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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Pastor Craig Pridgen, True Bethel Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, New York, offered the following prayer:

How can I say thanks for the things that You have done? The voices of 1 million angels could not express our gratitude. All that we are and ever would hope to be, we owe it all to Thee. To God be the glory for the things You have done.

It is in the stillness of a room steeped in tradition that we pause to invite Your presence. I pray Your continued guidance for those whom You have perfectly placed in these hallowed seats. As the psalmist declared, how wonderful and pleasant it is when brethren dwell together in unity. Despite the differences of political affiliation, demographic, gender, or ethnicity, we stand together in this House of the people in unity. One Nation under God.

In the name of the one who is able to do exceeding, abundantly, above all we can ask or think.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ALFORD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING PASTOR CRAIG PRIDGEN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize today's guest chaplain, my friend, Pastor Craig Pridgen.

Pastor Pridgen serves as the senior servant at True Bethel Baptist Church in Niagara Falls.

Through his ministry and community service, he is an energetic and effective advocate for those who have none, who have been doubted, underappreciated, and forgotten.

Buffalo born and raised, Pastor Pridgen has led efforts to promote opportunity through a church-led workforce program, as well as understanding and equality through his position on the board of the National Federation of Just Communities.

He has also supported community-building and wellness initiatives as president of the Niagara Falls Ministerial Council and a senior adviser for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo.

We are grateful to have Pastor Craig Pridgen in the House Chamber for today's opening prayer, and so very fortunate to have him leading by example in all of western New York.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DONNY FLEMING

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a beloved community member, a man of faith, a brave veteran, and valued friend, Donny Fleming.

Characterized by his grace and gratitude, Donny was a lifelong resident of St. Marys, Pennsylvania. Earlier this month, Donny peacefully passed away, surrounded by family. He was a staple of his community and dedicated to uplifting those around him, whether it be family, friends, or those in need, Donny ingrained himself in his community as a civil servant and business leader.

He was a powerful force among local organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, the Cleveland Clinic, and Christ the King Manor. Donny exemplified what it means to devote oneself not only to his community but to his country. He was a recipient of both the Purple Heart and the Silver Star medals. I thank him for his committed service and sacrifice, not only to his community but to our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my condolences to Donny's wife, Elaine, and family, and hope that his profound impact instills the importance of kindness and generosity for us all.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, families across the country, including my own, celebrated Mother's Day. Many of us honor the extraordinary women in our

□ 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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lives with a call, brunch, or flowers. These are all lovely gestures.

If you ask a mom what she wants for Mother's Day, there is a good chance she will say peace of mind. A call doesn't give a mother time off from work to recover from childbirth and bond with her newborn. Brunch won't provide mental or physical healthcare. Flowers won't babysit or teach our children the alphabet.

This Chamber must do more for moms. What they need are:

Paid family leave to close the gender wage gap;

Access to basic women's healthcare;

Closing the coverage gap and eradicating bias from medicine to save the lives of women, especially Black women;

Quality, affordable childcare;

Universal pre-K to give our generation a strong educational foundation; and

Peace of mind that their child will not be blown away by gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, mothers are telling us what they need. I hope by next Mother's Day we listen.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Nation's law enforcement officers.

They serve as the human shield between peace and chaos, preserving our way of life and upholding the rule of law.

Our police officers are the first people we call when we are in danger. When our safety is threatened, they respond without hesitation. Their unwavering commitment to public service and willingness to confront the unknown is a testament to their strength and humanity.

We also must remember that our police officers are not just uniformed personnel. They are our neighbors, our friends, our family. They share our joys, our sorrows, our dreams, and our challenges. They deserve not only our gratitude but also our unwavering support.

As we observe National Police Week, let's honor those dressed in blue who put their lives on the line each and every day for us.

When we are standing united and when we support those who protect us, we maintain peace and we maintain safety. We strengthen the bond that makes us one Nation, indivisible.

PASS A CLEAN DEBT CEILING BILL

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, meet Janet, a constituent of mine from the Uptown neighborhood in Chicago.

She is 64 years old and is on Social Security disability. She suffers from chronic mental illness that prevents her from working. Even though she would prefer to work, she really is unable to do so.

Janet will be devastated by the Republicans holding our economy hostage. She has \$1,200 per month, and that is her total income, Social Security. She has no other income.

If we do not pass a clean debt ceiling bill, Janet will not be able to pay for her medication. She will not be able to get food. She will not be able to pay her rent. There are millions of Janets around this country. We say: Don't hold Janet hostage.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NOAH JACOB SHAHNAVAZ

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

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Noah Jacob Shahnavaz, an Indiana police officer who was killed in the line of duty last year. Noah would have turned 25 today.

Noah was born in Indianapolis to Matt and Laurie Shahnavaz. After graduating from Fishers High School, he enlisted in the Army where he served as a sergeant and was awarded the distinguished Air Assault Badge. He was deployed to the Middle East and two border missions.

Following his honorable discharge, Noah answered the call to service once again and joined the Elwood Police Department in August of 2021.

On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District and our Nation, I share my deepest appreciation and gratitude for Noah's service to our Republic.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence to remember Noah and the heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. You will not be forgotten.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

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

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, May is Mental Health Month. When we think about health in general, we normally think of physical bodies. When someone is hurt, we can often tell. I did mixed martial arts and I know a little thing or two about physical hurt.

The thing is, we can't always tell when someone in our lives is struggling internally. Mental and emotional health is health, especially after the difficult and isolating years of the pandemic, and it is absolutely critical that we treat it as such.

This month and every month, I encourage folks to check in on your families, neighbors, and friends. I know I am going to do the same. If you or

someone you know needs help, we have some amazing local organizations in Kansas' Third District, like Zero Reasons Why or the Johnson County Mental Health Center, who are ready to assist you however they can, or you can call 988 to speak with a trained counselor.

Finally, to our youth who may be struggling right now—I see you. Even on the toughest days, please know that you are not alone. Please don't be afraid to ask for help.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to keep working to improve access to mental health so folks in Kansas and around the country can have the resources they need to take better care of themselves and their loved ones.

HONORING THE BRAVE POLICE OFFICERS WHO PROTECT US

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Police Week and I want to recognize all the brave officers, the men and women who risk their lives and their safety every day to protect and serve our communities.

Average citizens try very hard to stay away from certain types of people: murderers, rapists, drug dealers, gang members, domestic abusers, many I call dirtbags. These are the people our police officers deal with every day in the line of duty. They run toward danger when the rest of us run away.

They take criminals off our streets. They bring justice to our country. They protect us no matter what. They even protected the wave of antipolice protests that have been happening across our Nation. Imagine that. That takes true integrity and dedication to their work.

We all benefit from their service, and we need to back them up however we can.

I am incredibly grateful for our law enforcement, especially the local sheriffs' offices and police departments and my good friends at the State troopers' office in Tennessee's Second District who work so hard to keep us safe from these bad people.

WE MUST MAINTAIN STRONG TIES WITH THE NATION OF ISRAEL

(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, our ally in the Middle East, Israel, has suffered from even more rocket attacks from Hamas terrorists.

Hamas, as usual, is launching rockets from civilian population centers and using those civilians as human shields.

We hear a lot of talk these days about 15-minute cities. Israelis live 15-seconds from a shelter. That is how they have to live their life if they are

within the range of the rockets which are becoming more and more wide-ranging over the territory of Israel.

If a terror organization in Mexico, for example, were firing rockets into cities in Texas and Arizona, the United States would certainly be expected to retaliate with military force. This is the case with Israel, it must protect its citizens from indiscriminate rocket attacks. Israel is not to blame for the civilian casualties caused in this conflict.

Indeed, the blame lies squarely at the feet of Hamas and other terror organizations who believe in the use of violence to achieve their goals.

Israel, in good faith, gave over the Gaza in a land-for-peace deal. Yet, the ink wasn't even dry, and they started stacking rockets in Gaza and launching them at Israel.

The United States must continue to support Israel's right to exist and defend itself from aggression. As our most powerful partner in the Middle East, we owe it to them.

□ 0915

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CONDEMNING EFFORTS TO DEFUND OR DISMANTLE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 398, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 40) expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 398, the concurrent resolution is considered read.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 40

Whereas our brave men and women in local law enforcement work tirelessly to protect the communities they serve;

Whereas local law enforcement officers are tasked with upholding the rule of law and ensuring public safety;

Whereas local law enforcement officers selflessly put themselves in harm's way to fight crime, get drugs off our streets, and protect the innocent;

Whereas, in the summer of 2020, looting, rioting, and violence in major cities caused the destruction of many shops, restaurants, and businesses;

Whereas, in 2020, the United States tallied more than 21,000 murders—the highest total since 1995 and 4,900 more than in 2019;

Whereas leftist activists and progressive politicians called for the defunding and dismantling of local police departments across the country and actively encouraged resentment toward local law enforcement;

Whereas the defund the police movement vilifies and demonizes local law enforcement officers and puts them at greater risk of danger;

Whereas many local jurisdictions defunded their police departments and saw a subsequent increase in violent crime;

Whereas violent leftist extremists have repeatedly attacked and assaulted local law enforcement officers; and

Whereas local law enforcement officers deserve our respect and profound gratitude: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes and appreciates the dedication and devotion demonstrated by the men and women of local law enforcement who keep our communities safe; and

(2) condemns calls to defund, disband, dismantle, or abolish the police.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The concurrent resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

After 1 hour of debate, it shall be in order to consider the amendment printed in part C of House Report 118-59, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be considered read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 40.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 40 expresses our support for the brave men and women who serve in law enforcement across our great Nation. These individuals put their lives on the line every single day to protect our communities and keep us safe, and it is time that we acknowledged their selflessness and dedication.

Law enforcement officers are the backbone of our justice system. They are the first line of defense against crime, and they work tirelessly to ensure that our neighborhoods are safe places to live, work, and raise families.

While most people fear danger and flee, police officers rush toward the threat, and they do so without hesitation or reservation. They are truly the embodiment of courage and bravery.

Unfortunately, over the past several years, we have seen an unprecedented level of hostility toward law enforcement in this country. The defund the police movement greatly fueled this hostility.

We have seen police officers subjected to unwarranted scrutiny, harass-

ment, and even violence. We have seen protests turn into riots with law enforcement officers becoming targets of angry mobs. This kind of behavior is not only unacceptable, but it is also dangerous and destructive. It undermines the very fabric of our society and puts innocent lives at risk.

As a former prosecutor, I am acutely aware of the vital role that law enforcement plays in keeping our communities safe. I have seen firsthand the sacrifices that these men and women make, and I am truly grateful for their service.

That is why I am committed to doing everything in my power to support our law enforcement officers and to ensure that they have the resources and tools they need to do their jobs effectively. They are the unsung heroes of our communities, and we owe them a debt of gratitude that could never truly be repaid.

Let us work together to ensure that they have the support they need to continue their important work and to keep our neighborhoods safe for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is nothing more than empty rhetoric designed to score political points. It does nothing to help our law enforcement officers do their jobs. It does nothing to solve crimes or promote justice. It does nothing to take deadly weapons like those used to target law enforcement off our streets, and it does nothing to make our communities safer.

It is also wildly misleading and full of incendiary rhetoric that does not match reality. Very conspicuously, it even fails to recognize the service or contributions of Federal, State, or Tribal law enforcement officers.

It is worth remembering that when the Republicans passed their rules package at the beginning of the Congress, it included several supposedly "ready to go on day one" bills.

An earlier version of this resolution was included in that list, but it never made it to the floor. Now we know why. The problem is that the original version praised all law enforcement, not just local law enforcement, as this resolution does.

Why was that a problem?

Because as we have learned in recent months, House Republicans now support defunding the police at the Federal level. Don't take my word for it, Mr. Speaker. Chairman JORDAN told FOX News that he wants to "look at the appropriations process and limit funds going to some of these agencies."

He later made clear he was referring to the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Mr. BIGGS has called directly for defunding those agencies, and Mr. GAETZ has introduced a bill that would eliminate the ATF altogether.

Limiting the resolution to local law enforcement also helps Republicans paper over an embarrassing split in their caucus over whether even to recognize the contributions of our brave Capitol Police officers who protected us on January 6.

I remind Members that 41 Republicans voted against awarding Congressional Gold Medals to the Capitol Police officers and the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department in recognition of their service on January 6.

That must be why the resolution states that violent leftist extremists have attacked law enforcement, but it makes no mention of the violent mob of far-right extremists and white supremacists who stormed the Capitol that day injuring 140 police officers with five officers losing their lives in the days after.

H. Con. Res. 40 is a hopelessly misleading resolution that omits crucial context and ignores crime trends in the country, including the disturbing rise in gun violence and the higher per capita murder rate in States won by Donald Trump.

While Republicans want to talk tough with nonbinding resolutions about funding the police—local police that is—it was Democrats who passed bill after bill last Congress to actually fund and support the police.

So where were Republicans when Democrats went about the serious work of legislating?

When given the opportunity to put action behind their cheap rhetoric, time and again, Republicans voted “no.” For example, last Congress Democrats advanced the Invest to Protect Act which would have authorized \$300 million in grants to law enforcement agencies with fewer than 125 officers to smaller localities.

This legislation passed with bipartisan support, but 55 Republican Members voted against it.

Democrats also advanced the VICTIM Act led by Congresswoman and former police chief Val Demings which would have provided grants totaling up to \$100 million per year to law enforcement agencies to help them solve violent crimes and close outstanding cases.

Mr. Speaker, 178 Republicans voted against it.

Democrats advanced the assault weapons ban which was supported by the Major Cities Chiefs Association and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives because they know that these weapons of war are used to murder law enforcement officers and to terrorize their communities.

Nearly every Republican voted “no.” House Democrats worked with Republican Senator JOHN CORNYN—who is not someone known to be soft on crime—to pass the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act, a bill that increases safety for law enforcement and community members alike.

This bipartisan bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent, but when it

came to the House, 159 Republicans voted against it.

This is not and never has been a serious approach to legislating.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 40 is a wasted opportunity to advance meaningful legislation that would support the men and women of law enforcement who put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I will mention in response to the gentleman from New York's remarks about empty rhetoric, that this resolution says that Congress recognizes and appreciates the dedication and devotion demonstrated by the men and women of local law enforcement who keep our communities safe and condemns calls to defund, disband, dismantle, or abolish the police.

This is hardly empty rhetoric when we are thanking America's finest for the work that they do to protect us.

I also appreciate the distinction that the gentleman tried to make and the great difference that we have when Democrats across this country called for defunding local police departments, they did so in the face of rising crime.

What was the congressional response to the colleagues in various parts of the country embarrassing Democrat Members in the House?

Of course, they did what Democrats do so well. They threw money at a problem. They tried to cover up the embarrassment of defunding police at a time when rising crime was occurring by throwing money at a problem.

We are now faced with \$31.5 trillion of debt because of strategies like that, and we have to recognize that that no longer works.

Yes, there were Republicans who stepped up and voted knowing that the vote might cause some commercials and some other issues about how they don't support police, when the reality is that an overwhelming percentage of police funding comes from local government—as it should.

Finally, the ranking member talks about how there have been efforts with some of my colleagues to hold Federal agencies responsible for their actions to make sure that Federal agencies don't overstep their authority.

At one point in time, the civil libertarians in this country were on that side of the aisle. Now it appears that the ATF, the FBI, and other agencies can overstep their authority and not be held accountable. It is a sad day when we can't come together and agree that this country is stronger and better when we don't allow the Federal Government to spy on our citizens, to interfere with political campaigns, and to otherwise disrupt our normal life outside of their law enforcement functions.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for allowing me to speak on this issue today. It is an important issue.

I remember my first townhall after I was elected to Congress. We had 1,000 people show up. Many of them were wearing resistance T-shirts. The radical left was busing people in actually from California to protest my townhall. That was fine. That is what it is about.

What wasn't fine was the ridiculous number of threats to me, my family, and my staff.

That is when I remembered from days in my legal practice my gratitude for the police who came and made sure that the crowd was protected and my staff was protected. They even placed two undercover police officers flanking my wife because she had been threatened, as well.

Thank you. Thank you to the men and women of law enforcement.

I thank the police chiefs and the rank and file in Apache Junction, in Mesa, in Chandler, in Gilbert, in Queen Creek, and in Maricopa County. The sheriff is a Democrat, but I think he does a pretty good job; not like some of the other folks that I will be talking about in just a minute.

I thank the sheriffs and their departments in local law enforcement in the border communities in Yuma County, Cochise County, and Pinal County who are having to take up the slack because of what is going on on the border. The Biden administration is allowing people to just run rampant across our border. It is unbelievable.

I thank them. They don't run away. They run toward, to save us. They run toward the people who would harm us, and they provide the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, you can't have freedom if you don't have respect and rule of law.

Now let's talk about the Federal agencies for just a second. A story just came out last weekend about the bomber who put the bombs over at the NRCC and DCCC on January 6. Those were inert bombs. It turns out the FBI had surveillance and film of that person placing those inert bombs. They had video of them moving around on the Metro, moving on out to the suburban D.C. area getting into a car.

They have the license plate of the car, they have the tracking, and they have the credit card that paid for the Metro that that bomber used.

When they went to try to investigate, the leadership in the FBI halted that investigation. The Durham report has come out. I urge you to read it, Mr. Speaker.

I heard some of you talk about it. I am not sure you read it.

Any objective analysis of that report will tell you that the Department of Justice and the FBI were working with the Clinton campaign to create a false criminal allegation. We are still talking about the Russian hoax.

□ 0930

It is unbelievable. As some have said, the DOJ and the FBI abandoned their standards from the start. They had no predicate for that investigation. They knew it at the time. I think we should hold them accountable.

You want to keep funding them? Fine. You keep funding them, but you are going to have to reform them somehow, somehow.

I, like my friend from Colorado, remember the time when it was the Democrats who often called for civil liberties and the protection of civil liberties from the Federal police apparatus. That is where I am. We have now come to a point where we have to protect our citizens from our own Federal police apparatus.

I will also get into this notion of federalizing the police. You can't simply always throw Federal grant money at local law enforcement.

At least in Arizona, when I talk to our friends in policing there, they will tell you: We take this money with trepidation because the Feds always want to take over.

They don't understand. I will just tell you, we don't understand Seattle. Why would you come to Congress and say you control policing in Seattle, you control it in Phoenix, or you control it in the town of Gilbert? Why would we turn that over to the Feds? That is too much.

Now, I want to share some comments that we have heard over the last couple of years from some of my colleagues across the aisle.

From the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), with reducing the NYPD budget, stating: "There should be substantial cuts to the police budget and a reallocation of those funds to where we need them."

The minority leader, asked on CNN, expressed his openness to defunding the police when he said: "You have to look at that on a case-by-case basis."

CORI BUSH was the vice chair of the Crime and Federal Government Surveillance Subcommittee. She said: "It is not a slogan." "Defunding the police" is not a slogan. She said: "It is not a slogan. It is a mandate for keeping our people alive. Defund the police."

When she was challenged about that, she further said: "'Defund the police' is not the problem." She continues to always double down on that.

The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ) also said: "This is what happens when leaders sign blank check after blank check to militarize police, CBP, et cetera, while letting violence go unchecked. We need answers. And we need to defund."

When New York decided to cut a billion dollars from their police force, Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ thought the cuts did not go far enough, stating: "Defunding police means defunding police."

Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN said: "We don't need police with lethal

weapons carrying out routine traffic stops. Reallocate police funding to unarmed traffic forces to remove even the possibility of state-sanctioned manslaughter."

Representative JAYAPAL said it is completely reasonable for us to "shift significant sums of money from police" and invest in people.

Representative ILHAN OMAR said: "We need to completely dismantle the Minneapolis Police Department because here is the thing. There is a cancer. . . . The Minneapolis Police Department is rotten to the root, and so when we dismantle, we get rid of that cancer."

Representative AYANNA PRESSLEY said: "The defund movement isn't new. Folks are just finally listening."

Representative RASHIDA TLAIB said: "When we say #DefundPolice, what we mean is people are dying, and we need to invest in people's livelihoods instead."

So don't tell me now that you can't vote for this resolution, which honors local police enforcement and condemns the defund police movement.

Don't tell me that is idle rhetoric. That is real. That is sincere, and that ought to be what the position of this body is.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, the previous speaker referred to some remarks I made, and they are accurate.

What I said was that substantial resources should be taken from the police and given to mental health services, and that was done. About a billion dollars was taken from the police department in New York City by the city council and the mayor and given to mental health services.

That made sense. Why? Because when someone is acting out on the subway, when someone is threatening on the subway, what you usually need is a mental health professional there, not a policeman who doesn't know how to handle it.

Since a lot of resources were devoted to mental health, the situation in the subways generally and on the streets has gotten much better. It has worked.

I can't speak for anybody else, but I can say that when the gentleman says we should honor local police, he is also saying we should not honor Federal police.

This resolution does not honor Federal police. It does not honor the ATF, the FBI, or thousands of Federal law enforcement officers, the law enforcement officers who protected us on January 6 from a far-right attack.

It talks about leftist violence, but it refuses to talk about rightwing violence. It is not a balanced or fair resolution.

It seeks to give a distorted picture of what is going on in this country, and that is why we cannot support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. NADLER for the time.

I served the first 3½ years of my legal career in the police department. I had a badge and a gun. I know policemen as well, if not better, than almost anybody in this body.

I tried to give them a gun yesterday because there was a bill on the floor to let them take their revolvers with them when they retired in good standing, but the Republicans had it amended to where they could also take automatic weapons and didn't have to be in good standing. We can't do things purely for the police.

In this situation, I offered an amendment to advocate the positions of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and other police organizations to say that we should have limits on weapons on the streets, on armor-piercing bullets, and on assault weapons.

Police don't want those on the streets against them. Yet, it wasn't allowed to be heard. It was offered twice again by Mr. CICILLINE. It wasn't allowed to be heard.

Just like when children are killed, when people are killed in clubs, when people are killed in churches, when people are killed in Las Vegas on the streets, this is thoughts and prayers because the NRA and the concern of people having guns and bullets comes before police and their protection.

This is thoughts and prayers, and it is police memorial week lite.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, before recognizing the next speaker, let me also point out that this resolution also claims that progressive politicians actively encourage resentment toward local law enforcement.

When we tried to remove such misleading claims during the markup, Republicans said no. We tried to unite behind what should have been the point of this resolution, support of all law enforcement without language that shamed or demonized Members and misled Americans, but Republicans refused. That is another reason we have to oppose this amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution, and I do so sadly because there are many things that my good colleague across the aisle from Colorado and I agree on and work on. This is unequivocally not one of them.

The reason I am so distraught by this resolution is because I am the proud chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. We are a caucus of 102 Members in this body. We have done many wonderful things for our constituents and people across the country.

In fact, we have even worked with the Freedom Caucus, the gentleman from Arizona, to take on some things around accountability of law enforcement, surveillance, privacy rights—many issues that we agree on.

The characterization of progressives within this resolution makes it absolutely impossible to support the resolution.

I think, unfortunately, that is the point that my friends are trying to make. They are trying to make us vote against a resolution that supports law enforcement by inserting these provisions that are characterizations that are absolutely harmful and encourage hate against us as progressives representing our constituents.

Now, we already passed a resolution honoring law enforcement this week, but this resolution literally makes it impossible for us to support.

I want to raise a couple of points about this. My colleague from Arizona said we want to hold Federal law enforcement accountable. Well, that is exactly what Democrats sought to do when we passed the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which not a single Republican voted for.

We need accountability of all of our agencies at all levels. That doesn't mean we don't appreciate the work that those agencies do. We absolutely do.

As somebody who experienced violent threats against my life and my family's life from a man showing up with a gun at my house, I was defended by our local law enforcement, and I am incredibly grateful to them.

I resent the characterization that somehow we progressives do not support law enforcement just because we want to have accountability in our communities so that Black and Brown people can walk down the streets and feel safe.

In addition, this is not about honoring law enforcement because, last week, I tried to introduce an amendment in committee that said if we are going to honor law enforcement, then let's honor the brave men and women of the United States Capitol Police and all levels of local, State, and Federal law enforcement that defended us in this body on January 6, 2021, when a violent group of rightwing MAGA extremists came and launched an insurrection against this body.

I was trapped in the gallery right there, right there in those seats.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, long after other people were evacuated from the gallery, some of my friends and I were trapped there. We saw everything happen.

I introduced an amendment to honor those Federal law enforcement people, and do you know what? Republicans could have taken it and voted against it if they wanted to show where they stand, but they didn't. They hid behind a ridiculous assertion of germaneness and essentially silenced our voices.

