carol's efforts led to the creation of the Downtown Center Business Improvement District, a coalition of property owners in the heart of Downtown L.A. With Carol at its helm, the DCBD has brought substantial new residential and commercial investment to Downtown, and has made it a safer and cleaner place to live.

Carol Schatz's vision, hard work, and perseverance have garnered her much praise from city and state leaders, and the "Heart of the City" award is just the latest well-deserved example. I have worked with Carol for many years to keep Los Angeles moving forward, and am proud to call her a friend. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on this great honor.

HONORING MATT COLIN

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman TED DEUTCH to congratulate Head Coach Matt Colin, a dear family friend, for his outstanding leadership with the Wellington High School Boys' Basketball team. On February 29, he—alongside his brother Mike Colin, varsity Assistant Coach—led the Wolverines to their first state championship.

Coach Colin's leadership has been widely recognized. He received the "Coach of the Year" from the Florida High School Athletic League for 8A Basketball.

In addition to the state championship, Coach Colin guided the Wolverines through a historic season record of 29–3 and the program's longest winning streak of 16 consecutive wins.

In pursuit of their first state championship, the Wolverines adopted the San Antonio Spurs' "Pound the Rock" mantra. Coach Colin used this phrase to motivate his students to persevere throughout the season, despite all odds. This is a principle that rings true in all aspects of life and has helped his students grow into leaders among their peers.

It brings me great joy to honor his leadership and mentorship in our community. I wish Coach Colin and the Wolverines continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO JOE STOPULOS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Joe Stopulos for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Joe has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work with Holmes Murphy & Associates Inc. As an Account Executive, his work-ethic and determination allow him to continuously grow his sales business. In his free time Joe likes to dedicate himself to serving others and being a leader in his community, volunteering at numerous church activities and leadership events. In all aspects of his life, Joe is an example of the hard work and service that makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Joe in the United States

Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Joe on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

**RECOGNIZING THE LIBRARIES OF
JACKSON, MICHIGAN**

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rich tradition of libraries serving Jackson, Michigan.

Libraries in our community date back to March 15, 1864 when the Young Men's Association (YMA) established a reading room. In late 1865, it turned into a subscription library for YMA members.

In 1885, the Jackson Public Library was formed following a new law allowing cities to use tax revenue to support a free public library.

In 1929, the Jackson County Library was created for residents living outside the city of Jackson.

The two separate entities merged together in 1978 to form the Jackson District Library.

Today, the Jackson District Library is a vital anchor of the Jackson community where residents of all ages come to learn, research, and discover.

From story-time for children to researching family histories to taking an online course, the library provides a wide range of services.

A hub for community activity, the library will coordinate a festival in May 2015 for nationally recognized storytellers where over eleven thousand children will attend.

The Jackson District Library is a place where residents gather freely to learn and discuss the important issues of the day and where they are continually inspired to acquire more knowledge and skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating 150 years of libraries in Jackson County, thank these institutions for all they contribute to the community, and wish them another 150 years of success.

A TRIBUTE TO MIKE TAYLOR

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Mike Taylor for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age

are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Mike has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work at Midwest Growth Partner. As Managing Partner, Mike works with others to make solid investments and avoid risk. Mike spends his free time serving others by volunteering as a youth football coach at the local YMCA. Mike's outstanding work ethic and dedication to service, both professionally and personally, makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Mike in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Mike on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

MANZI MASOZERA'S ESSAY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Manzi Masozera attends Pearland High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

Ever since the beginning of time, an institution that organizes a group of human beings has been essential to the stability of any civil society. From the governing bodies of Ancient Greece to Ancient Babylon, government has been around for millennia. Its existence allows for citizens to know what they can or cannot do according to law. Good government brings forth social and political order and creates the most humanly possible form of freedom and equality. Whenever someone breaks the law, whenever someone is on trial, or whenever someone fights for what he or she believes in, the government is there as an aid to make sure justice is served. I believe that the government's role in our daily lives is to abide by the Declaration of Independence and protect our inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The differentiating factor of the American government versus the governments of other countries is the fact that America was the first to establish a written constitution that had a bill of rights and was the first to write down the idea of "God-given" inalienable rights which for years

prior was only conceptualized. While the government states our laws and rights, someone has to be there to enforce it in order for us to retain stability. This is why in our democracy, we have the ability to elect our leaders to govern over us. In America we have the rights to elect senators, congressmen/women, and presidents. These leaders play an important role in our lives because they make sure that the law is followed and they even propose new laws that they feel may improve the status of the country. A good government also allows its citizens to remove leaders if they don't abide by the same laws that the citizens are required to follow. Overall, government is an essential institution that allows for order and stability in our societies. It is necessary for justice to be served for the ones who need it, and protection for the inhabitants of the country. The role government plays in our daily lives is important because it allows for peace to prevail in the ever-growing and globalized world that we live in.