I think we have to be real about what this resolution is, and with great re-

spect to my friend from Colorado, we want accountability of all agencies.

They want to defend Federal law enforcement. We want to honor all law enforcement, including those who defended us here at the Capitol on January 6.

Let my Republican colleagues call out that it was an insurrection on January 6 and that our Federal law enforcement and local law enforcement that defended us here deserve the same honor that they are planning to give to local law enforcement.

Let's honor all law enforcement, and let's take out the references to progressives, which I take great offense to.

Mr. Speaker, I vote "no" on this resolution, and I call on my colleagues to vote "no" on this partisan and, frankly, hypocritical resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, I quote my good friend from the State of Washington. "Law enforcement as a whole has a culture of brutality that you cannot deny if you look at all of these incidents. . . . Most of the protesters are calling for a complete transformation of policing?"

To paraphrase, this reporter writes, Jayapal said that governments should "shift significant sums of money from police" and put it in other community-based programs.

I am happy to work with my friend and cosponsor a January 6 resolution of some type thanking the police officers.

Outside the door of my office in the Rayburn Building, there is a "Thank You, Capitol Police" sign. There is a flag representing the dedication that police officers have flying outside my door. I absolutely thank the Capitol Police for their hard work.

□ 0945

Mr. Speaker, I do think we need to look at what the FBI, ATF, and some other agencies have done in a fair, responsible, nonpartisan way and address some of those issues. I actually think I probably will work with my friend on this, also.

Some of my colleagues have started that process with an appropriations angle. That is something I will look at. I may support it. I may not. You may probably not. However, we have other ways to deal with Federal law enforcement that have overstepped.

I also agree with my friend that an overwhelming percentage of Federal law enforcement agents are great, hardworking people who protect us from foreign terrorists and all sorts of violence in this country, organized crime, other things that aren't dealt with as well at the local level, and I appreciate what they have done.

The leadership in some of those agencies has gone astray, in my opinion, and that is why we need to take a serious look at them, but I thank my friend for her comments, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to hear that the gentleman from

Colorado wants to honor Federal law enforcement personnel who defended us on January 6 and otherwise, which leads me to the question of why the Republicans refused to let us have an amendment to that effect in committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE).

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. NADLER for yielding, my longtime friend and distinguished ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the thousands of brave men and women of Federal, State, and Tribal law enforcement that were intentionally left out of the resolution before the House, H. Con. Res. 40, by the Republican majority. That includes, as has been described, omitting the United States Capitol Police, who heroically defended this very Chamber on January 6 from armed insurrectionists intent on disrupting the peaceful transfer of power in this Nation, who gave life and limb to defend the American democratic experiment. That to me is worthy of recognition in this resolution. It is the very least we should and could do.

I am privileged to serve as the ranking member of the Committee on House Administration, the committee charged with ensuring the safety and security of all who work and visit here.

This week, my committee heard testimony from the chief of the United States Capitol Police. The chief testified about the enduring impact that January 6 has had on the force and the physical and mental scars the officers still carry.

How did the committee's majority respond?

They blamed the department.

They didn't blame the former President who urged his supporters to come to Washington, claiming that he would march to the Capitol with them.

They didn't blame the insurrectionists that came armed with guns, knives, tasers, and used poles bearing the American flag to viciously beat Capitol Police officers.

They didn't blame the elected officials that were complicit in the former President's corrupt scheme to retain power.

No, they blamed the department.

Since my colleagues across the aisle won't do it, allow me to do it: To every one of the nearly 2,000 sworn Capitol Police officers, thank you. You deserve to be in this resolution. We thank you not just for your actions on that day, but for every single day. We have your backs, just as you always have ours.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about what this resolution is really about. No, it is not just about supporting local law enforcement. It is also about trying to attack and vilify

the Black Lives Matter movement and the activism that has helped shape our Nation and helped our Nation more clearly see the injustices carried out in our communities.

In 2020, I myself was on the forefront of this movement. Alongside the world, I watched online, outraged over the killing and lynching of George Floyd, a man who did not deserve to die at the hands of a police choke hold while he called out for his mother.

Alongside the world, I was outraged over the loss of Breonna Taylor, a young woman who did not deserve to be shot dead in her own home.

Like millions across this country, I marched for change, marched to fight for our voices to be heard, marched to fight for a world where that injustice does not exist, and marched in a non-violent way alongside my community in central Florida.

I saw the pain and the hurt of so many who had spent their lives living in a nation where they feared their well-being every time they stepped outside of their home due to negative interactions with law enforcement. Not every interaction, but many interactions.

We fought for public safety that centers the community so we can truly tackle crime and conditions that breed it.

I believed then what I believe now: The color of your skin and how much money you have in the bank should not determine the treatment you get in the eyes of the law.

The color of your skin and how much money you have in the bank should not be the determining factor of whether you live or die.

No one deserves to die because they are Black. No one deserves to die because they are poor.

Yet, today, we are voting on a resolution that does nothing but to divide us as a country.

It has nothing to do with really supporting police. It has everything to do with vilifying a movement of people and everything to do with trying to rewrite history to make what was a global, mainly nonviolent protest seem evil.

You can pass all the sham resolutions you want, but you cannot take away our stories. I remember being tear-gassed, maced, arrested, and jailed on the streets of my own hometown. Today, I get to represent those same streets in the United States Congress.

You cannot whitewash this history. These stories live on in Black Lives Matter.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose this resolution, a deeply partisan, messaging tactic from House Republicans who are more focused on inflaming di-

visions in our country than on working for the American people.

If Republicans cared about public safety, they would work to address the gun violence epidemic in our Nation, which even law enforcement says is out of control.

If they really cared about law enforcement, they would not try to defund agencies like the ATF and FBI.

This resolution is harmful and misleading. Violent leftist extremists and progressive politicians do not want to defund law enforcement. This characterization is a corrupt narrative that runs counter to the real conversations that Americans want to have about the issues their communities face.

The true irony here is that in the same breath that they denounce these so-called violent leftist extremists, they stay silent on the extremists from their own party that stormed the Capitol and attacked the United States Capitol Police, men and women still working here today, disrespected every single day by my colleagues.

Silence on this issue.

Republicans are wasting time with empty bills and malignant rhetoric.

Yes, absolutely, we should be investing in people's livelihoods. Why is that wrong?

How come we cannot support good public safety and work to keep people alive, all people?

A study just came out yesterday that said Black people are twice as likely to die than anyone else just because we are Black, and that includes interacting with law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that we vote "no" on this resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to make one thing absolutely clear. There is not a single Republican in the United States House of Representatives, to my knowledge, that does not condemn the violent acts on January 6; period, end of story.

If somebody wants to work on a resolution condemning the violence on January 6, I welcome that and will work with them, but let's not talk about January 6 when we are talking about a bill that is designated and intended to compliment and uplift those who have been the targets of really destructive action in terms of the defund the police movement.

I have heard my good friend from Washington—one of the leaders of the Progressive Caucus here in the House—say that Progressives in the House who we have quoted were not involved in that. That is fine. However, certainly the leftists in this country moved to defund the police. They succeeded.

As a result, we have seen rising crime, we have seen more victims, and nobody on their side—nobody—takes accountability for the fact that there are more murder victims, there are more robbery victims, there are more people getting their cars hijacked, there are more crimes being committed

in this country as a result of failed leftist policies.

If you want to talk about January 6, let's work together and thank the Capitol Police. You want to talk about defunding the police, you want to talk about how we need to uplift the police for their great work, then we need to pass this resolution.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to hear the gentleman from Colorado say he is interested in a resolution praising the Capitol Police and so forth, which makes it all the more puzzling why the Republicans refused to let us consider an amendment to that effect to this resolution in committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for being so eloquent on where we are today.

Let me read the headline of this legislation, H. Con. Res. 40, expressing support for local law enforcement officers. Broadly supported all across America.

Every day we are supporting our local law enforcement, but as well we are supporting our Federal law enforcement that are right in my district today holding a meeting, men and women who put their lives on the line.

I don't know why we couldn't on this last day of National Police Week, as we began the week, as I indicated, and repeat over and over again, that I was there for this ceremony that I have gone to every year, which has honored those who have fallen in battle.

They had everyone represented. Everyone was in brotherhood and sisterhood. Everyone was embracing families and those in law enforcement. No one asked for your Democratic ticket or your Republican ticket. All they were grateful for is you had come to honor and recognize the importance of the work that they do.

This could have been a place where we showed to the Nation the reasoning of our hearts and our minds.

I offered an amendment to include Federal law enforcement. How dare we ignore them on this day?

We cannot ignore January 6. We cannot ignore the Capitol Police, along with those who came to help, who will always have the scars of that horrific day.

Why? Because we have never seen in our modern-day eyes an attack on the United States Capitol that was not in war.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to say, yes, I support local law enforcement. Never have my lips ever said the words that would take dollars away from those personnel, their salaries, and all that they need to do.

I don't know why in a resolution that speaks about honor that we have to mix not even apples and oranges but apples and stench. There is no reason to attack anyone in this. Put a resolution about how much you hate the folks on the other side of the aisle; we will debate that. I don't hate them.

What we tried to do in committee is to say let us make this a resolution, Federal, State and local folk, and let us not talk about folk who are dismantling anything because I don't know Democrats who stood outside of a DA's office and tried to dismantle them. They have an independent decision, right, to make. They are elected by the people. If they are not at the level that the people want, they are gone.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to amend this from the floor. Let this be an amendment that we can all vote for. This is my last word: I support local and Federal law enforcement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has again expired.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I support Federal, State and local law enforcement. I support those that are in my district right now.

I would offer to say, aren't we examples for young people?

Don't we want our children to raise up and support law enforcement and see all of us standing together and not dividing?

Don't we want good policing, good police relationships?

None of that is a divide. It is a unity, and it represents the Constitution of the United States of America.

I tell you that the officers that I engage with believe in it. I ask my colleagues to decide to do something better than this legislation.

□ 1000

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, it is highly disingenuous for my colleagues to suggest that because this resolution doesn't thank all sorts of other groups that we can't thank local law enforcement.

This resolution doesn't thank Governors. It doesn't thank Lieutenant Governors. It doesn't thank secretaries of State. It doesn't thank State attorneys general. It doesn't thank the generals and admirals at the Pentagon. It doesn't thank the folks who are working so hard in the cafeteria to provide us with food today. It doesn't thank a lot of people.

It does thank local law enforcement, and for that we should unite. For that, we should overcome these ridiculous arguments and pat someone on the back.

Then let's work toward another resolution. Let's make sure we thank those FBI agents who are working in the field, not the ones who planned to dismantle our political system, but the ones who are working in the field to

protect us. Let's thank those ATF agents who are arresting convicted felons who are in possession of a firearm. Let's thank them. Let's thank Federal law enforcement. Let's thank the Capitol Police for their great work on January 6.

Don't vote against this resolution thanking local police officers just because it is not broad enough and doesn't include every single category you can think of.

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

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

Again, if the gentleman wanted to support our Federal police, the ATF, the FBI, the Capitol Police, he had the opportunity in committee, and the Republicans refused to let us consider that.

We have all of these statements from people like the chairman of the committee saying defund the FBI, defend the ATF. This is being a little, shall we say—I don't want to use the word “hypocritical,” but I can't think of a different word.

We should oppose this resolution because it is blatantly one-sided, it blames leftist agitators improperly, and it does not deal with Federal law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, police week ought to be a unifying event, a time when we can all come together in a bipartisan fashion to recognize and support the men and women of law enforcement who risk their lives to keep us and our communities safe.

Instead of offering serious legislation, Republicans have brought forward misleading and incendiary political talking points that will neither protect law enforcement nor enhance public safety.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to oppose this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the words of my colleague from New York, but I reiterate what this resolution is about and what it says.

Congress recognizes and appreciates the dedication and devotion demonstrated by the men and women of local law enforcement who keep our communities safe and condemns calls to defund, disband, dismantle, or abolish the police.

It is absolutely correct that this resolution doesn't include everybody and everything. There will be time in this Congress where we can work together to do that. To not pass this resolution, to not vote for this resolution during police week is a slap in the face to local law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all the people who are watching today and all Americans to tune in to the weaponization committee as they listen to witnesses, whistleblowers from Federal agencies, talking about the abuses in those Federal agencies.

It would be inappropriate, until we reach conclusions, until we pass legis-

lation protecting Americans and protecting our political process, for us to take that extra step with Federal law enforcement.

I have said over and over, I absolutely respect the men and women who are on the streets in Federal law enforcement protecting us. It is the leadership that we have issues with at times. That is not in this resolution. This resolution is a unifying resolution, and I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle can join us in thanking local law enforcement.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Con. Res. 40.

I want to start by thanking law enforcement for all the work they do to keep our communities safe. Officers consistently put their lives on the line. Each year during National Police Week, I place a poster outside of my office honoring Minnesota's fallen law enforcement officers.

In my work as an appropriator, you know that I strongly support funding for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants and Byrne JAG Justice Assistance grants. These are funds that directly support local law enforcement. Law enforcement entities were prioritized in my FY22, FY23, and FY24 Community Project Funding requests, with \$4,500,000 secured for Ramsey and Washington County law enforcement projects that are improving public safety in my home district.

Unfortunately, the House Republican majority's resolution does not simply express support for our law enforcement. It also includes language explicitly polarizing and misleading in nature, referring only to “left-wing” extremists but failing to acknowledge the right-wing extremist violence that has proliferated in recent years. For example, the attack on our U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, that resulted in the deaths of five U.S. Capitol Police officers and lasting injuries for many more.

It is unfortunate that with this resolution, which should be focused on highlighting the important work law enforcement officers do every day, Republicans chose to use rhetoric to score political points with their base.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania). All time for debate has expired.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. D'ESPOSITO

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I have amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Insert after the eighth clause of the preamble the following (and redesignate provisions accordingly):

Whereas calls to “defund”, “disband”, “dismantle”, or “abolish” the police should be condemned and rule of law should be strictly maintained;

Whereas local law enforcement officers take an oath to never betray the public trust;

Whereas in the course of investigations into officers who have allegedly exhibited misconduct, local law enforcement should have certain rights to ensure a fair administration of justice, including—

(1) a local law enforcement officer's inherent right to self-defense against physical threats;

(2) a local law enforcement officer's right to legal recourse if a civilian attempts to assault the local law enforcement officer;

(3) a local law enforcement officer's right to be protected from physical harassment targeting a local law enforcement officer;

(4) a local law enforcement officer's right to equipment necessary for personal protection;

(5) a local law enforcement officer's right to counsel or a representative present at any interview conducted as part of an investigation;

(6) a local law enforcement officer's right to be informed of the nature of the investigation before any interview commences, including the name of the complainant and sufficient information to reasonably apprise the officer of the allegations;

(7) during questioning in the course of an investigation a local law enforcement officer's right—

(A) to not be subjected to any offensive language;

(B) to not be threatened with departmental, civil, or criminal charges; and

(C) to not receive financial or promotional inducement;

(8) a local law enforcement officer's right to a hearing, with notification in advance of the date, access to transcripts, other relevant documents, and evidence;

(9) a local law enforcement officer's right to have the opportunity to respond to adverse accusations; and

(10) a local law enforcement officer's right to not be disciplined for exercising a Fifth Amendment right to remain silent unless granted immunity that such statements will not be used against the officer in any criminal proceeding;

Whereas in order to ensure these investigations are conducted in a manner that protects the public, respects the rights of local law enforcement personnel, and is conducive to good order and discipline;

Whereas States across the country are encouraged to adopt a "Bill of Rights" for local law enforcement personnel for protections related to investigation and prosecution arising from conduct during official performance of duties;

Whereas the local law enforcement community protects our streets, acknowledges the rights of all Americans, and keeps citizens safe from harm;

Whereas local law enforcement officers are recognized for their public service to all, knowing they face extremely dangerous situations while carrying out their duties;

Whereas a healthy and collaborative relationship between local law enforcement officers and the communities they serve is essential to creating mutually respectful dialogue;

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 398, the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this amendment.

During police week, across this Nation, we have taken an opportunity to remember and to reflect upon men and women who have paid and made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their community.

Throughout this week, I shared it with colleagues, not only colleagues from the House of Representatives, but colleagues from law enforcement agencies throughout this Nation. We shared

time at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. One of the most striking parts of that beautiful memorial is an inscription under a lion that says: "It is not how these individuals died that made them heroes it is how they lived." This amendment recognizes the bravery and the courage of those men and women who are living in law enforcement.

As a retired NYPD detective, I understand the bravery and courage it takes to be a law enforcement officer. I have seen the dangers firsthand and know the struggles officers must overcome every day they suit up, put their bulletproof vest on, pin their shield to their chest, and head out to stand the line between good and evil.

It is critical for local law enforcement officers to have rights and protections as they work to keep our communities safe, such as the right to self-defense against physical threats, the right to be protected from physical harassment targeting law enforcement, the right to equipment necessary for personal protection and legal recourse if a civilian attempts to assault them.

My amendment works to ensure law enforcement officials have fair administration of justice during investigations and encourages States to adopt their own bill of rights to support the brave men and women of law enforcement.

As members of our law enforcement community put their lives on the line to protect our communities each and every day, I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to show them unwavering support and vote "yes" on my amendment.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I oppose the D'Esposito amendment as its central focus is advocacy for the law enforcement officers' bill of rights, a controversial measure pushed by police unions and adopted by many States in response to demands for greater accountability and transparency following many high-profile incidents of police abuse and misconduct. While seemingly benign, the impact of a bill of rights for law enforcement officers can be profound.

For decades, this type of legislation has been one of the greatest obstacles to police accountability, hindering investigations, and shielding misconduct from public scrutiny, a likely explanation for why less than half of all States have adopted one. In Maryland, the first State to adopt and the first State to repeal an officers' bill of rights, the statute was often cited as the reason for Baltimore's long history of police misconduct.

In many instances, the statutes offer protections and procedural privileges

to law enforcement officers facing accusations of wrongdoing or disciplinary action far beyond those afforded to other government employees or to the average civilian accused of criminal behavior.

For instance, some States provide officers involved in an incident a cooling-off period of 24 hours or so before they must cooperate with internal investigators. During this cooling-off period, an officer and his or her attorney may have access to evidence collected during the investigation before the officer is interviewed.

Through these statutes, officers are shielded from the very interview tactics that they use on civilians, such as lengthy interrogations or the use of aggressive or threatening questioning, or promises of rewards to induce cooperation, both of which this amendment suggests should be avoided to ensure the fair administration of justice when investigating officer misconduct and only officer misconduct.

These laws can allow officers accused of wrongdoing to remain on duty for prolonged periods of time while investigations are conducted, as well as limit the types of disciplinary actions that can be taken against officers accused of wrongdoing. They also often limit the authority of civilian review boards and make it difficult for the public to access information about officers' misconduct in disciplinary proceedings and, ultimately, for civilians to hold officers accountable for their actions.

These concerns have led to calls across the country to repeal or reform existing law enforcement officers' bills of rights to ensure more transparency, accountability, and fairness in the disciplinary process. When mayors and police chiefs have attempted to reform their troubled police departments, it has been their States' officers' bills of rights that have stood in the way.

While this amendment might be well intentioned, it encourages States to adopt a bill of rights for local law enforcement personnel without offering any guidance so that we might not further perpetuate the already problematic nature of these measures which I have just outlined.

Lastly, I note that just as the text of H. Con. Res. 40 celebrates local law enforcement while ignoring thousands of Federal, State, and Tribal law enforcement officers, so, too, does this amendment. It is for these reasons that I must oppose this amendment.

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

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. NADLER, the correct pronunciation of my last name is D'Esposito. Thank you.

The reason why this amendment is on the floor is because members of the party on the opposite side of the aisle have made it a popular decision to target law enforcement, to make their jobs more difficult, to legitimately take the handcuffs that are on their gun belt and use them on the cop so

they can't do their job. That is why this amendment is important.

It is important to honor law enforcement. It is important to recognize law enforcement. This is very simple. It is a bill of rights. It is giving them the ability to do the job that they took an oath to do. They rose their right hand, they swore on a Bible to protect, to serve, to go out each and every day and stand that line that I mentioned between good and evil.

The fact that any Member of this House of Representatives who claims to support law enforcement, who likes to put those tweets of thoughts and prayers, God forbid, when a member of law enforcement loses their life. Thoughts and prayers when an officer gets killed is not enough. What we need to do is supply them with a bill of rights. What we need to do is to implore States to do the same.

That is why I am asking all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do the right thing. Today is about supporting law enforcement.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, first of all, if I mispronounced Mr. D'ESPOSITO's name, I apologize. I thought I said it correctly.

Secondly, I outlined in my remarks the problems with existing State bills of rights for police officers. Some States have repealed them. They have gotten in the way of investigations. They have gotten in the way of investigations of police brutality and misconduct and generally have aggravated all the reasons, all the problems that I spoke about in my opposition to the main bill.

For that reason, I reiterate my opposition to this amendment, and I urge all my colleagues to vote against it.

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

□ 1015

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the concurrent resolution, on the preamble, and on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the concurrent resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 268, nays 156, not voting 10, as follows:

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DeLauro
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Fry
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente

[Roll No. 226]

YEAS—268

Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Magaziner
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz

NAYS—156

Barragan
Beatty
Bera

Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pence
Perez
Petersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Santos
Scalise
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Sorensen
Spanberger
Spartz
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Strong
Swalwell
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Torres (CA)
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dine
Van Orden
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wild
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bowman
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Burchett
Bush
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Crane
Crockett
Crow
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gaetz
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)

Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Good (VA)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone

Pascarell
Payne
Pelosi
Perry
Peters
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rosendale
Ross
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Smith (WA)
Soto
Stansbury
Stevens
Strickland
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (MS)
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Auchincloss
Bishop (NC)
DesJarlais
Garamendi

Green (TN)
Malliotakis
McHenry
Peltola

Pingree
Schiff

□ 1043

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. HOYER, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mses. KAPTUR, WILD, HOULAHAN, TITUS, Messrs. ALLRED, HIGGINS of New York, and MOULTON changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the concurrent resolution, as amended.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 301, noes 119, answered "present" 3, not voting 11, as follows:

Beyer
Biggs
Blumenauer

[Roll No. 227]

AYES—301

Adams Garcia, Mike Miller (OH)
 Aderholt Gimenez Miller (WV)
 Alford Golden (ME) Miller-Meeks
 Allen Gonzales, Tony Mills
 Allred Gonzalez, Molinaro
 Amodei Vicente Moolenaar
 Armstrong Good (VA) Mooney
 Arrington Gooden (TX) Moore (AL)
 Babin Gosar Moore (UT)
 Bacon Gottheimer Moran
 Baird Granger Morelle
 Balderson Graves (LA) Moskowitz
 Banks Graves (MO) Moulton
 Barr Greene (GA) Mrvan
 Bean (FL) Griffith Murphy
 Bentz Grothman Nehls
 Bera Guest Newhouse
 Bergman Guthrie Nickel
 Bice Hageman Norcross
 Bilirakis Harder (CA) Norman
 Bishop (GA) Harris Nunn (IA)
 Bishop (NC) Harshbarger Obernolte
 Boebert Hayes Ogles
 Bost Hern Owens
 Brecheen Higgins (LA) Palmer
 Buchanan Higgins (NY) Panetta
 Bucshon Hill Pappas
 Budzinski Himes Pence
 Burchett Hinson Perez
 Burgess Horsford Perry
 Burlison Houchin Peters
 Calvert Houlihan Pettersen
 Cammack Hoyer Pfluger
 Caraveo Hoyle (OR) Phillips
 Carbajal Hudson Posey
 Carey Huizenga Reschenthaler
 Carl Hunt Rodgers (WA)
 Carter (GA) Issa Rogers (AL)
 Carter (TX) Jackson (NC) Rogers (KY)
 Cartwright Jackson (TX) Rose
 Case Jackson Lee Rosendale
 Castor (FL) James Rouzer
 Chavez-DeRemer Johnson (LA) Roy
 Ciscomani Johnson (OH) Ruiz
 Cline Johnson (SD) Ruppersberger
 Cloud Jordan Rutherford
 Clyde Joyce (OH) Ryan
 Cole Joyce (PA) Salazar
 Collins Kaptur Salinas
 Comer Kean (NJ) Santos
 Connolly Keating Scalise
 Correa Kelly (MS) Scholten
 Costa Kelly (PA) Schrier
 Courtney Kiggans (VA) Schweikert
 Craig Kildee Scott, Austin
 Crane Kiley Scott, David
 Crawford Kilmer Self
 Crenshaw Kim (CA) Sessions
 Cuellar Krishnamoorthi Simpson
 Curtis Kuster Slotkin
 D'Esposito Kustoff Smith (MO)
 Davids (KS) LaHood Smith (NE)
 Davis (NC) LaLota Smith (NJ)
 De La Cruz LaMalfa Smucker
 DeLauro Lamborn Sorensen
 Deluzio Landsman Soto
 Diaz-Balart Langworthy Spanberger
 Donalds Larsen (WA) Spartz
 Duarte Larson (CT) Stanton
 Duncan Latta Stauber
 Dunn (FL) LaTurner Steel
 Edwards Lawler Stefanik
 Ellzey Lee (FL) Steil
 Emmer Lee (NV) Steube
 Estes Leger Fernandez Stewart
 Ezell Lesko Strickland
 Fallon Letlow Strong
 Feenstra Levin Swalwell
 Ferguson Loudermilk Sykes
 Finstad Lucas Tenney
 Fischbach Luetkemeyer Thompson (CA)
 Fitzgerald Luna Thompson (PA)
 Fitzpatrick Luttrell Tiffany
 Fleischmann Lynch Timmons
 Fletcher Mace Titus
 Flood Magaziner Torres (CA)
 Foxx Mann Trahan
 Frankel, Lois Manning Trone
 Franklin, C. Massie Turner
 Scott Mast Valadao
 Fry McCaul Van Drew
 Fulcher McClain Van Dwyne
 Gaetz McClintock Van Orden
 Gallagher McCormick Vasquez
 Gallego Meuser Veasey
 Garbarino Miller (IL) Wagner

Walberg
 Waltz
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)

Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wild
 Williams (NY)
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (SC)

Wittman
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

NOES—119

Aguilar
 Balint
 Barragan
 Beatty
 Beyer
 Biggs
 Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Bowman
 Brown
 Brownley
 Buck
 Bush
 Cardenas
 Carson
 Carter (LA)
 Casar
 Casten
 Castro (TX)
 Cherfilus-McCormick
 Chu
 Cicilline
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Cleaver
 Cloburn
 Cohen
 Crockett
 Crow
 Davis (IL)
 Dean (PA)
 DeGette
 DeBene
 DeSaulnier
 Doggett
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espallat

Evans
 Foster
 Foushee
 Frost
 Garamendi
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Garcia, Robert
 Gomez
 Green, Al (TX)
 Grijalva
 Huffman
 Ivey
 Jackson (IL)
 Jacobs
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Kamlager-Dove
 Kelly (IL)
 Khanna
 Kim (NJ)
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (PA)
 Lieu
 Matsui
 McBath
 McClellan
 McCollum
 McGarvey
 McGovern
 Meeks
 Menendez
 Meng
 Mfume
 Moore (WI)
 Mullin
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal

Neguse
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Pallone
 Pascarell
 Payne
 Pelosi
 Pocan
 Porter
 Pressley
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Raskin
 Ross
 Sanchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schneider
 Scott (VA)
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Smith (WA)
 Stansbury
 Stevens
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Thompson (MS)
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Tokuda
 Torres (NY)
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Velazquez
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Weston
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—3

Dingell Goldman (NY) Lofgren

NOT VOTING—11

Auchincloss
 Boyle (PA)
 Davidson
 DesJarlais

Green (TN)
 Malliotakis
 McHenry
 Peltola

Pingree
 Schakowsky
 Schiff

□ 1053

Mr. COHEN changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll-call No. 227.

HOURLY MEETING ON TOMORROW

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ZINKE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1844 THROUGH H.R. 2364.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor from H.R. 1844 through H.R. 2364.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

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

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Speaker, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the CFPB, was designed by liberals to harass American businesses and has been compromising American consumers' access to financial services.

The CFPB is unconstitutional, duplicative, and full of bad ideas. For example, it is currently pursuing a rule that would effectively ban banks from offering overdraft protection, a benefit utilized by millions of Americans.

The CFPB is part of a Federal bureaucracy that Republicans have promised and pledged to do away with.

Today, I am introducing the Mandating the Abolition of a Threat to Consumer Happiness, the MATCH Act, which will impose a permanent hiring freeze at the CFPB, prohibit it from establishing any new positions and transferring employees, and halt any new appointments.

The CFPB is nothing more than Joe Biden's DEI enforcement bureau. It is an agency that needs to be burned to the ground, and I am providing the match.

PRAISING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S SAFER COMMUNITIES WORK

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the work of President Biden to make our communities safer.

First, the American Rescue Plan provided \$350 billion for States and cities to help Americans. Funding from this plan has been used to hire more police officers and first responders.

Second, President Biden's work led to the bipartisan efforts to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. His work expanded background checks for gun purchases, funded crisis intervention, and protected victims from domestic violence.

In addition, President Biden has cracked down on illegal gun sales and the production of ghost guns to keep them off of our streets. He continues to provide necessary funding for police officers and other law enforcement officials, and he has made unprecedented investments in community-based crime prevention initiatives.

As a Congressman committed to reducing gun violence, I applaud President Biden's successful efforts to make our country safer.

HONORING FRED ALEXANDER OF GLYNN COUNTY, GEORGIA

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Fred Alexander of Glynn County, Georgia.

Born in 1940 in Vidalia, Georgia, Fred was a standout athlete in football, basketball, baseball, and track. After graduating from Lyons High School, he went on to attend Georgia Teachers College, then Austin Peay State University in Tennessee on a football scholarship.

Along with his brother Bill, Fred owned the Island Grove Motel before joining the local banking industry, an industry he worked in for 35 years.

Outside of his professional life, Fred was a longtime member of St. Simons United Methodist Church, a past president of the Brunswick Exchange Club, and a member of Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors.

Being an avid golfer, he also served on the Board of Directors of the Brunswick Country Club. He enjoyed spending his time off the golf course playing gin rummy and dancing with his beloved wife, Janie.

One of his newest hobbies was waving good morning to the Glynn Middle School students as they passed by his Lanier Boulevard home.

Fred is survived by his wife, five children, and a whole host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

My sincerest condolences go out to the Alexander family during this difficult time.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, May is Jewish American Heritage Month, a time to acknowledge the inspiring history of American Jews and to celebrate their contributions to every facet of American life.

From science and medicine to education and technology to music, theater, philanthropy, civil rights, and the pursuit of justice, American Jews have worked hard to build our great country.

Yet, we are facing a frightening rise in anti-Semitism. The 2021 FBI hate crimes report showed a 20 percent increase in anti-Semitic hate crimes.

Jews are the most targeted minority group in America, despite being only 2 percent of the population. History has taught us that what starts with anti-Semitism never stops there. Hatred spreads to other minorities and threatens the foundations of democracy.

As the co-chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-

Semitism, I am working with Members on both sides of the aisle and the Biden administration to confront anti-Semitism.

I will continue this fight to honor the Jewish Americans who have contributed so much to American life.

ARMED FORCES DAY

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, with Armed Forces Day approaching on Saturday, I rise to honor our military, their families, and our veterans who defend American security, American prosperity, and American values.

On the ground, in the air, and at sea, millions of Americans bravely protect and defend our country around the world.

Back home in my district, the island of Guam, we have the highest per capita statistics of enlistment numbers in the Nation and is home for over 15,000 military veterans.

Our island heavily relies on our military personnel for security as we are the closest U.S. soil to China and as tensions rise from the Chinese Communist Party in the Indo-Pacific region. We are grateful for our military, for their readiness, and for the sacrifices they make to protect our home, the island of Guam.

I thank our servicemembers and wish them a happy Armed Forces Day.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on National Infrastructure Week.

For far too long, we have been living off the investments our parents and grandparents made a generation or two ago.

Thanks to the bipartisan infrastructure law which we passed in the last Congress and President Biden signed into law, we now have moved from infrastructure week to infrastructure decade.

In California it has created over 48,000 jobs in this short time with an investment of \$42 billion. In my district, we are seeing progress. Some of the examples here are reinvestment in San Luis Reservoir dam, another 130,000 acre-feet of additional water storage, upgrading and expanding miles of highway improvements, funding clean school buses for communities like in Cutler and Orosi, and we will be breaking ground for the expansion of the Yosemite International Airport to provide greater service.

These are just some examples, and we are just getting started in my district.

Three years of funding remain, and now we have an opportunity to move

from infrastructure decade throughout America. It is about time.

GOTION: BOUGHT AND PAID FOR BY THE CCP

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

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today in strong opposition to the Chinese Communist Party's takeover of a town in my home State of Michigan.

The CCP is using one of their state-controlled companies to implant thousands of Chinese workers and billions worth of Chinese technology just outside of Big Rapids.

The company is called Gotion, and their technology is EV batteries. Now, Gotion likes to say that this is a good thing for Michigan and maybe even a good thing for America.

Why?

It is because they claim it brings jobs and money to our economy—but let's not forget the over \$500 million worth of taxpayer dollars that will be used to subsidize and build this facility. That is, quite frankly, what I call BS.

Gotion is bought and paid for by the CCP, and let's be clear: the CCP is not our friend.

So I am not standing idly by and going to let this happen. I am going to stand with the people of the great State of Michigan to call this out and continue to bring attention to this and do something about this. That is why I am here today: to call out the CCP for this blatant attempt to overtake our State.

DEBT CEILING

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

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are presenting us with a false choice: default on our debt and cause a recession or pass their default on America act and slash environmental funding and clean energy investments made through the Inflation Reduction Act.

The IRA is the most significant legislation in U.S. history to tackle the climate crisis and strengthen American energy security. Virginians in my district have already seen tangible benefits from the bill through environmental restoration funding for our Tribal communities, climate-resilient infrastructure upgrades, and clean school buses for our children.

It will continue to deliver for our Commonwealth. There are already more than 92,000 Virginians employed in clean energy jobs, and the IRA will create even more opportunity bringing \$11.6 billion in funding to our Commonwealth for large-scale clean power generation storage by 2030.

The IRA represents a new chapter for my constituents who are excited to

purchase energy-efficient appliances, make repairs to their homes, and save money on their utility bills.

However, the draconian default on America act will jeopardize many of these provisions. We must reject these extreme cuts and cleanly raise the debt ceiling.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Police Week, we honor and thank the brave men and women of law enforcement. Just this week we passed the POLICE Act, and I proudly supported it.

Public safety is the most important factor to a high quality of life and perhaps the number one function of government, but, sadly, we have seen a rise in anti-law enforcement rhetoric and violence.

Already this year, 135 officers have been shot in the line of duty, a more than 50 percent increase from this time in 2020. This should be agonizing to all Americans.

As well we must, as elected officials, always show respect for the work and authority of the police. If we don't, portions of the public will not, and weakening the thin blue line is dangerous to police officers and to society as a whole.

To all those who put on the uniform every day, we say thank you to America's finest. As your Representative in Congress and the son of a former police detective, know that I will always back the blue.

A VISION FOR OUR NATION

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

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a vision for our Nation that values the well-being of the communities we serve.

As a new Member of Congress, I have plans for what I want to accomplish for the people of California's 37th District which is to LEAD, to focus on land, economic justice, art, and democracy.

Land means finding ways to mitigate the climate crisis to put us on a sustainable path for the future. Focusing on economic justice means ensuring that marginalized communities can access economic opportunities.

The "A" refers to art and education. I will always be an advocate for the future of the arts and the unique stories artists tell.

Lastly, I am laser focused on safeguarding our democracy. The past couple of years have taught us it is fragile, vital, and worth fighting for.

My priorities are not the GOP's priorities. So far, the GOP has put forward bills attacking our education sys-

tem, parents, and immigrants, as well as plans that would be catastrophic for our environment and economy.

I am committed to my plan for Angelenos and to lead us to this moment fiercely hoping we can push toward progress together.

SAILOR SUICIDES

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, over the past 2 years, our Hampton Roads and Navy communities have been devastated by multiple sailor suicides, in particular aboard the USS *George Washington* and at MARMAC.

As a former Navy helicopter pilot and a primary care nurse practitioner, it infuriates me that the number of sailors who die by suicide continues to rise.

It is clear for anyone to see we have to better serve those who serve our great Navy and our country.

That is why this week I introduced the Sailor Standard of Care Act. This important bipartisan legislation would increase mental health resources and require mental health screenings for sailors assigned to limited duty, address challenges servicemembers and their families face accessing mental health care through TRICARE and implement a system to track quality of life programs and their success rates.

It is imperative that we address the mental health challenges facing today's Active Duty servicemembers and veterans and that we do it today. This is exactly why I came to Congress.

We speak so much about providing our military men and women with the necessary equipment, technology, training, et cetera, to be able to "fight tonight," and rightfully so. However, all those resources in the world are meaningless without the capable men and women behind it.

Right now, the harsh reality is that suicides among Active Duty servicemembers are at an all-time high. Tragically, they increased by more than 40 percent between 2015 and 2020. We owe it to our servicemembers to do everything in our power to make sure they have the support and mental health care they need.

They put their well-being on the line to serve our Nation, and our Nation must put their well-being first. We must prioritize our servicemembers and their families by focusing on the quality of life we provide for them while they serve.

As a veteran, granddaughter of a veteran, spouse of a veteran, and mother of future veterans, I am honored to fight every day for the quality of life they deserve.

□ 1115

SUPPORTING RESEARCH ON TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX

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

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am on the House floor to talk about a condition that impacts the lives of so many Americans: tuberous sclerosis complex, or TSC.

I am honored to speak on behalf of the Cardona family, who shared their child's story with me, and thousands of other families across America who love a child with TSC.

TSC is a rare genetic disorder that causes tumors to grow on vital organs, prompting seizures and developmental issues and often delaying children's progress in school.

Despite its profound impact on American families, TSC often goes unrecognized.

Research into diseases like TSC benefits countless individuals and families battling different conditions. It leads to scientific breakthroughs and discoveries to help cure a wide range of diseases, making better care and quality of life a reality for so many.

Today, I invite my colleagues to rally behind rare disease research for conditions like TSC.

UNITING ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we must act on the border security crisis. However, with a divided Congress, we can act only on a bipartisan basis to be successful.

Any immigration reform needs to reflect our shared American values and the needs of our modern economy. We must set aside the partisan infighting and unite for the greater good and strength of our country.

On border security, I said it was a priority to travel to the southern border to see the challenges for myself. That is why I am heading to the Rio Grande Valley along the Texas-Mexico border today to do just that.

OPPOSING EXTREME ABORTION BANS

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to an extreme abortion ban that North Carolina Republicans passed through the general assembly after overriding Governor Cooper's veto this week.

Since the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* nearly a year ago, North Carolina has become a safe haven for

women seeking reproductive care across the South. As States like Georgia and Florida enacted dangerous 6-week bans, North Carolina stood as a bastion for women's reproductive freedom.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans in my State are now turning the clock back 50 years by enacting a dangerous abortion ban and restrictions on providing healthcare.

The truth is women will suffer and doctors will be penalized under this dangerous law. We will not stay silent in the face of attacks on our rights and our healthcare.

STANDING UP FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Police Week to memorialize our officers who lost their lives in the line of duty and call for action.

In my district in Riverside County, we have lost six deputy sheriffs in the line of duty since 2020. This is in addition to the losses our local police departments have suffered over the years, including Palm Springs Department Police Officers Lesley Zerebny and Gil Vega, who we lost on October 8, 2016.

It is because of Officers Zerebny and Vega and Deputies Brett Harris, Darnell Calhoun, and Isaiah Cordero that I have authored legislation to support families of fallen officers and why I have fought to improve the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program so that their families can get the support they need.

This National Police Week and all year round, I am standing up for law enforcement officers and their families. I am pushing for support for those grieving the loss of their brothers and sisters in uniform, and I am calling for action on behalf of those who protect and serve our communities every day.

FUNDING SMALL POLICE DEPARTMENTS

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, this week, National Police Week, is a special time to recognize the courage and sacrifice of police officers in my district and across the country.

Police chiefs have shared their challenges with me, from difficulties with recruitment and retention to the high costs of modernizing their equipment and technology.

That is why I am cosponsoring the Invest to Protect Act that funds small police departments, like many in Pennsylvania-07, to help with retention and training, small departments like this one in Weatherly, Carbon County, Pennsylvania.

It is why I voted to institute stricter consequences for assault of law enforcement officers and voted to memorialize fallen officers killed in the line of duty.

It is why I am opposing the extreme GOP budget proposal to cut by 23 percent the number of local law enforcement agencies receiving Federal funding. That is why I am proposing that we increase funding for public safety programs.

Police officers put their lives on the line to keep us safe every single day. They deserve our thanks and our support, but they also deserve the Federal resources that they need to modernize and retain their officers. I will keep working to ensure they have those resources.

CELEBRATING HAITIAN FLAG DAY

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to wish the entire Haitian-American community a happy Haitian Flag Day.

The Haitian flag is a global symbol of resilience and freedom and represents the spirit of Haiti, the world's first Black republic.

Haiti's flag represents the indomitable spirit of the Haitian people. From the triumphant fight for independence to the resilient efforts to recover in the wake of a catastrophic earthquake, Haiti has inspired us all.

The flag embodies the richness of Haiti's history and culture and unites over 1.3 million Haitian Americans across the United States.

Haiti's journey has certainly not been without challenges. Today, Haiti finds itself in turbulent times, battling instability, violence, and threats to its democracy.

It is so important that our communities remain present and united so we can address these difficult times as good neighbors.

Hope is a powerful force. We will never stop hoping, but most importantly, we will never stop fighting for a better tomorrow.

Union makes strength: strength through unity. "L'union fait la force."

Have a wonderful Haitian Flag Day.

INVEST IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, my friends, this National Police Week, instead of helping communities recruit and train the next generation of principled police officers, we voted to let officers buy their department's retired handguns, and we voted on a non-binding resolution opposing defunding the police.

So many of us here are willing and ready to work together to address the

problems that I hear about when I meet with our police chiefs and police officers. In fact, my bipartisan Pathways to Policing Act has been endorsed by law enforcement and is still awaiting action on this floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to get to work and legitimately invest in law enforcement. Let's stop creating campaign slogans and start working on congressional solutions like my Pathways to Policing Act to ensure safety, security, and justice for all.

SUPPORTING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our local law enforcement officers in New Mexico and across the country.

These heroes in uniform keep our communities safe. That is why I voted in support of the POLICE Act because assaulting an officer is never acceptable—never.

However, I have serious concerns about how this bill was written and how it can be interpreted. The vague language creates the risk of wrongfully criminalizing law-abiding people who are legally in this country.

Let me be clear: Assault is never acceptable, especially when it comes to our officers of the peace and to our first responders.

Our law enforcement put their lives on the line every single day to ensure our communities are safe. For that and so much more, they deserve our respect.

To my constituents, I want them to know that I am committed to finding solutions to address our public safety issues with my partners across the aisle and to support local law enforcement.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS WAS AVOIDABLE

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. KIGGANS), my friend.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week. I am proud to stand with Virginia's police officers, not just during National Police Week but each and every day.

Our brave men and women in blue selflessly confront danger to protect us and our families, and I firmly believe it is only right to recognize all they do to keep our communities safe.

Unfortunately, as Americans face a rise in violent crime across the Nation, law enforcement officers have faced significant challenges and grave threats that have jeopardized the safety of those sworn to protect our communities.

These challenges range from increased violence against officers, efforts to defund police departments, lagging technology, recruitment and retention issues, and rising mental health concerns.

Last year, 246 law enforcement officers were tragically killed in the line of duty. This year, there have already been 41 officers killed in the line of duty serving their communities.

We must do more to support brave men and women of our Nation's law enforcement who serve our communities with courage, dedication, and strength. This week, I was proud to vote for several bills that showed them that we have their backs just like they have ours.

Whether it is through legislation or simple actions, we must prioritize appreciation of the men and women in blue who put themselves in harm's way to protect their communities.

The people of Virginia's Second District do an excellent job of showing our support for our men and women in law enforcement. This week, members of my team attended the annual National Police Week ceremony at the Virginia Beach Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. The ceremony and memorial serve as a solemn reminder of what our police officers put on the line every day when they wake up and go to work to protect our community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the people of Virginia's Second District in recognizing the brave men and women of our law enforcement community for putting their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Virginia for her support of police and for her service representing the people of her State.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is close to defaulting on its debt. That would be the first time in our Nation's history.

The situation we face today was fully avoidable. The Biden administration's reckless spending and economic illiteracy over the past 2 years have propelled our debt crisis and driven inflation to a 40-year high.

The American people have directly felt the impact of this administration's negligence toward an effective and practical economic policy.

□ 1130

It is well past time for our government to rein in reckless spending and work together toward returning to a balanced budget, a concept that both parties used to agree to strongly for decades.

Through the years, policy negotiations were a key part of many debt ceiling agreements. Throughout our Nation's history, we have negotiated spending deals and reforms many times by using the debt ceiling vote as a constructive catalyst to action.

Yet, for over 100 days, despite promises to the contrary, President Biden has refused to take this opportunity and willingly and effectively negotiate with House Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Over the past 3 months, while the President has been unresponsive, Speaker MCCARTHY has been hard at work, alongside House Republicans and with support from our Republican colleagues in the Senate, to ensure that we address this debt crisis in a timely, responsible manner.

We have done our part here in the House by passing the Limit, Save, Grow Act, which responsibly raises the debt ceiling while addressing the other key issues our Nation faces today.

Finally, in recent hours, with less than 2 weeks to go, President Biden has surfaced and engaged in a conversation with Speaker MCCARTHY. This is good news.

President Biden, join House Republicans in a sensible and responsible agreement this week and avoid driving our Nation even further into economic chaos.

PRESIDENT AL-ASSAD READMITTED TO ARAB LEAGUE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, recently Syrian President Bashar al-Assad was invited back into the Arab League after 12 years of being in exile. I can't tell you how incredibly frustrating and disappointing this is to many, particularly the innocent people of Syria who have endured more than a decade of war, murder, and torture.

Assad's readmittance to the Arab League sends the wrong signal. It sends the signal to the rest of the world that his atrocious war crimes against his own citizens over the past 12 years are acceptable.

A recent Reuters article had the headline "Arabs Bring Syria's Assad Back into Fold but Want Action on Drugs Trade." Well, that is rich, because the only reason that there is an epidemic in the drug trade in the Gulf and the region is because of Assad.

Assad turned to Russia and Iran to maintain his death machine, and now the Captagon drug trade led by his cousins, led by his military, is providing an independent source of funding for his regime while he poisons his neighbors, takes their money and fuels terrorism in the region; and yet he is invited back to the Arab League meeting. It is preposterous.

My bill that passed in last year's National Defense Authorization Act was

called the CAPTAGON Act and requires the U.S. Government to develop a multilateral and all-of-government approach to disrupting and dismantling the production of the Captagon drug right in the heart of Syria.

Recently the Treasury Department, along with our ally, the United Kingdom, took steps to sanction key actors in Assad's inner circle who are producing and trafficking Captagon. This is a good step, but it is months late, Mr. Speaker.

It is in the right direction of disrupting and dismantling the trafficking networks associated with this illicit drug, but it is just a start, and it comes years after we know the deadly impact of Captagon on the region, on families, but also the fueling of terror by Assad through the billions of dollars transferred from that illicit trafficking.

It is critical that governments across the globe continue to show their support for the Syrian people by denouncing those who seek to normalize relations with this repulsive regime. Granting Assad admittance to the Arab League once again sends the opposite message. It rewards barbaric behavior.

The United States Government has an obligation to sanction Assad in our efforts to dismantle the Captagon drug trade and hold Assad accountable for his war crimes. That is why I am pleased this week to cosponsor the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia Subcommittee Chairman JOE WILSON's new bill, H.R. 3202, the Assad Regime Anti-Normalization Act.

This bill was passed this week unanimously in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Congress will act where this administration has continuously failed to consistently do so. I look forward to supporting this bill on the House floor and seeing it signed into law.

COMMEMORATING 70-YEAR ALLIANCE BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea.

To commend this momentous occasion, Speaker MCCARTHY and Leader MCCONNELL invited Republic of Korea President Yoon to visit the House Chamber and address Congress in a joint meeting.

From the ashes of the Korean conflict to now one of the world's largest and most successful economies, the Republic of Korea is a testament to America's dedication to support market economics and democracy.

The successful alliance between the U.S. and the Republic of Korea has maintained peace, security, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region for those past seven decades.

Now more than ever, it is critical that the U.S. continue to support our ally in their efforts to protect their vibrant democracy and prosperous economy from the daily threats from North Korea and the growing aggression from the Chinese Communist Party.