A TRIBUTE TO KEVIN TIERNAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Kevin Tiernan for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on the combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Kevin has the determination and drive to be successful in all of his pursuits, which is highlighted by his exemplary work at Bankers Trust Co., where he is the Vice President of Sales and Development. It is clear Kevin has a passion for finance and his community. Kevin spends his free time serving as a mentor for the "I Have a Dream Foundation,"—he also serves on the Community Youth Concepts board of directors. His work ethic and dedication to service has and will continue to make our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kevin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Kevin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a sys-

tem for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 15

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing Navy forces and the Navy's current and projected capabilities to meet those threats in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SVC-217

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine American food aid, focusing on why reform matters.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD-406

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine IRS challenges in implementing the Affordable Care Act.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the need to reform asset forfeiture.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the national intelligence and military intelligence programs

SVC-217

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for military construction and military family housing for select combatant commanders and select defense agencies.
SD-124

1:30 p.m.
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine the IRS impersonation scam and the government's response.
SD-562

2 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security
To hold hearings to examine funding the Department of Homeland Security role in cybersecurity, focusing on protection to partnership.
SD-138

2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
S-116

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine the National Nuclear Security Administration plans and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR-222

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine if taxes are holding back small business growth.
SD-G50

2:45 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

APRIL 16

Time to be announced
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education.
TBA

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SD-G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Education.
SD-124

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine regulatory burdens to obtaining mortgage credit.
SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the Energy Information Administration's annual energy outlook for 2015.
SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending executive business.
SD-226

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
SD-192

APRIL 20

3 p.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the 2020 Census, focusing on challenges facing the bureau for a modern, cost-effective survey.
SD-342

APRIL 21

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Peter Levine, of Maryland, to be Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense.
SH-216

10 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine opportunities and challenges for agriculture trade with Cuba.
SR-328A

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development
To hold hearings to examine improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of State.
SD-419

APRIL 22

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of and potential reforms to the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support
To hold hearings to examine reform of the defense acquisition system in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR-232A

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine Air Force and Navy nuclear programs and the implementation of nuclear enterprise review recommendations in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR-222

APRIL 23

10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Health Care
To hold hearings to examine the impact of the medical device tax on jobs, innovation, and patients.
SD-215

APRIL 28

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the Administration's Quadrennial Energy Review.
SD-366

APRIL 30

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 703, to reauthorize the weatherization and State energy programs, S. 720, to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, and S. 858, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities.
SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining
To hold hearings to examine the Bureau of Land Management's final rule on hydraulic fracturing.
SD-366

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2093–S2140

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 896–902, and S. Res. 133–134. **Page S2110**

Measures Reported:

Reported on Tuesday, March 31, during the adjournment:

Special Report entitled “Report on the Activities of the Committee on Armed Services, 113th Congress, First and Second Sessions”. (S. Rept. No. 114–7)

Special Report entitled “Report of the Select Committee on Intelligence Covering the Period January 3, 2013, to January 5, 2015.”. (S. Rept. No. 114–8)

Special Report entitled “Report on the Activities of the Committee on Finance during the 113th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 114–9)

Special Report entitled “Report on the Activities of the Committee on the Judiciary during the 113th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 114–10)

Reported on Monday, April 13:

Special Report entitled “Review of Legislative Activity During the 113th Congress”. (S. Rept. No. 114–11)

S. 142, to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–12)

S. 304, to improve motor vehicle safety by encouraging the sharing of certain information, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 114–13) **Page S2110**

Measures Passed:

Gold Star Wives Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S.

Res. 131, designating April 5, 2015, as “Gold Star Wives Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S2139

National Public Health Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 133, supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week. **Page S2139**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the Constitution, the report of the veto of S.J. Res. 8, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to representation case procedures, received during adjournment of the Senate on March 31, 2015; ordered to be printed in the Record, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk. (PM–12) **Page S2107**

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Japan (Treaty Doc. No. 114–1).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. **Page S2139**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By a unanimous vote of 95 yeas (Vote No. EX. 136), Alfred H. Bennett, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Pages S2103–04, S2140**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Dean A. Reuter, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring September 14, 2016.