I thank President Yoon for his leadership, for the tenacity of the Korean people to come from an authoritarian republic to truly a democratic one and for building one of the top 10 largest economies in the world. That is an amazing transformation over those seven decades.

Together, we will continue to promote freedom and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and around the world.

ARKANSAS TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the efforts of central Arkansas during the recovery period after a devastating tornado hit our district last month.

Our neighbors immediately began to work hand in hand, neighbor to neighbor to rebuild our community. Many volunteered and worked tirelessly to set up emergency shelters in our local schools and churches to ensure those impacted by this severe storm had safe housing in the wake of the tornado.

The response of our leaders at the State, county, and city level was invaluable and to be commended. The incredible efforts and active emergency response from Governor Sarah Sanders, Pulaski County Judge Barry Hyde, Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor Terry Hartwick of North Little Rock, Mayor Jeff Elmore of Jacksonville, and Mayor Mary Jo Heyetownsell of Sherwood, and many, many others all saved lives and accelerated the recovery process.

Not only did we witness their outstanding response and an outpouring of local volunteers, but we saw the swift action of our first responders and essential businesses.

Entergy Arkansas began repairs to the local power grid as soon as the storms passed, and many of our linemen and -women worked countless hours to restore power even when they themselves were affected. One lineman I met with was in his bed at the time of the tornado, and the roof was torn off his apartment. After a day off from that tragedy, he was out there working 16 hours a day to connect the power to his neighbors. Countless time was put in neighbor for neighbor.

Entergy Arkansas' corporate office also donated \$50,000 to the American Red Cross to be used toward tornado recovery efforts, with an additional pledge of up to \$50,000 matching employee donations.

The Arkansas Foodbank did an incredible job of delivering food, water, and other necessary items throughout our communities to ensure those affected by the storms were supported with necessary goods.

Additionally, our local restaurants and businesses all donated hundreds of meals and supplies to those in need.

I thank our community for demonstrating generosity and thoughtfulness during a time of great need. They simply demonstrated that core value that we all take pride in as Arkansans and Americans.

CONGRATULATING FRANK THOMAS ON HIS RETIREMENT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the exceptional career of Frank Thomas, who retired in March from Stephens, Inc., a financial services firm headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Frank graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1976 and was the first news director at KUAF, the local Razorback radio station.

He quickly rose from local radio to national politics, working for former U.S. Senator David Pryor as his chief of staff.

After Frank's time in public service, he felt drawn home to Arkansas and has worked for Stephens for the past 27 years.

Stephens has long believed that Arkansas is truly the land of opportunity, and Stephens has invested in and benefited from its long association with our State. In fact, Stephens helped a little-known company called Walmart launch their initial public offering and become the largest retailer in the world.

I thank Frank for his service and his lifelong commitment to Arkansas and the Second Congressional District and our Nation. I wish Frank, his wife, and his family many, many happy years ahead.

CONGRATULATING CATHY OWEN ON HER INDUCTION INTO ARKANSAS WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate my dear friend of some five decades, Cathy Owen, on her induction into the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame.

Cathy is a trailblazer and role model for women in banking in Arkansas, having served the banking community for over 50 years. She has been with Eagle Bank for over 40 of those years in various roles, most recently as chairwoman since 2012.

During her time at Eagle Bank, she has worked tirelessly to build the bank into a large, respected community bank. Over the years, she and her team have been dedicated to customer service and developing outstanding products and services.

Outside of her achievements in the banking industry, she remains an active leader in our community. She is a generous volunteer and supporter of Baptist Health Foundation, Fifty for the Future, and the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, among many other endeavors.

I have had the privilege of working with Cathy in the industry for decades during my time in banking. I am proud to call Cathy a friend. I thank her for her many years of outstanding service in the community and congratulate her on this well-deserved induction into the Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR STEVEN VEAZEY RETIRING FROM ARKANSAS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend and a true example of a leader, Command Sergeant Major Steven Veazey. I wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

Command Sergeant Major Veazey, an Arkansas native, has been serving in the Arkansas Army National Guard since 1979, and has retired after 44 years of service.

The positive impact he has made in the Arkansas Army National Guard is undeniable, and he has set the standard for what it means to be a noncommissioned officer.

Over the years, the command sergeant major deployed to Bosnia and Iraq. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with one oak-leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal with two oak-leaf clusters.

Steven exemplifies leadership, not only as a command sergeant major, but as a leader in our community, serving as a member of the East Union Missionary Baptist Church, The American Legion, and as past president of the Sheridan Rotary Club.

His wife, Leanna, has been his steadfast partner for the past 43 years and the cornerstone of support. Together they have raised two children, Tasha and Steven.

Over the past 9 years, I have been so grateful for his friendship and leadership. I treasure our time together since my service in Congress, from paying tribute to a young soldier or an airman for a job well done or saluting those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

My best wishes, Steven, for your well-deserved retirement.

ARKANSAS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS REOPENING

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the reopening of our magnificent Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts. The museum, located in downtown Little Rock, reopened on April 22 after almost 4 years since closing for renovation and expansion.

After years of planning, the museum has been reimaged into a beautiful work of art itself. The architecture firm Studio Gang led the design which preserves historic elements of the building but includes other critical interesting and tasteful elements, making it into one of the most influential museums in the country.

□ 1145

The museum has much to offer from the visual and performing arts to full art educational experiences. The goal is to create a cultural space where our community can engage with a diverse portfolio of artistic perspectives and come together to see the beautiful temporary exhibitions and participate in the wonderful array of educational courses.

I thank all involved for their efforts in making this renovation possible and congratulate the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts for this new chapter in their history in our State.

CONGRATULATING JIM KEET

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Jim Keet on being named Arkansan of the Year.

Throughout his life, Jim has been an outstanding and active member of our

State civic affairs, and particularly in central Arkansas.

Jim served both in the Arkansas House of Representatives and in the Arkansas State Senate in the 1990s.

In addition to his years of public service, he is one of our State's most successful entrepreneurs. He is president of the Keet Management Company and chairman of JTJ Restaurants, where he has operated 155 restaurants over the past five decades.

Beyond his success in business and politics, he has served on the board of directors for 20 years at Easterseals Arkansas. Easterseals is an organization that seeks to empower those with disabilities to have fulfilling lives and to become active members of their communities.

As the founder of the Arkansan of the Year award while with Easterseals Arkansas, this honor comes full circle now for Jim.

His tremendous work ethic and dedication to improving the lives of Arkansans deserves this recognition. I am proud to call Jim a friend and congratulate him on this exceptional honor.

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD INTERNATIONAL SNIPER COMPETITION

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Staff Sergeant Benjamin Cotten and Staff Sergeant Allen Smith of the Arkansas Army National Guard for winning this year's International Sniper Competition.

This competition allows soldiers to display their abilities in a rigorous environment designed to put their extensive training to the test against 35 international teams.

The team, including New Mexico Army National Guard member Erik Vargas, competed three days straight testing their shooting skills, physical endurance, and problem solving as they took on a variety of scenarios with multiple weapon systems.

Staff Sergeant Smith enlisted in 2003 and Staff Sergeant Cotten in 2006. Both have deployed to Iraq, and they have served as sniper team leaders and marksmanship instructors with Army National Guard.

In addition to serving their country, they serve our communities as firefighters. Their leadership abilities and mental fortitude earned them this competition, and I am honored to add these men to my recognition for this outstanding accomplishment across 35 very competitive international teams.

CONGRATULATING MACK McLARTY

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Mack McLarty for receiving the Legacy of Leadership Award at the 35th annual Arkansas Business of the Year ceremony.

Mr. McLarty is chairman of The McLarty Companies and was White House chief of staff under President Bill Clinton. Mack also served on the National Petroleum Council and the Council on Environmental Quality at the request of President George H.W. Bush.

While chief to President Clinton, Mack advised on a wide range of international and domestic issues, such as the 1993 deficit reduction package, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and multiple trips as it relates to attending the G7 economic summits.

Today, Mack is a respected senior adviser in both the public and private sectors and a prominent public speaker who shares his thoughts and experiences in the realm of U.S. trade and foreign policy.

Along with this recognition for his public service, Mr. McLarty was awarded the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Medal and the Center for the Study of the Presidency Distinguished Service Award.

I congratulate Mr. McLarty on this recognition and thank him for his lifetime of public service at the national level and at home in Arkansas.

ARKANSAS STATE CODING COMPETITION

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, Conway High School, eStem Charter High School, Little Rock Central High School, and North Little Rock Center for Excellence for advancing to the State coding competition.

Out of more than 160 teams, these five are part of the 16 teams that were selected to advance to the State competition.

The top three finishing teams will receive monetary awards of \$2,000 for first place, \$1,000 for second place, and \$500 for third place for each member of the team.

The money will be placed in a 529 college savings plan account to help those students with their journey toward earning a college degree.

I thank ARCodeKids for providing the grant money for the winning teams, and I congratulate the students for qualifying for the State competition. I wish them the best of luck.

CONGRATULATING STEVEN HELMICK

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steven Helmick of Donald R. Roberts Elementary in Little Rock for being named the 2023 Arkansas Elementary School Principal of the Year.

Mr. Helmick is known for his outgoing personality and willingness to do whatever it takes to inspire his students, including running a mile for each of the 168 fifth graders at his elementary school and camping out on the school's roof.

Steven Helmick has turned Roberts elementary into one of the highest achieving elementary schools in Arkansas receiving a grade of A from the State education leadership.

I congratulate Mr. Helmick on his well-deserved award and the outstanding work as principal of Roberts Elementary.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET GAINES

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Gaines who celebrated her 100th birthday on February 19 of this year.

Margaret Gaines has been a resident of central Arkansas her entire life. She grew up in Griffithville, Arkansas, and currently resides in Searcy where she has lived for the past 62 years.

Throughout her life, Margaret has seen and remembers many historic events, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and President John F. Kennedy's visit to Arkansas to dedicate the Greers Ferry Dam in Heber Springs.

Mrs. Gaines believes the secret to her long life is plenty of exercise from gardening, which she learned to do during the Great Depression. She still grows a garden every year.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Margaret Gaines a very happy 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING JAMES CHANCE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fire chief from the Enola Area Fire Department, James Chance, who is preparing to retire.

James is no ordinary fire chief. He is a volunteer who has been with the Faulkner County department since 1973 and became chief in 1983.

When James first started at the Enola Area Fire Department, they had a single brush truck to use as an engine, tanker, and rescue, and the department did not have an ISO rating. Now, the department has three stations, 11 fire trucks, and has an ISO rating of five.

According to his peers, James responded to every emergency, despite how urgent or not it was. He spent two nights at 2 a.m. putting up barricades on flooded roads during bad storms or responding to the tenth false medical alert alarm in the middle of the night.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Chance for over 50 years of selfless service to the citizens of Faulkner County, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate 125 years of the International Paper Company.

International Paper, IP, was founded in January 1898, and they celebrated their 125th anniversary in January—an incredible milestone in our Nation.

Their company is committed to providing essential products that people depend on, including being one of the world's largest producers of fiber-based products.

Essential paper and paper products are important in our everyday lives, ensuring goods are protected and keeping consumers safe. They are a driver of local economic development in our great State. There are over 550 IP employees and 6 facilities throughout Arkansas, 150 of which work at the Conway Graphics Plant.

I congratulate International Paper for their 125 years of service, and I look forward to their continued impact on Arkansas and around the world.

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

SANTA FE SHOOTING ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas for his service to the people of Arkansas and the people up here in this very humble institution.

Mr. Speaker, today marks the 5-year anniversary of the shooting in Santa Fe High School where 10 innocent lives were lost at the hands of evil. We will never forget that. We will never forget that tragic day that has forever changed Santa Fe, Texas.

My heart and my prayers still go out to the family and friends of those we lost, and I remain immensely grateful to the law enforcement officers who responded to that scene at their own peril.

Mr. Speaker, it is often a good guy with a gun that stops the bad guy with a gun. In Santa Fe, Texas, it was a brave law enforcement officer. Let me tell you that disarming legal gun owners will never, ever make us safer. There are, however, Mr. Speaker, steps that we can take to secure our schools without infringing on our citizens' Second Amendment rights.

There is no reason why our schools should be soft targets. We clearly have the resources and the means to protect the most precious amongst us, and that is going to be our children and their teachers.

Mr. Speaker, we should do everything we can to help school districts. We can hire armed professional police officers to help protect our schools, the kids, protect their teachers, and the staff.

Following the shooting in Santa Fe, I participated in roundtable meetings to discuss that very thing; namely, enhanced security for our schools. I heard about the need to emphasize safety in school architecture and design. We heard about ways to encourage gun owners to responsibly lock away their weapons, and the ways school marshal programs can ensure that armed and trained personnel are present on those campuses.

In response, I introduced a school safety package, Mr. Speaker. The first bill in that package is the Protect Our Children's Schools Act, which would allow the Secretary of Education to use unspent COVID-19 funds designated for schools and localities to reprogram those funds to make our schools safer against those kinds of attacks. This money would be used to strengthen and enhance security systems already in place at those schools.

The second bill, Mr. Speaker, the Protect Against School Shootings, or the PASS Act, would allow qualified law enforcement officers, retired law enforcement officers, and those permitted by State law to carry a firearm in an otherwise gun-free school zone.

Then there is the School Resource Officer Compensation Act, which would incentivize school districts to hire retired law enforcement officers to serve as school resource officers, or SROs, by exempting the respective school districts from the additional expense of having to pay matching Social Security contributions to anyone desiring to serve in this critical safety role.

Mr. Speaker, it is a win-win-win. Schools get armed and trained by professionals. The schools can hire those professionals at a reduced rate and enjoy the additional savings. The law enforcement officer professionals can continue to serve their communities by protecting those very kids in their communities without financial penalty.

The last bill in the package is the Securing Our Schools Act, which would enhance school security, including doubling school resource officers, hiring more school-based mental health counselors, and expanding the nonprofit security grant program.

Mr. Speaker, I think we all agree that we need to secure our schools to ensure another senseless crime doesn't happen in our communities.

Today, I pray for Santa Fe High School and the families who lost their loved ones. May 18, 2018, will forever be ingrained in me and etched on my heart.

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

□ 1200

DESTROYING AMERICA FROM WITHIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is the time for authorizations, and one of the topics of discussion today, of course, is our armed services authorizations, military bills, as we get briefings on what is necessary to defend our country from our external enemies.

However, let us not forget that when Nikita Khrushchev spoke to the American public in the 1960s, he said:

We will take America without firing a shot. We will bury you. We can't expect the American people to jump from capitalism to communism, but we can assist their elected leaders in giving them small doses of socialism until, one final day, they wake up and find they are living in a communist government.

Now, how could our great country, the strongest country in the world, be destroyed from within?

I also point out that when the KGB was active in this country in the seventies and eighties, the majority of agents were not spies. They were not engaged in looking for our military secrets. They were, apparently, out in the open, trying to corrupt Americans into how they understood our country should be operating. They were taking

advantage of our freedoms in what is supposed to be a constitution made for a moral and religious people.

How would you go about destroying America from within? First of all, briefly, we would try to destroy the currency. We know there has been wild and reckless spending recently, to the degree that our debt-to-GDP ratio is the highest it has been since the end of World War II. Our debt to gross national product is almost 100 percent.

We were there at the end of World War II, but we knew at the end of World War II, millions of people were going to be laid off from the military. We were going to stop building ships, planes, and tanks that we needed. Sure enough, we dropped from about 100 percent of GDP to a little over 20 percent during Nixon until we began to slowly creep up again.

More recently, in part because of irresponsible legislation like the American Rescue Plan or the successor to Build Back Better, which were able to pass because the Democrats had the House, the Senate, and the Presidency and were able to use something called reconciliation to get it done, we have now shot back up near 100 percent, near an all-time high.

This time, we don't see an area in the future in which hundreds of thousands of soldiers and sailors are going to be laid off or that we are going to stop building weaponry. Contrary to that, we do see an aging population in which the amount we spend on Social Security and Medicare is going to continue to go up.

I think you could say getting ahold of these people in this House and persuading way too many of them that spending doesn't work, we have approached an area, a crisis area, which could result in the end of the United States.

Secondly, I think if I were going to destroy America, I would try to destroy the family. Beginning in the 1960s, we had a welfare program that was largely conditioned upon keeping one parent, usually the father, out of the house.

This goal was made more apparent when Black Lives Matter, which played such a big role in the 2020 elections, outright came out and said they were opposed to the Western-prescribed nuclear family. Of course, there was a tight alliance between Black Lives Matter and the Democratic Party.

Within a few years of the Great Society in the sixties, it was apparent that the welfare system was destroying families. Patrick Moynihan, who eventually became a Senator up here, made it clear, by 1970, we were destroying families with this welfare program.

Apparently, because some people wanted to destroy families, his warnings went unheeded. We worked our way toward a higher and higher percentage of children being raised without a father in the home.

We also worked our way toward too many men not having families and not

having a necessary purpose in life. Therefore, the crime rate went up, this sort of thing.

I think another area in which you can see people working toward communism were the people who wanted to expand this welfare state. We all know, to get so many of the programs the welfare state offers, be it low-income housing, medical care, Pell grants, all of these things, it is kind of conditioned upon not having a man in the house.

The next area that I think we have to look at if one is destroying America from the inside is unlimited immigration across our southern border. Right now, on legal immigration, we swore in about a million people last year, which is the highest it has been since 2006.

It varies from month to month, but in a normal month right now, there are about 10 times the number of people coming into this country as were coming in under the prior administration.

Why in the world would you allow—completely unnecessary. This was not a problem 2, 2½ years ago. Why would you allow virtually unfettered immigration across our southern border unless you want to destroy our country?

These people who come here are not necessarily educated in what it means to be an American. They do not receive a background check that includes their home countries. It is a recipe for disaster. Like I said, it is at a time when we are near record numbers of legal immigrants.

We also know that the Biden administration is deporting people who commit crimes at a rate of about one-quarter that Donald Trump was. Not only are you allowing more people here, but even if you catch them doing something wrong, you don't evict them. I think one way to destroy America is just to let unlimited numbers of people come here, in this case, across the southern border.

The next area that I think has to be looked at is Joe Biden's obsession with blurring the differences between the sexes, which, after all, is the foundation for the family. We can see the push toward transgenderism throughout all areas of society.

There is a hospital near my district in which they remove the breasts of teenage girls, 15-year-old girls. They put people on puberty blockers. They give people other medications. They put it in people's minds—in boys' minds that they might not be a traditional man, in girls' minds that they might not be a traditional woman. This is another way, I think, to eat away at the moral fabric of America.

The area I am going to focus on today is the Biden administration's obsession with race and trying to divide Americans by race. In his inaugural speech, I believe he mentioned racism four times and white supremacy once.

In other words, if you have to say what is the theme behind Joe Biden's inaugural speech, and different Presidents have different themes, it is racism. He has continued along that path.

When he gave his State of the Union speech here a couple of months ago, he talked about racism with the police.

Over the weekend, he gave a speech—I believe it was at Howard University, but at some university, a graduation speech. One more time, his emphasis was that we have a major problem with white supremacy in this country.

First of all, let's look at the facts. Even his premise isn't true. Then, we will look at the damage that can be done as we try to have Americans look at themselves racially or look at themselves by where their ancestors were born five or six generations ago.

If you look at countries around the world, people who come here from other than European countries, you see people succeeding wildly. By this, I mean succeeding wildly financially. I realize finances aren't the most important thing in the world.

Right now, the ethnic group that makes more money than any other in the United States—and I had this pointed out by a friend of mine who was very proud of it because he is Indian—is Indian Americans who come here, many of them, most of them, not even knowing the English language. They are mostly not Christian. They are Hindu, a few Muslim. They come here and are wildly successful.

Many other groups—Filipino, Sri Lankan, Cuban—all come here and make more money than the average American.

It is so obvious that racism does not prevent people from living the American Dream.

Over the weekend, I spent some time with the Hmong. The Hmong are an ethnic group from Laos that helped the United States in the Vietnam war, and because they helped the United States, many of them immigrated to America.

Wisconsin happens to be the State in which we have the third highest number of Hmong, and I always enjoy talking with them to see how wildly successful they are. Again, this is a group that is not European and many did not know English when they came here.

When I look around my district, Hmong are, almost uniformly, living the American Dream. Interestingly, when I talk to them, almost all of them have formed old-fashioned nuclear families, which, I think, helps emotionally and spiritually with their children.

Like I said, educationally, economically, across the board, the Hmong from Oshkosh and Neenah, Wisconsin—I spent the weekend in Manitowoc, Wisconsin—are succeeding wildly, and that is consistent with the statistics of other ethnic groups.

So, what is Joe Biden and the Democrats' response to this wild success of people from around the world, and people, by the way, who are not of European heritage?

I should also point out that a couple of times I do something that I enjoy doing. I go down and watch the swearing-in ceremonies of people coming

here legally and becoming American citizens. They have them in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

When I go down there, almost none of the new citizens coming here are from Europe. Overwhelmingly, it is Asia, Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, all coming here. When you talk to them, because they have had to be around here a few years, they all already are successful, all so proud to be Americans. None are running away from this country, and none of them mention racism as a problem.

Again, it is further evidence that we shouldn't have a problem.

Now, how has the Biden administration met with this situation? How has our government as a whole, over the last 50 years, dealt with this situation?

First of all, at the beginning of Joe Biden's term, 2 or 3 months in, we had two Democratic Senators, TAMMY DUCKWORTH and MAZIE HIRONO, at a time when the Senate was 50 Republicans and 50 Democrats, so every vote was necessary for Joe Biden to get his nominees appointed. They came out and said that they were not going to vote for any more White men who are nominated to positions—kind of a shocking thing.

Then, they met with Joe Biden, who, I assume, held their hands. By the way, they said they would accept White men if they were gay. I would assume he held their hands and said there were a few White guys who he had to allow in his administration.

Nevertheless, an obscure legal journal did some studying after the first 2 years of the Biden administration. They looked at the 97 new judges, which are some of the appointments a President has to make. When they looked at the 97 judges, I would have expected maybe 25 or 30 being White men, which would have been, I think, lower than if you just picked a number of lawyers across the board, say, over the age of 35 to be judges. I would have guessed 20 or 25, and I would have thought that is clearly too low. It was five.

□ 1215

Only 5 of 97 judges appointed in Joe Biden's first year were White men and two of them happened to be gay, which is something that has been hidden by the American press corps.

I am not sure how typical this is of his other appointments, but clearly Joe Biden is using this as a tool to discriminate or to divide Americans. He is also, in his proposed budget, adding new employees in every agency—Commerce, Interior, Education, wherever you look—to enforce this sort of racial identification.

I am sure he plans on them weighing in as to who gets new jobs. I am sure he plans on them weighing in on who gets grants as businesses around the country compete for grants. This is another way in which Joe Biden's actions are meeting his words. He wants to turn America into a country of competing ethnic groups.

Another thing he is doing that has been underpublicized right now is for the purpose of determining whether a group needs preferences or not. We look at Asians, and by Asians, we mean people coming all the way from Japan around Asia, all the way through Pakistan, but not Iran. We mean people from sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria, Tanzania, countries like that. We mean Latin America, which could mean Cubans, it could mean Colombians, could mean Haitians, whatever, these people get preferences.

By the way, they get preferences over the native born. If somebody shows up here from Nigeria, if somebody shows up here from Bolivia, for the purposes of the forms that American businesses have to fill out or that universities may fill out, these people who just arrive here get preferences over the native born, and that is true even if they are already wealthy when they come here.

If I am a Cuban who comes here worth a million dollars or well off in Cuba planning to be a doctor in the United States, I will right away get preferences on these forms over Americans who have been here for generations.

President Biden, however, wants to add another group that can walk around with a chip on their shoulder and be told they are discriminated against. Those are people from the Arab world. Because right now, people from Syria, people from Algeria, people from Egypt are not considered minorities. They don't get special treatment. Well, President Biden has made it clear that in the future he is taking the first administrative steps to say this group should identify by their ethnicity, identify by where they come from. Of course, when the bean counters in the universities, the bean counters doing the hiring in the Federal Government, when they get hold of these people, they will look to give them preferences because they are supposedly picked on by not being of European heritage.

I think a lot of Americans do not realize that this affirmative action has been around for quite some time. Affirmative action, in general, really was promoted a lot beginning 1965, which is to say about 57 years ago. Thomas Sowell has written about affirmative action around the globe and, of course, affirmative action was originally supposed to be temporary for people of African-American descent.

Well, like affirmative action programs all over the world, it was not temporary. We have had it for 75 years. And not only is it not temporary, but you have a bureaucracy growing up promoting this affirmative action. As it expanded from where it initially was to include other areas, it was expanded to include Asians, it was expanded to include Latin Americans, it was expanded to include women.