Shamina Singh, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service for a term expiring October 6, 2019.

Gabriel Camarillo, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Joyce Louise Connery, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for a term expiring October 18, 2019.

Joseph Bruce Hamilton, of Texas, to be a Member of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for the remainder of the term expiring October 18, 2016.

Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (International Affairs).

William A. Heidt, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization.

David Malcolm Robinson, of Connecticut, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Conflict and Stabilization Operations).

19 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

13 Army nominations in the rank of general.

30 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy.

Page S2140

Messages from the House: **Page S2108**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S2108**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S2108**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2108–10**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2110–12**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Page S2112

Additional Statements: **Pages S2105–07**

Text of S. Con. Res. 11 as Previously Agreed to:
Pages S2112–39

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today.
(Total—136) **Pages S2103–04**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 6:09 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S2139–40.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 1731–1763; and 12 resolutions, H.J. Res. 42–43; H. Con. Res. 34; and H. Res. 190–198 were introduced.

Pages H2151–53

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2154–56**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed on April 6, 2015 as follows:

H.R. 622, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction of State and local general sales taxes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–51);

H.R. 1105, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–52);

H.R. 650, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage (H. Rept. 114–53);

H.R. 685, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and

fees in connection with a mortgage transaction (H. Rept. 114–54);

H.R. 1195, to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to establish advisory boards, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–55);

H.R. 1265, to apply the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (H. Rept. 114–56, Part 1); and

H.R. 1529, to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to modify the requirements for community financial institutions with respect to certain rules relating to mortgage loans, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–57).

Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 299, to amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to authorize privately insured credit unions to become members of a Federal home loan bank, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–58);

H.R. 601, to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual privacy notice requirement (H. Rept. 114–59);

H.R. 1259, to provide for an application process for interested parties to apply for an area to be designated as a rural area, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–60);

H.R. 1367, to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands (H. Rept. 114–61);

H.R. 1480, to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 114–62);

H.R. 1650, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare payment option for patients and eligible professionals to freely contract, without penalty, for Medicare fee-for-service items and services, while allowing Medicare beneficiaries to use their Medicare benefits, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–63);

H.R. 1104, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a deduction from the gift tax for gifts made to certain exempt organizations, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–64);

H. Res. 189, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 650) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 685) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction, and providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 11) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025 (H. Rept. 114–65);

H.R. 709, to provide for the termination of employment of employees of the Internal Revenue Service who take certain official actions for political purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–66);

H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–67);

H.R. 1024, to provide for the compensation of furloughed Department of Homeland Security employees in the event of a lapse in Department of Homeland Security appropriations, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–68);

H.R. 1152, to prohibit officers and employees of the Internal Revenue Service from using personal email accounts to conduct official business, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–69);

H.R. 1058, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that a duty of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue is to ensure that Internal Revenue

Service employees are familiar with and act in accord with certain taxpayer rights, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–70); and

H.R. 1295, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the process for making determinations with respect to whether organizations are exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of such Code, with an amendment (H. Rept. 114–71).

Page H2151

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Messer to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H2117

Whole Number of the House: Under clause 5(d) of Rule 20, the Chair announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Schock, the whole number of the House is 432.

Page H2117

Recess: The House recessed at 2:17 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m.

Page H2119

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Capital Access for Small Community Financial Institutions Act of 2015: H.R. 299, to amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to authorize privately insured credit unions to become members of a Federal home loan bank;

Pages H2119–20

Eliminate Privacy Notice Confusion Act: H.R. 601, to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual privacy notice requirement;

Pages H2120–21

Helping Expand Lending Practices in Rural Communities Act: H.R. 1259, to provide for an application process for interested parties to apply for an area to be designated as a rural area, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 401 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 145;

Pages H2121–23, H2127

Bureau Advisory Commission Transparency Act: H.R. 1265, to apply the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 401 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 146;

Pages H2123–24, H2127–28

Amending the Expedited Funds Availability Act: H.R. 1367, to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands; and

Pages H2124–25

SAFE Act Confidentiality and Privilege Enhancement Act: H.R. 1480, to ensure access to certain information for financial services industry regulators, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeand-nay vote of 401 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 147.