Right now, for the purposes of forms, having talked to people who deal with this in human resources departments

around the country, all these other groups are supposedly or sometimes advised to get preference.

The first time I ran across this—and I will digress for one second—you are supposed to fill out a form called the EE01 if you have either 100 employees or less than that and you contract with the government. I first ran across this when I was contacted by a human resources woman and they had to fill out the EE01. I think they had 100 employees, but they also sold some of their product to the Federal Government. They were a manufacturer.

She said the firm that they hired to see how to deal with this relationship with the Federal Government—there was a situation in which they had four or five engineers, they wanted to hire a fifth or sixth engineer and they were advised by this group that they should hire a woman. They didn't have to hire a woman, but if they didn't hire a woman and the Federal Government looked at them, they may get in trouble for not hiring a woman. So they gave them a card of some group somewhere referred to as the Wisconsin Society of Women Engineers and they were told you should hire a woman.

Then they wanted to hire another member of management and the same group told them, you don't have to hire a minority, but if you don't hire a minority, you might get in trouble. You should look around and see what you can do to hire minorities.

About 20 years ago, I dealt with this situation. It has been around for over 50 years. Again, a goal apparently of which—since we don't have a big prejudice problem in this country—is to try to encourage people to walk around with a chip on their shoulder or ask for something because of their ethnicity.

There are a variety of what I think are ridiculous rules that, in addition to the fact that it is wrong on its face, that we should look at regarding this affirmative action program.

First of all, you self-identify. Now, an extreme example of that is the Senator from Massachusetts, ELIZABETH WARREN, she felt that she was a 64th or 128th Native American, so she should get preferences. But it is more common to have somebody who is maybe one-quarter something to self-identify as, let's say, Latin American or something.

In this new world in which we have all these overpaid bureaucrats, both in private industry and in the government, by identifying as one-quarter Cuban, you have

the potential to get preferences.

Now, that is just divisive. It is ridiculous on its face. It also doesn't matter how wealthy you are. Like I said, you could be Barack Obama's daughters worth millions and millions of dollars, but you fill out the form and for the purposes of university admissions, for the purpose of Federal employment, you are treated as somebody put upon, somebody who should walk around with a chip on their shoulder, somebody who should get preferences.

In any event, I think it is something that the American public should be aware of and look to end. These programs were originally designed only for Black Americans and when they began well over 60 years ago, it was supposed to be something that was temporary.

Instead, Joe Biden, I believe, is using it, the progressives are using it to try to divide America, to try to create a situation in which our future elections are contests between ethnic groups.

America is unique in that so far in our existence, people view themselves as Americans above all, and when they go to vote, they vote on issues: How much should we be spending on the military?

How much should we be spending on transportation, maybe social issues?

Abortion has recently been a big issue. Taxation, how we should deal with taxation.

However, the people who push this, I think, are causing people to vote and say which politician is giving me more because of where my ancestors are from. I think that is motivation. It is very dangerous. It has always been a problem in other countries where we have affirmative action.

I mentioned before Thomas Sowell wrote a book about affirmative action, an older book today, but it is as fresh today as when he originally wrote it. In it he talks about when governments don't treat people equally but when they are supposed to pick between different groups, those countries break down.

I have always felt one of the problems with Canada getting together a decent government is, of course, they are divided by language. They have got a French part of Canada and English parts of Canada, but there are other areas in which outright civil war breaks out.

In Nigeria, where you have different ethnic groups, different religions, Muslim in the north, Christian in the south, they have always had problems. I remember when I was in high school, there was a war over Biafra in which there tried to be a breakaway in Nigeria, and to a certain extent, the hard feelings in Nigeria were encouraged by affirmative action sort of programs.

Same thing in Sri Lanka, a country before they had affirmative action, they had different ethnic groups. They got along fabulously. Once the idea got in there that the government should pick and choose people based on their ethnicity, they had a civil war, and for a relatively tiny country, over 30,000 people died.

India, one of the difficult things that these incredibly smart and resourceful people have had in getting together a good country is it is divided between dozens of ethnic groups, certainly there is a big religious divide between Hindu and Muslim, and that has really hampered India. They are trying to deal with it. They sometimes deal with it through affirmative action programs and, of course, that just increases the

hard feelings they have in that country.

Same thing is true with Malaysia, another country. They have to deal with the Chinese and the native Malays and only results in trouble and hard feelings when we go down this affirmative action path.

There are other areas, for whatever reason, in society, even without prompting from the government in which we are judging people where their ancestors came from. There is a good book out there right now by Heather McDonald talking about efforts being made to get rid of standardized testing to get into medical school.

Well, I had always thought that the smartest kids are the ones who became doctors, but it seems some of these bean counters don't like that. They would rather focus on where people's ancestors came from rather than how good you do on the standardized tests.

As a result, there are medical schools which are getting rid of standardized tests altogether. So we are no longer getting the smartest kids to be doctors, or in some medical schools we aren't. Instead, we wind up with kids getting into medical school in part based on an essay, maybe the more woke the essay the better. But, again, this idea about judging people by their ancestry is not only going to be unfair to people, but it is going to result in doctors who are no longer the best in their class. It is going to be doctors who filled out the essay the most or who did the most volunteer work or something and it is inevitably going to result in the decline of the quality of American medicine.

Just like as we push more affirmative action in American manufacturing, push it more in important Federal jobs, push it more in the judiciary instead of just merit, we are going to wind up with a less competent judiciary, less competent manufacturing firms, less competent professors, and will result in decline in America. I do believe it is being pushed by the same people who are pushing our welfare state, the same people who are for unfettered immigration, the same people who are trying to destroy the nuclear family, the same people who are trying to blur the differences between the sexes, and each one of these things is a march toward destroying America from within as Nikita Khrushchev warned us and promised us 50 years ago.

I encourage our negotiators, when it comes time to negotiate the appropriation bills, to take out the provisions that Joe Biden has to increase the amount of racial enmity around the country. I encourage the colleges and universities around the country to not fall for this idea that people's identity is based on where their ancestors came from many years ago.

I mean, think of this: I can grow up next to a Cuban family. I can have my best friend be the son of a Cuban family. We can go to the same schools together. We can play on the same bas-

ketball team together, but somehow these bean counters say you are all such different people because your great great-grandparents lived in Cuba and your great great-grand parents lived in Germany.

□ 1230

We see such a diverse group of people. We encourage our negotiators to take that out. We encourage the benefactors of the universities around the country to not allow this to happen there. We encourage people to get rid of these affirmative action programs.

One other way, by the way, that they hurt America is they encourage what I think of as lying. I ran into a guy recently from my district who had a business—and he knew a lot of other people in a similar business—who had their wives named as the owner of the company. They lied. My friend, a good honest Christian, wasn't going to lie and pretend that his wife owned the company, so he didn't get the advantage of this.

Mr. Speaker, those are my requests—things that the American press corps should be paying attention to but aren't.

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

PERMISSION TO FILE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.J. RES. 45, PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATING TO WAIVERS AND MODIFICATIONS OF FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Education and the Workforce be permitted to file its report to accompany H.J. Res. 45 at any time today, May 18, 2023.

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

There was no objection.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on Wednesday, May 17, 2023:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint Resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 22, 2023, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1005. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE; Reimbursement of Ambulatory Surgery Centers and Outpatient Services Provided in Cancer and Children's Hospitals [Docket ID: DOD-2019-HA-0056] (RIN: 0720-AB73) received May 10, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1006. A letter from the Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendments to Form PF to Require Event Reporting for Large Hedge Fund Advisers and Private Equity Fund Advisers and to Amend Reporting Requirements for Large Private Equity Fund Advisers [Release No.: IA-6297; File No.: S7-01-22] (RIN: 3235-AM75) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-1007. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Walk-In Coolers and Walk-In Freezers [EERE-2017-BT-TP-0010] (RIN: 1904-AD78) received May 15, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1008. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Fans and Blowers [EERE-2021-BT-TP-0021] (RIN: 1904-AF17) received May 15, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1009. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — South Sudan Sanctions Regulations [31 CFR Part 558] received May 15, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1010. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 25-94, "Street Vendor Advancement Amendment Act of 2023", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1011. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting three (3) notifications of a designation of an acting officer, nomination, action on nomination, or a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1012. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Secretariat Division, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation; Federal Supply Schedule Clause Corrections [GSAR Case 2023-G504; Docket No.: GSA-GSAR-2023-0011; Sequence No.: 1] received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1013. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medium Flocking Bird Test at Climb Condition [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0568; Amdt. No.: 33-36] (RIN: 2120-AK83) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1014. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2022 Revision of Form 3115 [Announcement 2023-12] received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1015. A letter from the Chief, Legal Processing Division, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Federal Tax Treatment of Certain Red Hill Fuel Spill Payments [Announcement 2023-07] received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1345. A bill to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-70). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. House Joint Resolution 45. Resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans" (Rept. 118-71). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 3457. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a consortium relating to exposures to toxic substances and identifying chemicals that are safe to use; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD (for himself, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. RESCIENTHALER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. CARL, Mr. SELF, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. MOONEY, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SANTOS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. NEHLS):

H.R. 3458. A bill to establish certain remedies for certain individuals involuntarily

separated from the Armed Forces solely on the basis of refusing to receive vaccinations against COVID-19; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. YAKYM (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

H.R. 3459. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish certain rules relating to unmanned aircraft systems and operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. STEWART (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 3460. A bill to amend title 50, United States Code, to provide authority to include funding requests for the chemical and biological defense program in military budget accounts; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. COLE, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 3461. A bill to amend part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to require States to comply with Federal standards established under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 3462. A bill to require elementary schools and secondary schools that receive Federal funds to obtain parental consent before facilitating a child's gender transition in any form, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 3463. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connection with ballot initiatives and referenda; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 3464. A bill to exempt small seller financiers from certain licensing requirements; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BARR (for himself and Mr. LOUDERMILK):

H.R. 3465. A bill to enhance Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation transparency; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BARR (for himself and Mr. LOUDERMILK):

H.R. 3466. A bill to enhance Financial Stability Oversight Council transparency; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. BARR (for himself and Mr. LOUDERMILK):

H.R. 3467. A bill to bill to enhance Federal Reserve transparency; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LIU, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. LEE of California, Mr.

CARSON, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 3468. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to facilitate electric vehicle sharing services operated at public housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida (for himself and Mrs. CAMMACK):

H.R. 3469. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida, as the "Pamela Jane Rock Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. OMAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. CHU, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SABLON, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 3470. A bill to prohibit and prevent seclusion, mechanical restraint, chemical restraint, and dangerous restraints that restrict breathing, and to prevent and reduce the use of physical restraint in schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. BACON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 3471. A bill to preempt States from establishing, implementing, or enforcing any ban on the prescription, provision, or use of a drug, biological product, or device for contraception if such drug, biological product, or device is approved, licensed, cleared, or otherwise authorized for human use by the Food and Drug Administration for contraception, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 3472. A bill to reduce spending on nuclear weapons and related defense spending and to prohibit the procurement and deployment of low-yield nuclear warheads, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. CHU, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MOORE of

Wisconsin, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 3473. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify employer-provided fringe benefits for bicycle commuting; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. NADLER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 3474. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 3475. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to prohibit the slaughter of equines for human consumption; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BURCHETT (for himself, Mr. KUSTOFF, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 3476. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to establish rules and procedures for the United States Postal Service regarding the use of centralized delivery of the mail with respect to residential housing units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. CARSON (for himself and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 3477. A bill to require a report on the death of Shireen Abu Akleh; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 3478. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to establish a Good Steward Cover Crop program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 3479. A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 3480. A bill to establish the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations of the United States to facilitate the fullest cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability among all levels of government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. TITUS, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. TONKO, Ms.

JAYAPAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CARDENAS, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. STRICKLAND):

H.R. 3481. A bill to provide paid family and medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 3482. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a pilot program for providing portable benefits to eligible workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3483. A bill to establish a working group to provide input on the feasibility of establishing a program to support strategically important capital-intensive infrastructure projects; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3484. A bill to institute a focal point for advanced reactor deployment within the U.S. government that's responsible for developing collaborative relationships with embarking civil nuclear nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3485. A bill to establish an international initiative to support the global deployment of civil nuclear technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3486. A bill to exert American nuclear leadership by establishing global relationships and facilitating civil nuclear trade strategies with embarking nuclear nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3487. A bill to expand an advanced nuclear technologies Federal financial assistance program to provide assistance to support licensing and construction of advanced nuclear reactors and associated supply chain infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. BROWNLEY):

H.R. 3488. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H.R. 3489. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to eliminate the recoupment of separation pay, special separation benefits, and voluntary separation incentive payments from members of the Armed Forces who subsequently receive disability compensation under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs and to impose limitations on the authority of the Secretary of Defense to recoup such pay from members who subsequently receive military retired or retainer pay; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself and Mr. DUARTE):

H.R. 3490. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act to authorize grants for smart water infrastructure technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. OBERNOLTE):

H.R. 3491. A bill to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to prohibit employers from limiting, segregating, or classifying applicants for employment; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. PERRY, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. ROSENDALE, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. BURLISON, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. CRANE, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. OGLES, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. GUEST, Mr. BOST, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. BABIN, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. CLYDE):

H.R. 3492. A bill to prohibit Federal funding of State firearm ownership databases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 3493. A bill to amend title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to require an opportunity to correct an alleged violation as a precondition to commencing a civil action with respect to a place of public accommodation or a commercial facility; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 3494. A bill to create dedicated funds to conserve butterflies in North America, plants in the Pacific Islands, freshwater mussels in the United States, and desert fish in the Southwest United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WATERS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. PORTER, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE):

H.R. 3495. A bill to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain lands, consistent with the principles of self-initiation of mining claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. HAGEMAN:

H.R. 3496. A bill To make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions which were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HAGEMAN:

H.R. 3497. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to

claims relating to uranium mining; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3498. A bill to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services and 988 services in order to provide information and referral to all residents and visitors in the United States for mental health emergencies, homelessness needs, other social and human services needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 3499. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide direct hire authority to appoint individuals to Federal wildland firefighting and firefighting support positions in the Forest Service or the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MEUSER):

H.R. 3500. A bill to expedite completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 3501. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize a grant program for law enforcement agencies and corrections agencies to obtain behavioral health crisis response training for law enforcement officers and corrections officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CROCKETT, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3502. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study and submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices that may be prevalent in the advertising or marketing of firearms and to issue regulations to prohibit unfair or deceptive acts or practices related to the advertising or marketing of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3503. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the National Institutes of Health, to take certain steps to increase clinical trial diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 3504. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to each of the

Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives an annual report regarding security at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KILEY (for himself and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 3505. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require public institutions of higher education, as a condition of participating in programs under title IV of such Act, to provide a written statement and educational programming to new students on the rights of students under the first amendment to the Constitution; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. KILEY:

H.R. 3506. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. NORMAN, and Ms. PETTERSEN):

H.R. 3507. A bill to require certain grantees under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to submit a plan to track discriminatory land use policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Mr. GUEST, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 3508. A bill to require a comprehensive southern border strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 3509. A bill to augment the salaries of State and local law enforcement officers and promote officer hiring and retention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 3510. A bill to exempt grants received under the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) Act from Federal taxation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LALOTA (for himself and Mr. MCGARVEY):

H.R. 3511. A bill to amend the Small Business Act require training on increasing contract awards to small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY (for himself, Ms. BALINT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. TIFANY, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. MOLINARO, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 3512. A bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 with respect to the Acer access and development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3513. A bill to extend the availability of funds for Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools under the Education Stabilization Fund and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mrs. BOEBERT, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 3514. A bill to provide for the inclusion of uranium on the list of critical minerals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mrs. BICE, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 3515. A bill to require agencies to notify the Director of the Office of Management and Budget when the agency suspends or terminates a Federal award, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 3516. A bill to permit interview waivers for returning H-2A workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MAST (for himself, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. PANETTA, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington):

H.R. 3517. A bill to clarify and improve accountability for certain members of the Armed Forces during consideration for medical separation in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. LIEU, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 3518. A bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and bear viscera products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. EVANS, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3519. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to be used to purchase additional types of food items; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. BOST, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. MACE, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 3520. A bill to improve the provision of care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MOONEY (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 3521. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to develop and disseminate an evidence-based curriculum for kindergarten through grade 12 on the dangers of vaping and misusing opioids, synthetic drugs, and related substances; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 3522. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to establish emergency fire-fished management areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BUSH, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. MCBATH, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. LYNCH):

H.R. 3523. A bill to grow and diversify the perinatal workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. STEIL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 3524. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for payments to certain individuals who dye fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOSKOWITZ:

H.R. 3525. A bill to establish a Natural Disaster Risk Reinsurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H.R. 3526. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to issue reports with respect to extraordinary measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 3527. A bill to impose a hiring freeze and other limitations on the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 3528. A bill to freeze hiring activities at the United States Agency for Global Media, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3529. A bill to freeze hiring activity for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 3530. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the de minimis exception for third party settlement organizations to \$5,000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 3531. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide sanctions for States using certain congestion pricing systems, to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 to require consent of affected States in carrying out value pricing pilot projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 3532. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reciprocal marketing approval of certain drugs, biological products, and devices that are authorized to be lawfully marketed abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SALAZAR:

H.R. 3533. A bill to reduce the excessive appreciation of United States residential real estate due to foreign purchases; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. NICKEL, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. SABLÁN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 3534. A bill to require justices, judges, magistrate judges, or bankruptcy judges and their spouses and dependent children to place certain assets into qualified blind trusts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 3535. A bill to amend section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to requirements for domestic industries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 3536. A bill to direct the President to submit to Congress a report on fugitives currently residing in other countries whose extradition is sought by the United States and related matters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself, Mr. BERA, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 3537. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States Foreign Service and its contribution to United States diplomacy; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3538. A bill to reduce the annual rate of pay of Members of Congress if the public debt limit is reached or a Government shutdown occurs during a year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BOST, Ms. MANNING, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. BACON, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. LEE of Nevada):

H.R. 3539. A bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. TURNER):

H.R. 3540. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to change the competitive bidding process for infant formula manufacturers under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 3541. A bill to amend the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program to promote career awareness in accounting as part of a well-rounded STEM educational experience; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 3542. A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to eliminate the prohibition on indirect costs with respect to aquaculture assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. SABLÁN, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 3543. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 with respect to micro-grants for food security; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 3544. A bill to permit remote oath ceremonies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 3545. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the military intelligence professionals at Camp Ritchie, commonly known as the "Ritchie Boys", in recognition of their groundbreaking contributions to the field of human intelligence and their outstanding service during World War II; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 3546. A bill to direct the Attorney General, in coordination with the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, to study the prevalence and instances of human trafficking at adult entertainment clubs in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. WILD, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. BALINT, Mr. BACON, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MANNING, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. MCCAUL, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 3547. A bill to require the Department of Homeland Security to develop and disseminate a threat assessment regarding the use of cyber harassment, including doxing, by terrorists and foreign malicious actors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BROWN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. SCANLON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Ms. BUDZINSKI):

H.R. 3548. A bill to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 3549. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure Medicare-only PACE program enrollees have a choice of prescription drug plans under Medicare part D; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WILD (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CASTEN):

H.R. 3550. A bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 3551. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a comprehensive study on child safety in aviation; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Mr. KUSTOFF):

H.R. 3552. A bill to transfer the United States Secret Service to the Department of the Treasury; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subse-

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

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 3553. A bill to establish the Office of Nuclear, Economic, Environmental, and National Security of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, accelerate the deployment of small modular nuclear reactors, ban the import of Russian nuclear material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ZINKE (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mrs. STEEL, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CRANE, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. ROY, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 3554. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand access to the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include certain veterans seeking mental health or substance-use services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Federal Government should not encroach upon the States' constitutional right to govern aspects of election law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. CASE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H. Con. Res. 46. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint hearing of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia (for herself and Mr. GAETZ):

H. Res. 420. A resolution impeaching Joseph Robinette Biden, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H. Res. 421. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Chinese Communist Party should be held accountable for present day efforts of knowingly and intentionally manipulating their currency; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. CRAIG (for herself, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H. Res. 422. A resolution recognizing "National Public Works Week"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. BEYER):

H. Res. 423. A resolution supporting the designation of May 19, 2023, as "Endangered Species Day"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LALOTA (for himself and Mr. GARBARINO):

H. Res. 424. A resolution recognizing and commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj, the spiritual leader of the BAPS

Swaminarayan Sanstha; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. MAST (for himself, Ms. SCHA-KOWSKY, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. AUCHINCLOSS):

H. Res. 425. A resolution supporting the designation of July 19, 2023, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POSEY:

H. Res. 426. A resolution impeaching Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors, culminating in his failure to protect the States from foreign invasion as is his duty under the Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSS (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mrs. MCBATH):

H. Res. 427. A resolution recognizing 14 years since the end of the war in Sri Lanka on May 18, 2009, honoring the lives lost, and expressing support for justice, accountability, reconciliation, reconstruction, reparation, and reform in Sri Lanka to ensure a lasting peaceful political solution and a prosperous future for all people of Sri Lanka; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H. Res. 428. A resolution calling for the immediate extradition or rendering to the United States of convicted felons William Morales, Joanne Chesimard, and all other fugitives from justice who are receiving safe harbor in Cuba in order to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-4. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Tennessee, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 19, urging the United States Congress to enact legislation that will make state child abuse registries public records; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

ML-5. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma, relative to House Joint Resolution 1017, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ML-6. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma, relative to House Joint Resolution 1017, requesting the Congress of the United States call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. LOFGREN:
H.R. 3457.

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

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Advancing identification of toxic chemicals with supercomputing.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD:

H.R. 3458.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution [Page H205]

The single subject of this legislation is:

Create a streamlined reinstatement process, requiring the Secretary of Defense to reinstate all servicemembers who were separated solely for denying the DoD COVID-19 vaccine mandate and had requested an exemption to the policy.

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 3459.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would streamline the approvals process for beyond visual line of sight unmanned aerial systems flights and the regulatory framework for aircraft certification and create a new position with the FAA to coordinate these policies.

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 3460.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation removes a prohibition on the military departments from requesting military construction funding for facilities in the Chemical and Biological Weapons Program.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 3461.

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

Clause 1 of Article 1, Section 8 of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to require States to comply with Federal standards established under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 3462.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is:

Parental Rights

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 3463.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, especially clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is:

national security

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3464.

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

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Affordable Homeownership Access Act aims to achieve regulatory relief so that private capital provided by seller financiers can help solve the affordable homeownership crisis.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3465.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance the transparency of the FDIC's activities.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3466.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance the transparency of FSOC's activities.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3467.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance the transparency of the Federal Reserve's activities.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 3468.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill creates a program at the Department of Energy to provide grants for electric vehicle carshare programs at public housing.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida:

H.R. 3469.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Mathe Avenue in Interlachen, Florida as the "Pamela Jane Rock Post Office Building".

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 3470.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 3471.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

the bill allows access to safe methods of contraception

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 3472.

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

Art. 1, Sec. 8, Clause 12

The single subject of this legislation is:

Defense

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 3473.

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

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: Taxation

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3474.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Hunger

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 3475.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation bans the slaughter, transport, possession, purchase, sale, or donation of equines or their parts for human consumption.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 3476.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish rules and procedures for the United States Postal Service regarding the use of centralized delivery of mail to residential housing units.

By Mr. CARSON:

H.R. 3477.

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

Clause 18 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The Justice for Shireen Act is bill to seek justice for the death of an American journalist killed abroad.

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 3478.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Soil health

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3479.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

SNAP

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 3480.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improving intergovernmental relations

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 3481.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

paid family and medical leave legislation.

By Ms. DELBENE:

H.R. 3482.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Worker Benefits

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3483.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Energy

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3484.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Energy

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3485.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Energy

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3486.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Energy

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 3487.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Energy

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 3488.

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

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Trade

By Mr. GALLEG0:

H.R. 3489.

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

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Veterans

By Mr. GALLEG0:

H.R. 3490.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: "[The Congress shall have the power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:
Water

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 3491.

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

Article 1; Section 8, Clause 18
The single subject of this legislation is:
employment; discrimination; labor

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 3492.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof" and the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which states that the "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state the right of the people to

The single subject of this legislation is:

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit funding of state and local registries of gun owners by federal agencies.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 3493.