Pages H2125–26, H2128–29

Recess: The House recessed at 4:52 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H2126**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to (H. Con. Res. 9) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust. **Page H2129**

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to (H. Con. Res. 34) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal to the American Fighter Aces. **Page H2129**

Providing for a recess of the House for a joint meeting to receive His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan: Agreed by unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan. **Page H2129**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Tuesday, April 28, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29. **Page H2129**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H2117, H2119.

Senate Referrals: S. Con. Res. 11 was held at the desk and S. 535 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. **Page H2144**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2127, H2128, H2128–29. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PRESERVING ACCESS TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING ACT OF 2015; MORTGAGE CHOICE ACT OF 2015

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 650, the “Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2015”; and H.R. 685, the “Mortgage Choice Act of 2015”. The committee granted, by a record vote of 5–3, a closed rule for H.R. 650. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority

member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule also grants a closed rule for H.R. 685. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule also provides for the adoption in the House of S. Con. Res. 11, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025, for purposes of requesting a conference with the Senate. The rule takes from the Speaker’s table S. Con. Res. 11, adopts an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H. Con. Res. 27, as adopted by the House, and adopts S. Con. Res. 11, as amended. Testimony was heard from Chairman Hensarling and Representative Maxine Waters of California.

ADDRESSING CONTINUED WHISTLEBLOWER RETALIATION WITHIN VA

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Addressing Continued Whistleblower Retaliation Within VA”. Testimony was heard from Meghan Flanz, Director, Office of Accountability Review, Department of Veterans Affairs; Carolyn Lerner, Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; Christian Head, M.D., Associate Director and Chief of Staff, Legal and Quality Assurance, Greater Los Angeles VA Health Care System; Maryann Hooker, M.D., Neurologist, Wilmington VA Medical Center; and Richard Tremaine, Associate Director, VA Central Alabama Healthcare System.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D316)

H.R. 1527, to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of New York Police Department Detectives Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos. Signed on April 1, 2015. (Public Law 114–7)

H.R. 1092, to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building”. Signed on April 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–8)

H.J. Res. 10, providing for the reappointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Signed on April 7, 2015. (Public Law 114–9)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine U.S. defense policy issues pertaining to the Asia-Pacific theater, 9 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine military cyber programs and posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session following the open session in SVC–217, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, 9:30 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the management of Federal environmental protection, chemical safety, and fish and wildlife agencies, 9:30 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine creating a more efficient and level playing field, focusing on audit and appeals issues in Medicare, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 615, to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran’s nuclear program, 2:15 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, “Every Child Achieves Act of 2015”, an original bill entitled, “WIOA Technical Amendments Act”, and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine reducing unnecessary duplication in Federal programs, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit, hearing entitled “Reauthorizing the CFTC: Commissioners’ Perspectives”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, hearing entitled “A Presentation by National 4–H Conference Participants Concerning the Future of Agriculture in the United States”, 1 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Early Education Panel budget, 9 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on Defense Health Program budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled “Update on the F–35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Program and the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Request”, 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled “Five Years of Broken Promises: How the President’s Health Care Law is Affecting America’s Workplaces”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing entitled “EPA’s Proposed 111(d) Rule for Existing Power Plants, and H.R. _____, Ratepayer Protection Act”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy, hearing entitled “H.R. _____, the TSCA Modernization Act of 2015”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on the “Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015”; H.R. 906, to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters; and the “Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015”, 5 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, hearing entitled “The Crude Oil Export Ban: Helpful or Hurtful?”, 10:15 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “Yemen Under Attack by Iranian-Backed Houthis”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on the “National Cybersecurity Protection Advancement Act of 2015”, 11 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 9, the “Innovation Act”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing on H.R. 329, the “Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act of 2015”; H.R. 521, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation located in Bethel, Alaska; and H.R. 812, the “Indian Trust Asset Reform Act”, 11 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water, Power, and Oceans, hearing entitled “Proposed Federal Water Grabs and Their Potential Impacts on States, Water and Power Users, and Landowners”, 1:30 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “DOJ IG: Handling of Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Allegations”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “GAO’s Duplication Report at Five Years: Recommendations Remain Unaddressed”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 622, the “State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act of 2015”; H.R. 1105, the “Death Tax Repeal Act of 2015”; and H.R. 1195, the “Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection Advisory Boards Act”, 3 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Ongoing Rail, Pipeline, and Hazmat Rulemakings”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on H.R. 675, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2015”; H.R. 677, the “American Heroes COLA Act of 2015”; H.R. 732, the “Veterans Access to Speedy Review Act”; H.R. 800, the “Express Appeals Act”; H.R. 1067, the “U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Reform Act”; H.R. 1331, the “Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery Act of 2015”; H.R. 1379, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Board of Veterans’ Appeals to develop evidence in appeal cases, and for other purposes; H.R. 1414, the “Pay As You Rate Act”; H.R. 1569, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify that the estate of a deceased veteran may receive certain accrued benefits upon the death of the veteran, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1607, the “Ruth Moore Act of 2015”, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, organizational meeting for the 114th Congress; hearing on the individual and employer mandates and associated penalties in the President’s health care law, 10 a.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on the Central Intelligence Agency, hearing on Central Intelligence Agency budget, 3 p.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of April 14 through April 17, 2015