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

Article One, Section Eight, Clause Three
The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to require an opportunity to correct an alleged violation as a precondition to commencing a civil action with respect to a place of public accommodation or a commercial facility.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 3494.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Establishes funds and grant programs for recovering chronically underfunded endangered and threatened species

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 3495.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reforms to the Mining Law of 1872.

By Ms. HAGEMAN:

H.R. 3496.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions which were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors

By Ms. HAGEMAN:

H.R. 3497.

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

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to claims relating to uranium mining

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 3498.

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

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Human Services

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 3499.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide direct hire authority to appoint individuals to Federal wildland firefighting and firefighting support positions in the Forest Service or the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3500.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To expedite the completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 3501.

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

Article I, Section 8, to provide for the common defense

The single subject of this legislation is:

Defense

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3502.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Commerce

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3503.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

NIH Clinical Trial Diversity Bill

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 3504.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation only pertains to: requiring, for a five year period, VA to share with HVAC and SVAC a report including information on police staffing vacancies, security weaknesses, and data associated with criminal activities on VA campuses.

By Mr. KILEY:

H.R. 3505.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require public institutions of higher education, as a condition of participating in programs under title IV of such Act, to provide a written statement and educational programming to new students on the rights of students under the first

By Mr. KILEY:

H.R. 3506.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors.

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 3507.

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

Article 1, Section 8, U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Housing is the single subject of this bill.

By Mrs. KIM of California:

H.R. 3508.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

border security

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 3509.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution—

Congress has the power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To augment the salaries of State and local law enforcement officers and promote officer hiring and retention.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 3510.

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

U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 8,

Clause 1: "The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes . . ."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To exempt grants received under the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) Act from federal taxation.

By Mr. LALOTA:

H.R. 3511.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

"The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . ."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Increase contract awards to service disabled veteran owned small businesses.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 3512.

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

Clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Maple

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3513.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To extend the availability of funds for Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools under the Education Stabilization Fund and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 3514.

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

The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To lower energy costs by increasing American energy production and restoring energy leadership.

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 3515.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Grants

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 3516.

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

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Waives the interview requirement for returning H-2A visa workers who are going back to their former employer and who were previously approved for a visa.

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 3517.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preserves the authority of the Secretary of the military department concerned over a member of the Armed Forces undergoing medical treatment or evaluation for medical disability.

By Mr. McCAUL:

H.R. 3518.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and bear viscera products.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 3519.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

SNAP

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 3520.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S.C.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veteran Care Improvement Act will strengthen the VA health care system by making it more accessible, clarifying requirements, and better defining access for residential substance abuse treatments.

By Mr. MOONEY:

H.R. 3521.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Drug Use Prevention Education

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 3522.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improving forest management practices

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:

H.R. 3523.

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

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To grow and diversify the perinatal workforce, and for other purposes.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:

H.R. 3524.

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

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Sections 7 & 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal taxation

By Mr. MOSKOWITZ:

H.R. 3525.

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

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee find the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Insurance

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 3526.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to issue reports with respect to extraordinary measures, and for other purposes.

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3527.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

A hiring freeze on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3528.

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

Article. I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

A Hiring Freeze on the US Agency for Global Media

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 3529.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

A Hiring Freeze on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms

By Mr. PAPPAS:

H.R. 3530.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution states that "Congress shall have the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into the Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tax

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 3531.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation

By Mr. ROY:

H.R. 3532.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Healthcare

By Ms. SALAZAR:

H.R. 3533.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Housing

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 3534.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Judiciary

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.R. 3535.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: The Congress shall have the Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill limits the ability of certain persons (e.g., patent or trademark holders) to bring complaints before the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), and it requires the ITC to consider the public interest when determining whether to exclude articles that are under investigation.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 3536.

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

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 3537.

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

Article I Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States Foreign Service and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 3538.

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

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Withholds Member of Congress pay in es-crow during a government shut down or default to be released at the end of the 118th Congress.

By Mr. STAUBER:

H.R. 3539.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The purpose of the Public Safety Em-ployer-Employee Cooperation Act is to pro-vide collective bargaining rights to public safety officers.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 3540.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Increasing the amount of state formula manufacturing contracts available in the WIC program

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 3541.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

Expanding accounting education.

By Ms. TOKUDA:

H.R. 3542.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the National Agricultural Re-search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to eliminate the prohibition on indi-rect costs with respect to aquaculture assist-ance, and for other purposes.

By Ms. TOKUDA:

H.R. 3543.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 with respect to micro-grants for food security.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 3544.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitu-tional Authority of the United States Con-gress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Pow-ers and all other Powers vested by this Con-stitution in

The single subject of this legislation is: the use of videoconferencing technology

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 3545.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

A bill to honor veterans.

By Mr. WALTZ:

H.R. 3546.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Attorney General, in coordi-nation with the President's Interagency

Task Force to Monitor and Combat Traf-ficking in Persons, to study the prevalence and instances of human trafficking at adult entertainment clubs in the United States, and for other purposes.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 3547.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitu-tion.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill is related to Homeland Security.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 3548.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Pow-ers, and all other Powers vested by this Con-stitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 3549.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Ms. WILD:

H.R. 3550.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

Provide grants to enable nonprofit dis-ability organizations to develop training pro-grams that support safe interactions be-tween law enforcement officers and individ-uals with disabilities and older individuals.

By Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia:

H.R. 3551.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requiring the Administrator of the Fed-eral Aviation Administration to conduct a comprehensive study on child safety in avia-tion.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3552.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

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

The single subject of this legislation is:

To transfer the United States Secret Ser-vice from the Department of Homeland Sec-urity to the Department of the Treasury

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 3553.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Nuclear Energy

By Mr. ZINKE:

H.R. 3554.

Congress has the power to enact this legisla-tion pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand access to the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include certain veterans seeking mental health or substance-use services, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 7: Mr. DAVIDSON.
H.R. 38: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 45: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 130: Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 175: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 200: Mr. DUARTE.
H.R. 208: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 340: Mr. KUSTOFF and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 396: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Mrs. MCCLEL-
LAN.
H.R. 494: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 517: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 531: Mr. MILLS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 542: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 660: Mrs. MCLELLAN.
H.R. 662: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 663: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 694: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 700: Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. CLINE, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 703: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 715: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 722: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 735: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
H.R. 743: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. SANTOS, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 802: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 838: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California and Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 886: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 894: Mr. RYAN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 895: Mr. BACON, Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 906: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 914: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 915: Mrs. GONZALEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 997: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 1009: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
H.R. 1083: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. FLETCH-
ER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. MAG-
AZINER.
H.R. 1097: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 1105: Ms. DE LA CRUZ and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 1147: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 1250: Mr. ALFORD.
H.R. 1273: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1332: Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1351: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 1359: Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 1382: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 1505: Mr. GIMENEZ and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 1526: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 1582: Ms. ROSS and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 1610: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. NOR-
TON.
H.R. 1624: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 1634: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 1716: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 1760: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1770: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 1777: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 1809: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 1815: Mr. NICKEL and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1826: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 2367: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 2377: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2406: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 2413: Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. SCHA-
KOWSKY, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 2451: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.

H.R. 2454: Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 2461: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 2627: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 2630: Ms. CROCKETT.
H.R. 2662: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 2663: Mr. LAWLER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2673: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 2743: Mr. BEAN of Florida, Ms. FOXX, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. YAKYM, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 2761: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 2808: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 2889: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 2890: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 2922: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 2931: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2940: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHES-TER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2983: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 2996: Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3019: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 3021: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 3036: Mr. FINSTAD.
H.R. 3039: Mr. CRANE.
H.R. 3053: Mr. CRANE.
H.R. 3074: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 3090: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.
H.R. 3092: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 3104: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 3170: Mr. TURNER and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 3177: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 3184: Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 3185: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 3190: Mr. CRANE.
H.R. 3199: Ms. PETTERSEN.
H.R. 3203: Mr. DAVIDSON.
H.R. 3212: Mr. CRANE, Mr. MOONEY, and Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 3224: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 3232: Mr. WALTZ, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 3255: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3256: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.
H.R. 3264: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 3266: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3286: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 3316: Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 3387: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 3391: Ms. PORTER and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 3405: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 3409: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. SELF, Mr. MANN, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H. Res. 148: Mr. VARGAS.
H. Res. 185: Mr. SCHIFF.
H. Res. 285: Mr. GUEST.
H. Res. 288: Mr. YAKYM and Mr. GALLEGRO.
H. Res. 346: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H. Res. 376: Mr. MOLINARO.
H. Res. 405: Mrs. LUNA and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H. Res. 406: Mrs. LUNA, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 410: Mrs. LUNA, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 411: Mr. MILLS, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. LUNA, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 1844: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1845: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 1846: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1847: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1848: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1849: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1850: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1851: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1852: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1853: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1854: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1855: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1856: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1857: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1858: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1859: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1860: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1861: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1862: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1863: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1864: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1865: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1866: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1867: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1868: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1869: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1870: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1871: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1872: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1873: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1874: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1875: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1876: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1877: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1878: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1879: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1880: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1881: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1882: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1883: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 1884: Mr. ROY.
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H.R. 2013: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2014: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2015: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2016: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2017: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2018: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2019: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2020: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 2021: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 2286: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2287: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2288: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2289: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2290: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2291: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2292: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2293: Mr. ROY.
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 H.R. 2298: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2299: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2300: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2301: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2302: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2303: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2304: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2305: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2306: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2307: Mr. ROY.
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 H.R. 2341: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 2342: Mr. ROY.
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 H.R. 2354: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2355: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2356: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2357: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2358: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2359: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2360: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2361: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2362: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2363: Mr. ROY.
 H.R. 2364: Mr. ROY.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS

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

Petition 1, May 17, 2023, by Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania on House Resolution 350, was signed by the following Members: Mr. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Mr. Cicilline, Ms. Dean of Pennsylvania, Mr. Auchincloss, Mrs. Torres of California, Ms. Bonamici, Mrs. Sykes, Ms. Kaptur, Ms. Lofgren, Ms. Budzinski, Ms. Tlaib, Mr. Jackson of North Carolina, Mr. Larson of Connecticut, Ms. Balint, Ms. Matsui, Ms. Clark of Massachusetts, Ms. Porter, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Trone, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Ms. Pingree, Mr. Quigley, Mr. Peters, Mr. Jeffries, Mr. Frost, Mr. Stanton, Ms. Kamlager-Dove, Ms. Wexton, Mr. Pocan, Mr. Pappas, Mr. García of Illinois, Mrs. Foushee, Mr. Schneider, Mr. Landsman, Mrs. McClellan, Mr. Nadler, Ms. Lee of Pennsylvania, Mr. McGovern, Ms. Meng, Mr. Espallat, Ms. Pettersen, Ms. Tokuda, Mrs. Cherfilus-McCormick, Mr. Thompson of California, Mr. Lieu, Mr. Correa, Mr. Magaziner, Mr. Bowman, Ms. Jackson Lee, Ms. Jayapal, Mr. Kilmer, Ms. Omar, Mr. Casar, Ms. Velázquez, Ms. Jacobs, Mr. Davis of Illinois, Ms. Ross, Mrs. Hayes, Mr. Ivey, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, Mrs. Watson Coleman, Ms. Underwood, Mr. Mfume,

Mr. Pascrell, Mr. Davis of North Carolina, Mr. Cartwright, Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. Kim of New Jersey, Ms. Bush, Mr. Green of Texas, Mr. Horsford, Mr. Meeks, Mr. Higgins of New York, Ms. Chu, Ms. Titus, Mr. McGarvey, Mr. Krishnamoorthi, Mr. Vasquez, Mr. Robert Garcia of California, Mr. David Scott of Georgia, Ms. DeGette, Mrs. Dingell, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. Sorensen, Mr. Goldman of New York, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. Strickland, Mr. Cohen, Ms. Lee of California, Ms. Adams, Mrs. McBath, Ms. Clarke of New York, Ms. Pelosi, Mr. Harder of California, Mr. Levin, Mr. Evans, Ms. McCollum, Mr. Moulton, Ms. Kuster, Mr. Mrvan, Ms. Scholten, Ms. Hoyle of Oregon, Ms. DelBene, Mr. Khanna, Mrs. Trahan, Ms. Caraveo, Ms. Slotkin, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. Tonko, Mr. Vicente Gonzalez of Texas, Mr. Cuellar, Mr. Castro of Texas, Ms. Blunt Rochester, Mr. Kildee, Mr. Thanedar, Ms. Garcia of Texas, Mr. Deluzio, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Spanberger, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Mrs. Lee of Nevada, Mr. Morelle, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Casten, Mrs. Napolitano, Ms. Sherrill, Mr. Carter of Louisiana, Mr. Menendez, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Beyer, Mr. Jackson of Illinois, Mr. Bera, Mr. Soto, Ms. Salinas, Mrs. Beatty, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mr. Torres of New York, Ms. Williams of Georgia, Mr. Keating, Mr. Mullin, Mr. Carbajal, Mr. Huffman, Mr. Allred, Ms. Leger Fernandez, Mr. Aguilar, Ms. Sewell, Mr. Nickel, Mr. Crow, Mr. Bishop of Georgia, Mr. Carson, Mr. Sarbanes, Ms. DeLauro, Ms. Schakowsky, Ms. Manning, Mr. Vargas, Ms. Barragán, Mr. Foster, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Stansbury, Ms. Escobar, Mr. Cárdenas, Mr. Hoyer, Ms. Houlahan, Ms. Eshoo, Ms. Craig, Mr. Raskin, Mr. Doggett, Ms. Schrier, Ms. Brownley, Ms. Crockett, Mr. Moskowitz, Mr. Himes, Mr. Neguse, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Costa, Mr. Gallego, Mr. Smith of Washington, Mr. Payne, Ms. Brown, Mr. Larsen of Washington, Ms. Sánchez, Mr. Clyburn, Ms. Stevens, Mr. Neal, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Garamendi, Ms. Wilson of Florida, Mr. Takano, Ms. Waters, Mr. Veasey, Ms. Pressley, Ms. Lois Frankel of Florida, Mr. Pallone, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Connolly, Ms. Wild, Mrs. Ramirez, Mr. Norcross, Ms. Perez, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Gomez, Ms. Ocasio-Cortez, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, Ms. Davids of Kansas, Mr. Panetta, Ms. Castor of Florida, Mr. DeSaulnier, and Mr. Gottheimer.



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WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023

No. 84

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. Eternal God, our help and strength, we bow in awe and reverence before You. You are the mighty fortress in whom we find refuge. You do for us more than we can ask or imagine.

Lord, strengthen our Senators for today's journey and all the changing scenes of their lives. Help them to bear in mind that You will empower them to meet every challenge. Give to them the abiding awareness that nothing can disturb their peace if they put their trust in You. May our Senators live in the sure faith that You can enable them to live worthy of Your grace.

We pray in Your loving 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The majority leader is recognized.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, so, on AI, yesterday, I met with a bipartisan group of Senators—two Democrats, including myself, and two Republicans—to talk about spearheading our bipartisan efforts to focus on comprehensive AI legislation.

Our group agreed that because AI technology is developing so quickly, Congress has to move fast. Over the past several weeks, my staff and I have met with close to 100 CEOs of companies who do AI—scientists, AI academics, leaders in the industry of many different viewpoints, and critics of AI. And I plan to continue to do this.

If harnessed responsibly, AI has the power to do tremendous things for the public good. It can unlock unimaginable marvels in medicine, business, national security, science, and so many other areas of life; but if left unchecked, AI has the power to do tremendous, tremendous harm.

It can accelerate misinformation, breed new forms of racial prejudice, create severe economic disruptions, and hinder human agency in the most severe of ways.

So let me make a few observations in light of my conversation and our meeting.

First, as I said a month ago, Congress must move quickly. Many AI experts have pointed out that the government must have a role in how this technology enters our lives; even leaders of the industry say they welcome regulation. So if we were to fulfill our role properly, our approach to AI must be

fast-moving. We can't move so fast that we do flawed legislation, but there is no time for waste or delay or sitting back. We have to move fast.

Second, our group also agreed that any approach must be bipartisan. AI technology already touches virtually every industry, field, and facet in our society, so our process must be collaborative and must draw from a broad and bipartisan range of views and issues.

And, third, we think we have a good case study for how the bipartisan process can work: CHIPS and Science. When the Senate passed CHIPS and Science, both sides came together on an issue that impacted the Nation and involved a lot of committees, inputs, and views—much like AI will. And because there was so much bipartisan overlap in CHIPS and Science, as there is in AI, it makes it a lot easier to do this in a way that brings bipartisan groups together from the very beginning.

So I hope CHIPS and Science can be a model for how we approach AI. I thank my colleagues—so many of my colleagues—not just the four of us who met, for their attention on this pressing issue, and I look forward to continuing to work with a wide range of Senators for many committees and from both sides of the aisle as we move forward.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. President, default, all week long, both sides have kept talking about the future of our Nation's budget, while at the same time moved closer to fulfilling our responsibility to preserve the full faith and credit of the United States.

Avoiding default is non-negotiable. It must be our north star, and that cannot change. I am pleased that over the course of this week, everyone has acknowledged that allowing the country to default would be a catastrophe. I am also pleased that the other side has recognized that the best way forward is a bipartisan piece of legislation that

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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can secure enough votes to get through both the House and the Senate.

Partisan legislation just won't produce the result we need. I am hopeful that soon, both sides will find an agreement that keeps default completely off the table. We have made good progress this week, but the work continues. No one will get everything they want.

From the beginning, Democrats have said—I have said—that this process demands bipartisanship. It is how we avoided default under President Trump. It is how we avoided default under President Biden, and it is how we should avoid default this time too.

Brinksmanship, hiding plans, hostage-taking, none of that will move us any closer to a solution, but working together and accepting that nobody will get everything they want is the way to go.

Since the founding of our country, one thing has remained constant: When it is time to pay the bills, America has followed through. It is one of the cornerstones of our Nation's success.

If America would ever fail to pay its bills, the consequences would be horrific. Default would bring recession. Default would kill 8 million jobs. Default would send soaring costs on credit card payments, mortgages, small businesses, loans, and erode people's 401(k)s. Nobody—nobody—wants that. Americans certainly can't afford it; so we in Congress must avoid it at all costs.

I hope that negotiations continue in the right direction.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

ISSUES FACING AMERICA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Last week's inflation report reinforced what working families across America already know: Washington Democrats' inflation is still packing a punch. Prices climbed 4.9 percent from this time last year. Just in the last month, they accelerated nearly half a percentage point. The Biden administration called the news "welcome breathing room for families."

Welcome breathing room for families? According to the latest data, families have paid thousands of dollars more just to put food on the table on his watch. In Colorado, your average family has paid over \$2,000 in additional food costs since 2021. In Arizona, those same groceries have cost households \$1,800; in Montana, over \$1,700; in my home State of Kentucky, families have paid \$1,600 more, on average, since President Biden took office. It doesn't sound like breathing room to me, especially at a time when workers' wages are failing to keep pace with out-of-control prices.

Meanwhile, confidence with President Biden to do the right thing with the economy is at its lowest point since the great recession. That is hardly surprising when his top economic

advisers refuse to even admit there is a problem. The President's latest pick to lead his Council of Economic Advisers has repeatedly said this administration didn't miss a thing on inflation.

So, while the Biden administration pats itself on the back for a job well done, let's remember where we were just 2 years ago. Since the President took office, prices have climbed a staggering—listen to this—16 percent—16 percent since the President took office. Gasoline is up 54 percent, electricity is up 22 percent, groceries are up 20 percent, and higher interest rates are making it harder for working families to borrow and save for the future. Washington Democrats' reckless spending and green energy fantasies are sending our economy deep into the red.

For 2 straight years, Americans have had to tighten their belt just to get by. It is time for this administration to wake up and do more of the same.

H.J. RES. 42

Mr. President, on another matter, as our Nation observes Police Week, cities across America continue to grapple with the rising tide of violent crime, and our Nation's Capital is certainly no exception. This year, Washington has already endured the deadliest first 4 months of any year in the last decade. Motor vehicle theft in the District is up 115 percent from this time last year. And now, the leftwing DC Council wants to make the tough job facing the brave men and women of the Metropolitan Police even tougher.

With violent crime spiraling out of control, the council proposed a new law that strips police officers of collective bargaining rights, makes more of their information available for public harassment, and adds new hurdles for the use of force in defending themselves and the public. Remember, Congress already had to step in when the council tried to go even softer on felony sentencing with another bill earlier this year. Even President Biden balked at such a radical measure.

The latest law, which is already in effect on an emergency basis, has had a devastating impact on local law enforcement. The local police union reports 1,200 officers have chosen to leave the force since it took effect—1,200 officers left the force since this took effect. In a city that is facing its worst bout of violent crime in at least a decade, the police chief estimates he has fewer officers to fight it than at any time since the 1970s.

To make matters worse, the Department is fighting a losing battle against the city's soft-on-crime prosecutions. Last year, Washington's U.S. Attorney's Office declined to press charges on—listen to this—on two-thirds of the arrests made by the police department. In other words, two of every three times an MPD officer risks their safety to take a suspect into custody, the suspect walks free.

No wonder, as Chief Contee reports, the average homicide suspect the department encounters already has a rap

sheet of 11 previous arrests. Leftwing officials in our Nation's Capital are taking a cue from the Democrats' approach to border security: catch-and-release—catch-and-release. It is simply unacceptable.

This Police Week, the junior Senator from Ohio brought forward a resolution to say enough is enough. After a bipartisan vote in the House, our colleagues on both sides of the aisle voted yesterday to reject—to reject—the DC Council's new law. I am grateful to Senator VANCE for his leadership, and I am proud to join colleagues in continuing to back the blue.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, on another matter, this week, some of America's closest European allies have continued preparations to equip Ukraine with new weapons ahead of a planned counter-offensive, including long-range cruise missiles and American-made fighter aircraft that would require authorization from the United States.

As President Biden meets in Japan with our strongest economic partners, I hope he will build on the West's support for Ukraine by clearing the way for the transfer of F-16s, long-range fires, and cluster munitions that will help Ukraine win.

As Ukraine prepares to liberate territory from Russian occupation, its friends must move at the speed of relevance to approve the transfer of critical weapons and munitions to help those efforts succeed.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL CASASCO

Mr. President, on one final matter, today, the Senate will bid farewell to a longtime member of our institutional staff. After 37 years of service, the senior audio operator for the Senate Chamber, Paul Casasco, is embarking on a well-deserved retirement.

Paul arrived in the Senate in the spring of 1986, just in time to help stand up the audiovisual production that would broadcast all proceedings to the American public. In the years since, I understand he has had a hand in just about every facet of the Senate's multimedia recording operation, from committee hearing rooms to the affectionately named "crow's nest" in the Gallery of this very Chamber.

Paul has had a front-row seat to decades of Senate history. He has captured consequential debates and preserved crucial records.

So I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Paul for his devoted service to our institution and in wishing him much happiness in his retirement.

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. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it may have taken a while, but it looks like

the White House may finally be coming to the debt ceiling negotiating table in a more serious way.

The President has now appointed members of his staff to negotiate directly with Speaker MCCARTHY's team—a logical and overdue step since the passage of debt ceiling legislation depends on an agreement between the President and the Republican-controlled House of Representatives.

I was also encouraged by the White House's statement after Tuesday's debt ceiling meeting, which noted that the President is "optimistic that there is a path to a responsible, bipartisan budget agreement if both sides negotiate in good faith and recognize that neither side will get everything it wants."

"[A]nd recognize that neither side will get everything it wants"—that part is very important because previously the Democrats' and the President's position was that Democrats should get everything they want and that Republicans should get nothing—an extremely unrealistic position and one that suggested Democrats did not understand the nature of divided government.

So I am grateful that the President seems to be taking a more realistic view of what is necessary for an agreement. It is unfortunate that it has taken the White House this long. Speaker MCCARTHY has been ready to negotiate for months, and the President should have engaged seriously months ago, but better late than never.

I hope that over the next few days, the two sides will be able to swiftly reach an agreement. A good place to start would be with a good, long look at the policies in the House Republicans' Limit, Save, Grow Act, which pairs a debt ceiling increase with commonsense spending reforms, things like reclaiming unspent COVID money; modestly strengthening work requirements in Federal entitlement programs for able-bodied Americans—a move, I might add, supported by more than 60 percent of the American public—in order to help individuals move from welfare to work; capping discretionary spending for next year at the fiscal year 2022 discretionary spending level—the same level we were successfully operating at mere months ago; repealing the green energy subsidies in the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, whose estimated cost has ballooned since the bill was passed; passing permitting reform—a bipartisan priority—to help get both conventional and green energy projects off the ground more quickly, which could help grow our economy; repealing the President's reckless student loan giveaway, which could otherwise end up costing American taxpayers close to \$1 trillion; and other commonsense measures.

The provisions of the Limit, Save, Grow Act have been the subject of a lot of fearmongering from Democrats, who have been set against including any spending reforms as part of a debt ceiling package, but these are responsible

ideas worthy of consideration as part of a debt ceiling agreement or, for that matter, in any other context.

Our Nation has a massive national debt—\$31 trillion and counting—and a serious spending problem, and the Limit, Save, Grow Act is a reasonable and responsible attempt to get our Nation back on a more fiscally sustainable path, saving on the order of \$4.5 trillion over the next 10 years.

While, as the President pointed out, neither side will get everything it wants in negotiations, I hope ideas from the Limit, Save, Grow Act will make it into a final debt ceiling agreement.

Despite the President's attempts to claim the mantle of fiscal responsibility, the truth is that spending under the Biden administration has reached staggering levels compared to prepandemic Federal budgets, and if we don't get spending under control, we are going to be facing some very serious economic consequences.

So, as I said, I am pleased that the President seems to be taking negotiations a little more seriously. I hope he will not allow himself to be distracted by extreme members of his own party, like the individuals who are suggesting that the President attempt to raise the debt ceiling on his own, using a dubious interpretation of the 14th Amendment, if Democrats don't like the debt ceiling agreement.

Debt ceiling increases have a long history of being paired with deficit reduction measures or other budgetary policy changes. In fact, 7 of the last 10 debt ceiling increases have been accompanied by budgetary reforms and policy changes.

It is time for all members of the Democratic Party to recognize what the President appears now to be recognizing, and that is that in divided government, both parties have to compromise to reach an agreement, so credit to the President for acknowledging this fact. I hope—I hope—that over the next few days, we will see a deal emerge that not only raises the debt ceiling but also puts us on a more sustainable fiscal path moving forward. 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJAN). The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, Boston is perhaps a surprising place to begin a tribute to Indiana's veterans on the occasion of Memorial Day, but there, on Augustus Saint-Gaudens' magnificent memorial to the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, their names are etched.

Maybe the coast of South Carolina is no less unexpected a place to continue

that tribute, but there, on the shore, they fell, the men who helped save our Union, who forever ended its greatest scourge, who fought for the Declaration of Independence, though they had been denied the unalienable rights it promised.

Seldom have American soldiers taken up arms and laid down their lives with such selflessness and yet so much at stake. Many Hoosiers were among their ranks. Their names should be known, their stories told. As Proverbs 10:7 says, "the memory of the just is blessed."

Abraham Lincoln described the Emancipation Proclamation as "an act of Justice." One of the greatest instruments of that justice was embedded at the end of the document. It read "that such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States." "Such persons" were Black Americans.

Lincoln's words spread far and fast and wide. In my capital city of Indianapolis, Pastor Willis Revels petitioned Governor Oliver Morton to raise a fighting force, and when the request was denied, rebels encouraged Hoosiers to join the first all-Black regiment forming near Boston.

Unable to fulfill its recruitment goals at home, the Massachusetts 54th Infantry sought and welcomed volunteers from across the Union, and Hoosiers answered the call. There were men—men like George Broady, George Charles, Alfred Lewis, George McGowan. They came from across the great State of Indiana, from places like Newport, Richmond, Louisville, and Centerville. They were farmers, blacksmiths, barbers, laborers, and, soon enough, they were soldiers for the Republic.

There was no doubt of that when the 54th appeared on the dunes of Morris Island, before the twilight on July 18, 1863. They were in South Carolina to take Battery Wagner, a seemingly insurmountable obstacle between the Union Army and the port of Charleston.

When the 54th had marched to within 300 yards of the fort, shots streaked overhead. They were ordered to the ground until the fire had passed. Then they rose. They charged forward, through sand and marshy water, as the sun sank in the western sky.

As they reached the fort, Battery Wagner exploded with fire. The 54th was razed, "like grass before the mower's scythe," one Hoosier survivor wrote afterward.

In the end, the regiment lost nearly 300 men that night—over 40 percent of its ranks. Fort Wagner remained in Confederate hands. Among the dead were Hoosiers Thomas Ampey and John Wilson.

They didn't simply fall for a good cause. Their bravery at Battery Wagner turned a tide. You see, it shattered prejudices about the supposed inferiority of Black soldiers and debunked foolish notions about their ability or willingness to fight.

Indeed, inspired by their example, additional Black regiments formed across the North. And by the end of 1863, Indiana had authorized the formation of the 28th U.S. Colored Troops.

Old Willis Revels, he was at work recruiting Hoosiers to fill its ranks. "Your country calls you," he declared—"your country."

Initially, over 500 men enrolled, forming 6 companies. The gallant 28th fought during the siege of Petersburg in Virginia. Its men fell at the Battle of the Crater.

When the Union Army marched into the fallen Confederate capital of Richmond, in the spring of 1865, the 28th was there. They helped bring the rebellion to its knees and slavery to its end.

And they were present in Galveston, TX, too, when General Order No. 3 was issued on June 19, 1865, ending legalized slavery, an event we now celebrate as Juneteenth.

Over 1,500 Black Hoosiers served in the Civil War in the Massachusetts 54th and 55th, the Indiana 28th, and across the Union Army. As President Lincoln acknowledged, the bravery of Black soldiers from Indiana and across the Union helped preserve the Union.

Offering an appropriate tribute to the fallen on Memorial Day can be a very difficult task. How can we, after all, express sufficient thanks to those who died for us?

To paraphrase President Lincoln, "the world will little note, nor long remember what we say here," but it will never forget the sacrifice of the men who fought in the 54th Massachusetts or the 28th Indiana.

It took great courage for these Black Americans to believe in the goodness of this country, its people, and the promise of its founding. The reason we build monuments and memorials to those fighting dead is so their examples live, so that we might draw inspiration from these heroes who did incredible things and fought for a more perfect Union and a world at peace.

So I close where I began, in Boston, because there, on the memorial to the 54th, the names of fallen Hoosiers Thomas Anthony and Elisha Burkett can be found. Their legacy lives on.

We remember these men and all who paid the ultimate price for our freedom on this Memorial Day.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

ENERGY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we are coming down to the wire here. June 1 looms over us and the threat that on that date, unless Congress takes action, the United States will default on its debt for the first time in the history of our Nation. All the people who are in the know tell us it would be a disaster of such proportion that it would harm individuals, families, and businesses across the United States and would ultimately diminish the United States reputation for the most stable currency—the U.S. dollar—in the world.

Individual families would see their 401(k)s and savings accounts diminish, the interest rates for purchases go even higher; businesses would fail, and workers would lose their jobs.

You have to ask yourself: Why would we even consider approaching that kind of calamity? Well, you take a look at the agenda that is being offered by Speaker MCCARTHY in the House of Representatives, and he spells out exactly what his goals are. First, he wants to cut spending in areas that he thinks are wasteful. For example, he would wipe out 30,000 law enforcement and Border Patrol jobs.

How many times has the Speaker's party reminded us that we have a crisis on our southern border and need to marshal our resources to protect America? Whether he is exaggerating or simply stating a fact is your own decision, your own conclusion; but can any part of his warning be answered by eliminating our personnel—our national personnel—on the border? I don't think so.

This approach by Speaker MCCARTHY would also threaten housing and food security for tens of thousands of American individuals, including many veterans. It would deprive 1 million senior citizens of access to Meals on Wheels. That is what his goal is in terms of cutting the budget.

And I might add a couple of other things for your consideration. He would cut money for medical research in the United States by 25 percent. I have tried to work over the last 6 or 7 years with the goal of increasing medical research spending by 5 percent real growth every single year. We have gone from \$30 billion to \$48 billion in annual appropriations for what is considered the most sophisticated and successful medical research program in the world.

And, now, the Speaker has told us: We want to cut back on medical research. Tell that to the families of cancer victims. Tell that to the families who are trying to cope with diseases that are life-threatening on a daily basis. The breakthroughs that come about because of this medical research should inspire us to spend even more—even more—on research.

To think that we may be close to a vaccine against pancreatic cancer. That was unthinkable a few weeks ago or months ago, but now there are reports that NIH research is leading in that direction with some promising conclusions.

To think that we have the possibility of finally dealing with those maladies of the brain which haunt us in every family in this country. The notion that the researchers, because of NIH grants, at Northwestern University in Chicago have now found a successful way to breach the blood-brain barrier and have medications go directly into the brain, what can that do? Well, it might deal directly with brain cancer—glioblastoma and similar maladies. But, in addition, they are looking at the possibility that it has applications for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's and other

brain-related diseases like Lou Gehrig's.

Do we want to stop research on that? I ask the Speaker: Do you really want to achieve that? That is your goal: to slow down and stop research by the U.S. Government which leads the world in these fields?

Mr. President, I think what really is at stake here is the Speaker is calling for these dramatic cuts in critical American programs in an effort to preserve the tax cuts that were instituted during the Trump administration. These are tax cuts that benefited corporations which were not paying their fair share of taxes and continue to receive blessings from the Trump administration to pay even less; and wealthy individuals who were doing quite well for themselves got a tax break at that time. Speaker MCCARTHY wants to preserve those tax breaks even at the expense of law enforcement, Border Patrol, helping our veterans, Meals on Wheels, and medical research. Well, that is not my priority in serving in the U.S. Senate.

There is one other item that I want to mention that is part of the Speaker's agenda that is bringing us to the brink on our national debt, and that is that the House Republican bill is really a gift-wrapped present for the fossil fuel industry. The bill that they are proposing guts critical environmental protections to fast-track new fossil fuel projects. It mandates the sale of new oil and gas leases and accelerates drilling both on- and offshore.

That is not just bad for the planet; it is bad for our people, our economy, as well as our Nation and the hopes of becoming energy independent. If this MAGA manifesto becomes law, it would eliminate 140,000 clean energy jobs across America, jobs which were promoted with the Inflation Reduction Act.

The Republican proposal would cut billions of dollars in clean energy investments, the majority of which benefit businesses and workers in their own States. Importantly, these investments are not only job creators; they are vital to our Nation's capacity to remain resilient in the face of an environmental crisis.

Just yesterday, the World Meteorological Organization warned that the next few years will be the warmest on record for planet Earth. Temperatures may even breach the targets set by the Paris Agreement—not in the next five decades but in the next 5 years. What we see coming from this are not only warmer days but more extreme weather events. You have to be sensitive to that if you are paying any attention at all. We need to make sure that every community in America is prepared for this challenge.

The House Republican proposal would make us more vulnerable in a climate crisis. It would cut funding for projects that expand access to clean air and clean water, especially in western States with chronic drought, and it

would roll back programs to curb pollution in low-income communities across America.

Whenever we debate energy policy in Congress, Republicans tend to revert to the same old arguments. They say: Think about the economy.

These Republicans insist that, if we want to become energy independent, we have no choice but to invest more in oil and gas. In their view, America is hopelessly addicted to fossil fuels, and forcing us to remain beholden to foreign oil giants is the Republican answer to this challenge.

But, the truth is, they are wrong. Fossil fuels are not the future. We will need a transition; that is for sure. The future is going to be seen in communities like my own hometown of Springfield, IL. Last month in Springfield, an American-owned solar company broke ground on a project called Double Black Diamond.

Now, if you are a skier, you have to wonder what that has to do with flat land in Springfield, IL. Well, it has nothing to do with skiing. What they are talking about is building one of the largest solar farms in America in the area, and the energy produced will be sent to the residents of Chicago. It is amazing. These communities that have committed themselves to green energy are making massive investments in clean, sustainable, renewable energy.

Solar is the fastest growing, most affordable source of new electricity in America. Last year, my wife and I decided to install solar panels on our home in Springfield. It was a decision which was guided more by determination to see if it worked and to do something positive in our family to help with the climate crisis that we face. Well, we installed them, and the good news is this: In the first couple of months, we started to see our electricity bill disappearing. What was \$115 a month turned into \$15 a month. And, of course, there were tax credits available for that decision for our family and for every family that moves in that direction.

We estimate that 230,000 homes in Illinois will do what we did: put solar panels on the roof. With net metering, they will find it is a benefit in their monthly utility bills and a benefit to our environment.

Right now, if we don't do this, China and other countries will. They are going to pursue solar energy and the next generation of technology, and we will be left behind if the Republicans have their way with their budget bill.

So I would conclude by saying fossil fuels had their day. There is still a transition period where they will be needed, but we have got to point to the future where we can tell our kids and grandkids: We are sensitive to this climate crisis. We are investing in the right kind of energy for the future. We are not going to have America take second place to China or any other country when it comes to competition for this technology.

The Republican approach is yesterday. We have got to think about tomorrow.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, debt is front and center in the national conversation again. That is entirely reasonable. We have a debt ceiling conversation right now about America taking care of our debts and our responsibilities, which we are a responsible nation, and we are going to do. But we should also have a grownup conversation about our spending to say: Are we spending on our priorities? Because when you have \$31 trillion—actually, scratch that—\$31.4 trillion because \$400 billion is not a rounding error—\$31.4 trillion in total national debt, we should pay attention to this, especially when we are currently adding \$1 trillion in new debt every single year, and it continues to accelerate.

Recently, someone asked me: When does it get hard? When do we pass the point?

And I actually had to painfully say to them: 10 years ago because in the last 10 years, our debt has continued to accelerate like a rock rolling downhill, and it is going to be harder and harder to be able to manage this. At some point, we have got to be able to stop and say: Inflation is going up; challenges that are in our economy are increasing; we are spending almost as much on interest as we are on defense. At what point do we stop and say: We have got to be able to fix this?

Well, I have a perspective. The first step on actually talking about debt and deficit is actually taking it seriously and saying: What are we spending on that is a priority, and what are we spending on that is not a priority? Again, it is not unreasonable to be able to say that would be nice to do, but we don't have the money to do that. Let's set that aside.

And for whatever reason, in this town, anytime you talk about reducing spending of whatever percentage or whatever amount, everyone freaks out immediately, like, oh, you can't; there is no way we can reduce spending in government.

So we started, 7 years ago, a habit of our staff that we produce a book called "Federal Fumbles." Every year we put out the "Federal Fumbles" guide, and that is just a set of ideas to say these are areas we believe the Federal Government has dropped the ball.

The Federal Government, and our Agencies, we had a responsibility to handle American taxpayer dollars prudently and wisely, but that didn't happen. So we asked the question: Is this really what we need to spend for? In a nation that is keeping up with our infrastructure, of our national defense, of education, of so many different expenses, and things that are truly governmental, we asked a simple question: With \$31.4 trillion in total debt, is that what we need to spend our dollars on?

Now, just to set context because, again, this is difficult to be able to do, when you talk about millions and billions and trillions, it gets easy to go, those all sound alike. So they are similar. So people throw out millions of dollars or billions of dollars or trillions of dollars, and you just think, OK, I don't even understand what that is anymore.

So I break it down, as I have in the past—I break it down to seconds because that is something I can understand. A million seconds is 12 days—12 days. That is a million seconds. A billion seconds is 32 years.

So there is a big difference between a million and a billion: 12 days in 32 years; a trillion seconds is almost 32,000 years.

So let me knock that past us again. A million seconds is 12 days; a billion seconds, 32 years; a trillion seconds, almost 32,000 years.

And to put this into context of \$31.4 trillion in total debt, that is 995,000 years—almost a million years of seconds—to get to \$31.4 trillion.

The numbers here are large, and they are overwhelming. So again, why don't we talk about ways that we can actually save money. My reasonable conversation with "Federal Fumbles" every year is just to say: Let's talk about it. Is this really how we want to be able to spend Americans' taxpayers dollars?

We set up a top 10 list that we listed out some of the things that we just say, OK, of the 50 different examples—and we don't try to go into every single spending area, but we lay out in the guide for fumbles 50 different examples and just try to ask the question: Is this the best way to be able to spend America's dollars? Again, we have all got different perspectives and different ideas on it. I am just asking the question.

For instance, last year, the State Department did a grant to Ecuador to host 12 drag shows in Ecuador with American tax dollars. Now, we may have different opinions in this room on drag shows. I am just asking the simple question: Is the best use of American tax dollars to actually fund drag shows in Ecuador with U.S. tax dollars? I don't believe that it is.

Last year, we actually did a different funding through the State Department that was actually done—actually, this was the National Science Foundation. Excuse me. Strike that. It seems like a State Department thing. The National Science Foundation last year did a study of butterflies in Europe. So we funded, with American taxpayer dollars, a butterfly study in Germany where we paid a Swedish scientist to study butterflies in Germany.

I am not real sure American tax dollars was the best use of that, but that was one of the grants that was done last year.

Last year, there was also an NEA grant that was done to set up a display in Brooklyn for the Sergeant Pepper's

Lonely Hearts Club Band, which, by the way, is not even an American band. And I am not sure why we had to pay Federal tax dollars to be able to do that. My simple question is always: Why are tax dollars being taken out of Oklahoma to be able to do that?

Always popular, we had a \$350,000 grant to study smart toilets. That was one of the grants that we actually paid for with our Federal tax dollars last year.

We also had a grant that was done studying Colonial Mexican Soundscapes. I am sure Colonial Mexican Soundscapes are fascinating, but we paid for a researcher to travel to Mexico and then to be able to write a series about the sounds of Colonial Mexico and how they could be used to be able to influence communities.

We, last year, did a study on helmets and seatbelts in Ghana to be able to study whether seatbelts and helmets were effective for saving lives in Ghana. Can I just go ahead and answer that question for free? Seatbelts and helmets are a good idea. They save lives—free. I can go ahead and give you that advice.

How do I know that? Because we have already spent millions of dollars in other studies here in the United States, but, instead, we spent money in Ghana studying helmets to see if they are actually a good idea there. And amazingly, they discovered, yes, they are.

There was also a grant that was done last year—I have to just walk this one through. This was at the Springfield Art Museum in Missouri. There was a grant to be on a display, an installation of the exhibit at a museum called “Yoko Ono: Mend Piece.”

Now, let me just read this to you. It is a simple white room where shattered cups and saucers are placed on a table and participants are asked to mend the fragments together using common household items like twine, glue, scissors, and tape, and the resulting works are displayed on nearby shelves as evidence of the power of collective action.

Again, I am not opposed to fixing broken saucers in a public place and displaying them. All I am asking is: Why did Oklahomans work overtime last year to pay their tax bill to fund doing the Yoko Ono white room, where people fixed broken saucers? I don't have a good answer for that yet, by the way. I am still trying to be able to get that.

If you like wine country, great. You helped pay for it—one of the highest income areas in the world is Napa Valley, CA—one of the highest income areas in the entire world.

The good folks of Oklahoma helped pay for a wine pedestrian trail through Napa Valley because apparently Napa Valley didn't have enough cash to be able to pay for the 8-mile walking trail through wine country—some of the most expensive real estate in the entire world. So the taxpayers in Oklahoma had to pay for that wine country tour trail.

If you like traveling to Hawaii, enjoy the trip. When you get there, if you go to a farmers market, you will find out that you helped pay for that farmers market because the farmers markets in Hawaii received \$3.4 million to be able to fund the farmers markets.

If you go to New York City and pay for a very high-dollar ticket to get into a private location in the Metropolitan Opera to be able to watch the opera, you will feel safer, I am sure, when you go to the Metropolitan Opera because almost three-quarters of a million dollars was given to the Metropolitan Opera in New York to help them install a new fire-suppression system with Federal tax dollars.

If you like traveling to Paris and you go to a butcher shop in Paris, you may be fascinated to know that since the 13th century, apparently butchers in Paris have come up with their own private language. It is like a supersecret private language among butchers in Paris. It is fascinating for the French to study, but unfortunately the American taxpayers paid for a study of French butchers' private language for fear that it is diminishing and fading away. So American tax dollars paid for this study in France to study the secret language of butchers in Paris. I can't tell you why.

You may know the story of the—let me see if I can pull this out—the parable of the sower. It is a famous Biblical story, the parable of the sower. This particular version of the parable of the sower was actually a little bit different. What your tax dollars paid for is actually an event that was done to teach climate futurism and to be able to use the parable of the sower from the Bible but to reteach a new religion called Earthseed, using the Biblical story of the parable of the sower and talking about humanity's destiny to be able to leave Earth for other planets. It wasn't the writing of a book; it was a conference for teachers to make sure teachers know how to teach this new version of the parable of the sower and about the religion of Earthseed to their kids. That was done with your tax dollars.

Not leaving Ghana alone, there was also a study done in Ghana last year—not only did we do one on seatbelt studies and helmet studies in Ghana, we also did an interview project that was almost \$200,000 in Ghana to interview taxicab drivers and truckdrivers to ask them about how difficult driving has become with climate change, if it is harder to drive now in Ghana based on climate change. Your tax dollars paid for that.

If you don't like that I am discussing anything on climate change and you may disagree with that, well, perfect, because there was also a fund that was done with your tax dollars in the National Science Foundation to study how to influence people who disagree on the issue of climate change, with a study that was done for \$400,000. It was a study on pluralistic ignorance gaps in

climate change and to be able to determine how to speak to people, as the study says, who are “ignorant” on climate change and to be able to reeducate them on that. So if you disagree on this issue, we are also studying how to be able to reeducate you on this issue.

Last year, we also spent \$991 million on soft-sided facilities—those are called tents—along our border with Mexico. Now, best estimates on this: There are about 2 million people who illegally crossed the border last year. If you run the numbers on it, we spent somewhere around \$500 a person on the tent facility they were processed through just to travel across the border.

Listen, we have differences of opinion on lots of issues. I am respectful of that. I understand the people of Oklahoma don't think like people in other areas of the country. I also understand that not everyone in Oklahoma thinks the same way, and I am respectful of that. But I have yet to find anyone who wants their tax dollars wasted. People literally work overtime to be able to feed their families. They are working two and three jobs. In April, when they pay their taxes, they want to know it went to roads and infrastructure and national security. What we reveal in “Federal Fumbles” is, yes, some of that was done, but also some of it was done because we lacked oversight, and things were just wasted and thrown out the door.

We did a multithousand-page omnibus bill at the end of last year that literally no one had read—no one. There were no committee hearings in the Senate on appropriations at all last year, and trillions of dollars were spent, and no one knows what they were spent on.

We try to bring here some of the ways American tax dollars were spent. I am not just complaining about it; we bring this up to say: What are we going to do about it? Are we going to do more oversight, to ask more questions, and to spend money on our priorities and not spend money on what is not?

So we put out “Federal Fumbles.” You can go to the website Lankford.senate.gov to be able to download it and to be able to look at it. The goal of this is to get us all thinking about \$31.4 trillion in Federal debt. Can we focus on spending on our priorities and target areas that are not?

Mr. President, can I do one quick addendum to my protracted speech on “Federal Fumbles”? I have a staff member named Phillip Moran who worked like crazy this year actually pulling all these details together and some other team members who really help me a tremendous amount to do the research on this. As you can imagine, it is not one person who does this. I have a fantastic team that works very hard on this.

I want to say from this floor so the Oklahomans back home can also know,

there are some great people working for them every single day. I appreciate that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the brave men and women in North Carolina and across the Nation who serve in law enforcement.

This is a particularly emotional week for law enforcement. The law enforcement community has thousands of officers, and their families are in the Nation's Capital for National Police Week. They are paying a tribute to the brave officers who were killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities. I want to welcome all North Carolinians who are in Washington right now.

Unfortunately, our State is all too familiar with law enforcement officers having to make the ultimate sacrifice, losing their lives in the line of duty. Over the past year, North Carolina has lost three law enforcement officers who were killed by others in the line of duty, in addition to a number of other officers who died from other causes. I would like to take a moment to honor the service of those North Carolina law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty.

In late August, we lost Sergeant Matthew Ryan Fishman—he was 38 years old—of Wayne County Sheriff's Office. He was one of three deputies shot after attempting to serve a warrant. They were met with gunfire, and the incident caused a 10-hour standoff. Sergeant Fishman died a day later.

He had been a deputy since 2010. Before that, he was an officer in the Mount Olive Police Department. Officer Fishman is survived by his wife Sarah, two children, his parents, and two brothers.

That same August, we also saw the death of Deputy Sheriff Ned Byrd of Wake County. Deputy Byrd was with his K-9 when he heard six gunshots and drove past a vehicle on the side of the road. Deputy Byrd stopped and backed up his vehicle. He was shot several times by two criminals.

Unfortunately, the killing of Deputy Byrd revealed numerous failures. The criminals who killed him were not in the United States legally. One of them had been previously deported but was able to illegally reenter the country.