Senate Chamber

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: April 15, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for military construction and military family housing for select combatant commanders and select defense agencies, 10:30 a.m., SD-124.

April 15, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the national intelligence and military intelligence programs, 10:30 a.m., SVC-217.

April 15, Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine funding the Department of Homeland Security role in cybersecurity, focusing on protection to partnership, 2 p.m., SD-138.

April 16, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Education, 10 a.m., SD-124.

April 16, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: April 14, to hold hearings to examine U.S. defense policy issues pertaining to the Asia-Pacific theater, 9 a.m., SD-G50.

April 14, Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

April 14, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine military cyber programs and posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session following the open session in SVC-217, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

April 15, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to receive a closed briefing on the major threats facing Navy forces and the Navy’s current and projected capabilities to meet those threats in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SVC-217.

April 15, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the National Nuclear Security Administration plans and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

April 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: April 16, to hold hearings to examine regulatory burdens to obtaining mortgage credit, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: April 14, to hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: April 16, to hold hearings to examine the Energy Information Administration's annual energy outlook for 2015, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: April 14, Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the management of Federal environmental protection, chemical safety, and fish and wildlife agencies, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

April 15, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2016 for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: April 14, to hold hearings to examine creating a more efficient and level playing field, focusing on audit and appeals issues in Medicare, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: April 14, business meeting to consider S. 615, to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, 2:15 p.m., SD-419.

April 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine American food aid, focusing on why reform matters, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

April 15, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: April 14, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

April 15, Full Committee, business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

April 16, Full Committee, business meeting to continue consideration of an original bill entitled, "Every Child Achieves Act of 2015", an original bill entitled, "WIOA Technical Amendments Act", and the nominations of Ericka M. Miller, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, and Michael Keith Yudin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: April 14, to hold hearings to examine reducing unnecessary duplication in Federal programs, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

April 15, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine IRS challenges in implementing the Affordable Care Act, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: April 15, to hold hearings to examine the need to reform asset forfeiture, 10 a.m., SD-226.

April 16, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending executive business, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: April 14, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

April 15, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:45 p.m., SH-219.

April 16, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

Special Committee on Aging: April 15, to hold hearings to examine the IRS impersonation scam and the government's response, 1:30 p.m., SD-562.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Past, Present, and Future of SNAP: The World of Nutrition and the Role of the Charitable Sector", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, April 15, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing for Members of Congress, 8:50 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

April 15, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on Securities and Exchange Commission budget, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Immigration and Customs Enforcement budget, 11 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, hearing on Ebola budget, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, markup on appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, markup on appropriations bill for fiscal year 2016, 11:30 a.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, hearing on United Nations and International Organizations budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The Risk of Losing Military Technology Superiority and Its Implications for U.S. Policy, Strategy, and Posture in the Asia-Pacific", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "The Role of Surface Forces in Presence, Deterrence, and Warfighting", 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2016 Nuclear Forces Hearing", 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Serving Students and Families through Child Nutrition Programs”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, April 15, Full Committee, markup on the “Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2015”; H.R. 906, to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters; and the “Data Security and Breach Notification Act of 2015” (continued), 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

April 16, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Medicare Post Acute Care Delivery and Options to Improve It”, 10:15 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

April 16, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade, hearing entitled “H.R. _____, Targeting Rogue and Opaque Letters (TROL) Act”, 11 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, April 15, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled “Examining Regulatory Burdens on Non-Depository Financial Institutions”, 1 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

April 16, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled “The Future of Housing in America: Increasing Private Sector Participation in Affordable Housing”, 9:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Confronting Russia’s Weaponization of Information”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, markup on H.R. 1150, to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes; and H. Res. 50, calling for the release of Ukrainian fighter pilot Nadiya Savchenko, who was captured by Russian forces in Eastern Ukraine and has been held illegally in a Russian prison since July 2014, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “The Continuing Threat of Neglected Tropical Diseases”, 2:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, April 15, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 427, the “Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2015”; the “All Economic Regulations are Transparent Act of 2015”; and H.R. 758, the “Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, hearing entitled “Analyzing Misconduct in Federal Law Enforcement”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, April 15, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing entitled “Federal Land Acquisition and its Impacts on Communities and the Environment”, 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

April 15, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “Examining the Future Impacts of President Obama’s Offshore Energy Plan”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, April 15, Subcommittee on Health Care, Benefits and Administrative Rules; and Subcommittee on Monetary Policy and Trade of the Committee on Financial Services, joint hearing entitled “Oversight of Efforts to Reform the Export-Import Bank of the United States”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “The Taxpayer Advocate’s Annual Report”, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

April 16, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “The Worst Places to Work in the Federal Government”, 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s UN Climate Pledge: Scientifically Justified or a New Tax on Americans?”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

April 16, Subcommittee on Space, hearing entitled “An Overview of the Budget Proposal for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for Fiscal Year 2016”, 9 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Tax Reform: Ensuring that Main Street Isn’t Left Behind”, 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, April 15, Full Committee, markup on the “Regulatory Integrity Protection Act”; H.R. 1471, the “FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act of 2015”; H.R. 1472, the “Integrated Public Alert and Warning System Modernization Act of 2015”; H.R. 1473, the “John F. Kennedy Center Reauthorization Act of 2015”; H.R. 944, to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 336, to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska; H.R. 172, to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the “R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse”; H. Con. Res. 21, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby; H. Con. Res. 25, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition; and H.R. 1690, to designate the United States courthouse located at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the “Joseph F. Weis Jr. United States Courthouse”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

April 15, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “An Overview of the U.S. Coast Guard’s Missions”, 2 p.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, April 15, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Denver VA Medical Center: Constructing a Way Forward”, 10:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

April 16, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on pending legislation, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, April 15, Subcommittee on the National Security Agency and Cybersecurity, hearing on special activities, 10 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

April 16, Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing on NRO budget, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

April 16, Subcommittee on Department of Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing on NGA

budget, 10:15 a.m., HVC-305. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: April 15, to hold hearings to examine if taxes are holding back small business growth, 2:30 p.m., SD-G50.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 6 through March 31, 2015

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	48	44	..
Time in session	292 hrs., 18'	201 hrs., 40'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	2,091	2,116	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	448	..
Public bills enacted into law .....	..	6	6
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	89	116	205
Senate bills	5	1	..
House bills	8	62	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	1	..
House joint resolutions	1	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	3	2	..
House concurrent resolutions	4	6	..
Simple resolutions	67	43	..
Measures reported, total	36	50	86
Senate bills	13	..	..
House bills	2	31	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	1	..
Simple resolutions	20	18	..
Special reports	7	..	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	22	7	..
Measures introduced, total	1,040	1,992	3,032
Bills	886	1,730	..
Joint resolutions	11	41	..
Concurrent resolutions	11	33	..
Simple resolutions	132	188	..
Quorum calls	5	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	135	82	..
Recorded votes .....	..	61	..
Bills vetoed	1	..	..
Vetoës overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 6 through March 31, 2015

Civilian nominations, totaling 157, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	17
Unconfirmed	139
Withdrawn	1

Other Civilian nominations, totaling 700, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	634
Unconfirmed	66

Air Force nominations, totaling 2,889, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	2,447
Unconfirmed	442

Army nominations, totaling 172, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	77
Unconfirmed	95

Navy nominations, totaling 94, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	52
Unconfirmed	42

Marine Corps nominations, totaling 1,039, disposed of as follows:

Confirmed	707
Unconfirmed	332

Summary

Total nominations carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominations received this Session	5,051
Total confirmed	3,934
Total unconfirmed	1,116
Total withdrawn	1
Total returned to the White House	0

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 14

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, April 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

(Senate will recess from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. for the all Senators briefing, and from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 650—Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule) and H.R. 685—Mortgage Choice Act of 2015 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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