When we talk about “got-aways,” this is a very important point because it happened just a couple of weeks ago in Texas. Someone who was illegally present in this country—was deported four times—got back into this country a fifth time and murdered a family in Texas, including an 8-year-old child. That is another face of a “got-away.” And it was a “got-away” who killed this officer.

Following their arrest for the murder of Deputy Byrd, one of these criminals managed to escape prison for several

days, and we had to apprehend him again in Mexico.

Part of seeking justice must be looking at these failures and making sure they don't happen again.

Deputy Byrd was an Air Force veteran and served Wake County Sheriff's Department for 13 years. He is survived by his sister, brother-in-law, four nephews, as well as his beloved K-9 Sasha.

Last December, less than 2 weeks before Christmas, we lost Deputy Sheriff Bolanos-Anavisca of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. He was 23 years old and served the office for 2 years. He was struck and killed by a car while investigating a robbery at 3 a.m. The driver ran through a red light and struck him and then fled the scene. They eventually located the driver, and he was highly intoxicated.

In the wake of these tragic losses in North Carolina, I am proud to say that we saw the very best of our local communities. While we have some communities calling for defunding the police and making contributions to a website supported by ActBlue—I looked it up today, Mr. President. I am shocked that it is still there. During Police Week, there is a website out there called ACAB. Send your money. What does “ACAB” stand for? “All Cops Are Bastards.”

You would think that at least in a week when we are looking at the sacrifice these officers made, they could take the website down, but they are still proudly raising money. If you don't believe me, just Google “ActBlue,” “All Cops Are Bastards.” Donate today. Harass the police. Look past the sacrifice they are making every single day.

On the other hand, our communities had an outpouring of love and support for the families and colleagues of those fallen officers. Most Americans proudly support men and women in blue. But there are some who feel emboldened by the disgusting anti-police rhetoric.

Disrespect and denigration of law enforcement officers only contribute to an environment that makes our officers and communities less safe and far fewer people willing to even sign up to do the job. If you don't believe me, ask local law enforcement. We have historic lows for people signing up to go to academies and historic highs for people retiring early, as soon as they are eligible. This is happening across the Nation.

In 2021, the intentional killings of law enforcement officers reached a 20-year high. While the number went down in 2022, it is still well above what we have seen in years past. We need to take threats and acts of violence against law enforcement seriously. That is why I will reintroduce the Protect and Serve Act in this Congress. This legislation will make it a Federal crime to intentionally assault a law enforcement officer. It is amazing that it is not on the books already today. It sends a strong message to criminals that targeting and assaulting law en-

forcement officers is inexcusable, and you will be punished. I will continue to work across the aisle to get this legislation enacted into law.

And I am committed to supporting our brave men and women in blue. This bill has earned broad support and has the full support of the Fraternal Order of Police and many of the Nation's leading law enforcement groups.

Each year, we take this week to celebrate those who serve us and protect us in public safety. This would be a great year to come back next year's Police Week and say that we got this bill passed.

Law enforcement has our backs every time and every day they put on a uniform. The least Congress can do is to support the Protect and Serve Act. They need your support more than ever, and you need their support more than ever.

To the men and women in blue in North Carolina and across the country, I want to say thank you for what you do and the sacrifice you make.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Each May, we celebrate and remember the many contributions that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have made to our history and continue to make today.

As a nation, we have made significant progress with respect to the inclusion and representation of the AAPI community across the many facets of our society, from actress Michelle Yeoh's barrier-breaking accomplishment this year as the first Asian-American winner of the Oscars' Best Actress award to Maryland's very own Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller, who was sworn in just a few months ago as Maryland's first immigrant and first Asian American to be elected to state-wide office.

AAPI children are finally getting to grow up seeing faces that look like theirs in film, music, sports, politics, and every other arena of public life.

This progress didn't just happen overnight; it is the fruit of labor of generations of AAPI activists and leaders, along with their allies. A labor that, in some cases, cost them their lives.

I think of the Chinese laborers, for instance, who played a critical role in building America's first transcontinental railroad, yet they were met with discrimination and exclusion at every turn.

They faced hardship, hard working conditions, and were paid only half as much as their White counterparts.

In June of 1867, 3,000 Chinese railworkers began a highly organized strike, demanding equal wages and shorter hours. Though they were initially unsuccessful in their demands,

the strike demonstrated that the Chinese workforce could not be taken for granted. Over the next few months, the rail company began raising railworker wages.

This is just one example of a historic legacy of the AAPI activism against discrimination, whether perpetrated by the U.S. Government, as with the internment of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II, or by individuals like the racially motivated murder of Vincent Chin in 1982, which ignited the modern Asian-American civil rights movement. But there is still much progress we need to make.

Stereotypes like the “model minority” myth continue to perpetrate the idea that the AAPI community is a monolithic, hard-working, and successful racial bloc, which served as a model for how other minority groups should “pull themselves up by their bootstraps—if they just try hard enough.” Stereotypes erase the diversity within the group we refer to as the AAPI, which has the highest income inequality across ethnic groups of any race in America.

Today, AAPI women are still earning, on average, 85 cents for every dollar earned by a White male. If you break that down into just Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, the number drops even further to just 60 cents for every dollar.

The “model minority” myth attempts to pit AAPI people against Black and Latino Americans by blaming these groups for their own struggles, rather than acknowledging the role of discrimination in America’s socioeconomic and racial inequality.

In spite of all of this, there is a great historical legacy, rarely taught in our classrooms, of Asian-Black and Asian-Latino solidarity. Frederick Douglass, renowned abolitionist, writer, and Marylander, gave a speech in 1867—the same year as the Chinese rail strike—opposing restrictions on Chinese immigration in a time when xenophobia and racism toward Chinese workers was rampant.

He said—and, remember, this was in 1867:

There is such a thing in the world as human rights. They rest upon no conventional foundation, but are external, universal, and indestructible. Among these is the right of locomotion; the right of migration; the right which belongs to no particular race, but belongs alike to all and to all alike. It is the right you assert by staying here, and your fathers asserted by coming here. It is this great right that I assert for the Chinese and Japanese, and for all other varieties of men equally with yourselves, now and forever.

I know of no rights of race superior to the rights of humanity, and when there is a supposed conflict between human and national rights, it is safe to go to the side of humanity.

Human rights has been a key focus of mine during my entire congressional career. Imagine, Frederick Douglass, over 150 years ago, proclaimed the very same rights that we are still fighting for today. He was truly a man ahead of his time.

In the 1960s, 100 years after Douglass’s speech, Filipino-American Larry Itliong led the Delano Grape Strike alongside Mexican-American labor icon Cesar Chavez. Their efforts led to raises, healthcare benefits, and pesticide protections for the striking grape workers, who were primarily of Filipino and Mexican descent. These examples show that there is power in solidarity towards a common goal.

Even as we celebrate the historic accomplishments of these and many more members of the AAPI community, we must also maintain a sense of urgency about how we as members of Congress and as Americans are meeting the needs of this community today.

Just a few months ago, many East and Southeast Asian communities who were celebrating the Lunar New Year with their families suddenly had to fear for their safety following the back-to-back mass shootings targeting Asian elders in Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay.

What should have been a time of celebration became a time of fear, anguish, and grief, instead. And these shootings were just the most recent in a string of violent crimes motivated by anti-Asian racism and xenophobia, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a study led in part by Janelle Wong, a University of Maryland professor of Asian-American studies, 16 percent of Asian-American adults and 14 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults reported experiencing a hate crime in 2021. These statistics are appalling and unacceptable.

Over 500,000 Asian Americans and 11,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders join me in calling Maryland their home. They are a vital part of our State’s economy and our communities, and Maryland is better off because of them. I particularly want to highlight the AAPI community in Frederick County, MD. In the fiscal year 2023 Omnibus Appropriations bill, I was proud to work with my colleague, Senator VAN HOLLEN, to secure a \$375,000 earmark for the Asian American Center of Frederick. The AACF provides vital services to lower-income, minority, and immigrant groups in their community—services including health insurance enrollment, interpreter and translation services, English as a Second Language, citizenship classes, business development services, and so much more.

Because of the funding, Senator VAN HOLLEN and I were able to obtain, the center will be able to increase programming for language-appropriate and culturally relevant early childhood education.

This is crucial in a county like Frederick, where 13.5 percent of the residents speak a language other than English at home. Research shows that high-quality early childhood education increases the children’s readiness for school and narrows the achievement gap by half. And I am inspired every day by the AAPI-run organizations like

the AACF who are fighting for the futures of their children.

There is still work to be done. I am committed to the ongoing movement for the AAPI equality and justice, in Congress and beyond. I hope the Senate will use this Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an opportunity to recognize this community’s many accomplishments and to continue to work hand in hand towards equality and justice for all Americans.

AMERICAN WETLANDS MONTH, WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

Mr. President, I rise to celebrate wetlands and the many species they sustain. This past Saturday, May 13, was World Migratory Bird Day. This year’s theme is “Water: Sustaining Bird Life.” World Migratory Bird Day is officially celebrated on the second Saturday of May in Canada and the U.S. and the second Saturday of October in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean as part of a global campaign to raise awareness of migratory birds and the need to protect and conserve them.

Migratory birds rely on water and its associated habitats—lakes, rivers, streams, ponds, swamps, marshes, and coastal wetlands—for breeding, resting, and refueling during migration; and for wintering. Yet increasing human demand for water, along with climate change, pollution, and other factors are threatening these precious aquatic ecosystems.

Global headlines are sounding alarms: 35 percent of the world’s wetlands, critical to migratory birds, have been lost in the last 50 years. May is American Wetlands Month. Observing it helps draw attention to our wetlands. We cannot afford to lose them. Wetlands provide some of nature’s most valuable ecosystem “services.” They serve as nurseries and habitat for wildlife, mitigate hurricane damage, and sequester carbon.

Wetlands also remove excess nutrients, toxic substances, and sediment from the water that flows through them, helping to improve downstream water quality and the overall health of waters in our communities. They are so effective at improving water quality, scientists refer to them as the “kidneys” of a watershed. Wetlands can absorb excess rain or river water, so they protect against flooding. We haven’t idly stood by as wetlands—and the services they provide—disappear. Instead we are investing in programs to protect and restore them. It is imperative that we strengthen the resilience of our natural infrastructure, particularly in my State of Maryland, which has over 3,000 miles of coastline. Last month, Vice President HARRIS announced that the Department of Commerce has recommended \$15.2 million for projects across Maryland to make communities and the economy more resilient to climate change.

Across Maryland, four projects will create jobs and boost economic and environmental outcomes for coastal communities. The awards were made under the Biden administration's Climate-Ready Coasts initiative funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law—BIL—with additional funds leveraged from the Inflation Reduction Act, IRA. These projects are part of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's nearly \$6 billion total investment under BIL and IRA. These investments will have a ripple effect. The Middle Branch: Patapsco Delta Sustainable Fishery and Ecosystem Resilience Project—"MBRI"—in Baltimore City, for instance, will restore marsh habitat in an urban ecosystem. The MBRI is part of a larger project called "Reimagine Middle Branch," which is a community-led initiative to reconnect South Baltimore residents to the nearby Middle Branch River.

The NOAA investments will help, but wetland loss is challenges that requires an interagency response. I am proud to have reintroduced the Coastal Habitat Conservation Act with Senator GRAMHAM. Our bipartisan, bicameral legislation would authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife—FWS—Coastal Program. The Coastal Program was first established in the Chesapeake Bay in 1985 to address wetlands degradation and the resulting impacts to fish and wildlife. Since its inception, the program has expanded to 2 dozen priority coastal areas in all coastal States.

Today, the Coastal Program is a voluntary, partnership-based, habitat conservation program focused in 24 priority coastal areas along the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Gulf of Mexico, the Great Lakes, and in the Caribbean, including the Chesapeake Bay.

Within these areas, a national strategic plan guides FWS conservation efforts, integrating Service priorities with the shared goals of conservation partners and stakeholders. These goals often include preserving biodiversity and preventing species loss.

On the third Friday in May—this Friday—we celebrate National Endangered Species Day, which highlights the importance of protecting species such as the threatened eastern black rail. This secretive marsh bird is the smallest of its kind in North America and is part of Maryland's unique identity that we risk losing to climate change. Over the past 10–20 years, 75 percent of the eastern black rail population has declined. Primary causes of declination include rising sea levels, tidal flooding, and habitat loss and destruction.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act, ESA. We should be strengthening implementation of the law, including on critical habitat. For each threatened or endangered species, the Services may designate "critical habitat." Scientists have identified these areas as crucial to the species' recovery and are the focus of conservation efforts. This concept is particularly important as species are forced to adapt.

Even our marshes themselves are on the move. The Global Change Research Wetland located at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, MD, is dedicated to unraveling the complex ecological processes that confer stability on coastal marshes as they respond to global environmental change. This 2,650-acre brackish marsh, which contains 15 miles of protected shoreline along the Rhode and West Rivers—two embayments of Chesapeake Bay—is home to several long-term experiments designed to predict what the future holds for coastal wetland ecosystems as they cope with accelerated sea level rise.

Trying to anticipate and prepare for a future shaped by climate change is the reason I recently opposed S.J. Res. 23, a Congressional Review Act—CRA—joint resolution disapproving the National Marine Fisheries Service—NMFS—rule relating to "Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants and Designating Critical Habitat."

On June 24, 2022, the NMFS and the FWS issued a joint final rule to rescind a Trump administration rule on designating critical habitat under the ESA. The Trump rule included a restrictive definition of "habitat" that limited where the Services could designate critical habitat. Specifically, it barred designating critical habitat in areas that are not currently suitable habitat, even if those areas could become suitable in the future. Such a restriction would limit the Services' ability to designate critical habitat based on the best available science. For example, the Services would not be able to designate critical habitat in areas where species are expected to shift to as a result of natural disasters, in response to climate change, or after environmental restoration.

I regret that the Senate passed S.J. Res. 23 by a vote of 51–49. I am relieved that President Biden intends to veto the resolution, and I am confident Democrats in the Senate will sustain the veto. I was particularly disappointed in this attack on the Services' mission, given the popularity and economic activity of wildlife refuges in my State and across the Nation.

I am pleased the FWS proposes to create a new National Wildlife Refuge to conserve currently unprotected, high-priority fish and wildlife habitats across southern Maryland. In collaboration with landowners, outdoor enthusiasts, conservation partners, and local communities, the Service proposes to identify lands for protection as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System in southern Maryland. These lands would be incorporated into a new National Wildlife Refuge that encompasses portions of Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's, Prince George's, and Anne Arundel Counties.

A wide-ranging, collaborative effort over the past 15 years demonstrated that currently unprotected habitats in

these counties support significant populations of fish and wildlife appropriate for protection under the National Wildlife Refuge System, primarily threatened and endangered species like the black rail, waterfowl, and migratory birds of conservation concern. These species face habitat loss from land use changes, climate change, competition from invasive species, and other stressors. Collaborative land management is a primary reason why Maryland has an excellent track record of recovering species. We have demonstrated we can solve wildlife challenges on a bipartisan basis. Knocking out the critical habitat rule—and any future rule like—is not the answer.

The Delmarva fox squirrel was federally listed as an endangered species in 1967, but thanks to conservation efforts, it was removed in December 2015. Loss of habitat is believed to be the major reason for the Delmarva fox squirrel's demise. By the early 1900s, it was extirpated from all States except Maryland. In 1967, its range was narrowed to only four Eastern Shore counties: Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Dorchester—less than 10 percent of its former reach.

Efforts to restore the population began in 1945 when the Maryland Department of Natural Resources purchased LeCompte Wildlife Management Area in Dorchester County as a refuge for the Delmarva fox squirrel. Through an active reintroduction program in the 1970s through the early 1990s, several additional populations of Delmarva fox squirrels were established in Caroline, Kent, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties in Maryland and at a few locations in Delaware and Virginia. Natural expansion of the population has also occurred on the Delmarva peninsula. Today, the Delmarva fox squirrel exists in numerous small pockets of suitable habitat.

Bald eagles have staged such a remarkable population rebound and recovered to the point that they no longer need protection under the ESA. The Chesapeake Bay region today is home to more than 3,000 mating pairs, which represents the largest concentration of eagles in the lower 48 States. They may actually be doing a little too well. According to Chesapeake Bay Magazine, they seem to be running out of room in the bay region. The typical number of chicks per nest has declined since 1999 from two to one, as the male eagles in a breeding pair are forced to stay home and protect their nest from "floaters" without a nest of their own; as a result, they bring less food back. Not to worry, however; scientists don't see a problem with fewer young eagles being produced in the bay's tidewater region, nor do they see a need for human intervention as the eagles reach equilibrium.

The population is going to remain large because the bay can support it. The bay is one of the most productive aquatic ecosystems in the Nation, thanks in large part to its wetlands.

That is something I take pride in and call on my Senate colleagues and all Americans to celebrate this month, American Wetlands Month.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May as Jewish American Heritage Month. My good friend, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and the late Senator Arlen Specter introduced the first resolution to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month in 2006. President George W. Bush then recognized the occasion through a presidential proclamation, which every subsequent administration has since renewed. I am proud to join Senators ROSEN, TIM SCOTT, and RICK SCOTT in introducing S. Res. 203, this year's resolution to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month.

Jews have turned to America as a place of refuge for more than 360 years, from when the first 23 Jews fled the Inquisition in Brazil to the pogroms in Eastern Europe, the Holocaust, and many other instances of violence and discrimination.

Jewish American Heritage Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contributions that American Jews have made to our country. The list is long and illustrious: there is Albert Einstein, the theoretical physicist who devised the theory of relativity, which expanded our understanding of the universe; the trailblazing women's rights advocate, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was the second woman to sit on the Supreme Court, and the first female Jewish justice; Dr. Jonas Salk, who created the polio vaccine, saving countless lives; Emma Lazarus, who gave us the poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty that reads, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

The list goes on and on and includes Nobel Laureates, scientists, writers, musicians, entertainers, businessmen, academics, athletes, and more.

As we commemorate Jewish American Heritage Month and celebrate the contributions of American Jews, we must also remain committed to countering antisemitism both at home and abroad. Last year, we saw a 36 percent increase in antisemitic incidents nationwide, according to the Anti-Defamation League. In my home State of Maryland, the numbers are even more alarming, with antisemitic incidents nearly doubling from 2021 to 2022. That is why I have prioritized addressing the rise of antisemitism and hate-fueled violence. As Co-Chair of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and as the Special Representative on Antisemitism, Racism, and Intolerance for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in the European Parliamentary Assembly, I have held hearings on the alarming increase in antisemitism and its threat to democracy.

Last November, I convened a working group of high-level officials from across the government and non-profit sector to enhance coordination in

countering both domestic and international antisemitism.

The Biden administration has also acted to address antisemitism head-on. In December 2022, the President established an inter-agency group led by Domestic Policy Council staff and National Security Council staff to increase and better coordinate U.S. Government efforts to counter antisemitism, Islamophobia, and related forms of bias and discrimination within the United States. The group's first mandate is to develop a national strategy to counter antisemitism, which would help bring awareness to, address, and prevent antisemitic incidents. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues and the Biden administration to ensure that we use every tool available to confront this growing threat.

Awareness through education is a critical component of the effort to combat prejudice. We must educate members of the public, especially our young people, on the dangers of antisemitism and intolerance.

One of our best resources for doing this is the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. This past April, I led my colleagues in introducing a resolution to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Museum's founding. This national institution has welcomed over 47 million visitors during the past 30 years. It confronts hatred and Holocaust denial and preserves the history of the Holocaust. Visitors in person or online can hear stories of survivors, victims, and those who tried to help. Through teaching about the Holocaust, the Museum challenges the public and world leaders to take action against hate in their own communities.

The history of persecution of Jews and continued violence against Jewish communities in the United States and around the world today highlight the importance of the Jewish homeland, the State of Israel, and the U.S.-Israel relationship. Last month, Israel celebrated its 75th anniversary as an independent state. To mark this milestone, I am leading legislation with Senator TED CRUZ to direct the Treasury Department to mint a commemorative coin honoring Golda Meir, the first female prime minister of the State of Israel.

American Jews have had a strong bond with Israel since its inception as a Jewish homeland. But all Americans benefit from the special relationship between the United States and Israel. Together we face the common enemies of terrorism and extremism and are stronger and safer because of our relationship.

We also benefit economically from our partnership. More than 2,500 U.S. companies do business in Israel. Not only does America invest in Israel, but Israel invests in America, creating jobs in the United States and spurring innovation. Americans enjoy many technical innovations that came from Israel, such as USB drives, instant

messaging, medical cameras small enough to swallow, irrigation systems, and much more.

To me, one of the most important aspects of being an American Jew is the opportunity to apply Jewish values to my daily life. Jewish values like *Tikkun Olam*, which in Hebrew means "repairing the world," have helped inspire and guide my life in public service. My Jewish upbringing taught me to give back and that I have a responsibility to make a difference in the world. It's why I have pursued a career as an elected official since I was a law school student.

This Jewish American Heritage Month, let us honor the values and contributions of Jewish Americans who are a vital part of the American story and stand together to make clear that evil, hate, and antisemitism will not prevail.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Connecticut.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, one of the benefits of sitting in the chair, as the Senator from Maine is currently, is you get to hear a wide variety of views from our colleagues. And I have had the opportunity over the past several weeks, while sitting in the chair, to hear my Republican colleagues talk about their concerns regarding the lifting of title 42. They are concerns that are very often shared in many respects by Democrats as well.

But it is really important that we level set the facts when we are talking about what is happening at the border right now, as the pandemic authority to stop people from applying for asylum is—as required by law—being lifted.

It is really important that we understand that in this debate, there are a lot of spinning; there are a lot of myths; there are some just outright mistruths that are being spread about what is happening at the border and what has been happening at the border.

And so I am down on the floor just for a few minutes today to try to talk about a short list of those myths and untruths that are being spread, sometimes on this floor, but very often on social media and on cable news, so that we can find a way to have a functional conversation between Republicans and Democrats of good faith who actually want to make progress.

First, my sense is that there were a lot of conservatives out there and a lot of haters of President Biden who were kind of rooting for chaos at the border, who were hoping that there was just going to be this overwhelming flood of crossings and apprehensions at the border when title 42 was lifted.

Here is maybe the most important thing to say: It didn't happen. In fact, if you look at the number of people who were showing up at the southwest border right before title 42 expired—

and I will admit that number was elevated—we have seen half as many people crossing in the last 4 days as were crossing right before title 42 expired.

Four thousand, five thousand people—that is still a lot of people per day who are being apprehended at the border, but it does not match the doomsday predictions that many on the right were making.

So I think it is just important to acknowledge that fact. Because if you read the newspapers, if you paid attention to cable news, you would have thought that the minute that title 42 ended, there was going to be a doubling, a tripling of the number of people who showed up at the border. That didn't happen, in fact—52 percent less people are showing up.

Now, that may not hold. I can't promise that that is the future trajectory. But I am going to tell you a story today about why that happens, and it is connected to things Joe Biden did.

The second level-setting exercise I want to engage in is this idea that we should be in just lockdown fear of all these people who are coming to the United States at the southern border, that there is something uniquely dangerous about immigrants writ large, but, more specifically, undocumented immigrants.

Now, this is a trope that has been around for as long as the United States has existed, that we should fear immigrants coming to this country. But we now have data to tell us whether or not people who are coming to this country as immigrants or people who are even coming to this country as undocumented immigrants are a risk, a threat, to the United States compared to natural-born citizens.

This is a study that Donald Trump's Department of Justice released. This isn't Joe Biden; this isn't Barack Obama. This is Donald Trump's Department of Justice that released a study that found that “undocumented immigrants had substantially lower crime rates than native-born citizens and legal immigrants across a range of felony offenses.”

That is the truth. It is Donald Trump's truth that, in fact, people who come to this country, whether they are legal immigrants or without documentation, are not committing crimes at a greater rate than natural-born Americans.

That doesn't excuse our broken system. That is not an argument to continue to allow so many people to come to this country without documentation. It just means that we shouldn't set on fire these arguments that we have something unique to fear.

Why? Because these people are coming to the United States for a better life, because people are coming to the United States to flee terror and torture, persecution, violence, and economic destitution.

There are criminals amongst their midst. There are individuals who end up committing crimes but at no great-

er rate of offense than people who are born in this country. It is just important to acknowledge that.

I want to talk about four of these myths very quickly.

The first one is that President Biden had the authority to keep title 42 in place. That is just not true. For the better part of the last 2 years, Republicans, conservatives, and the broader right have been pillorying President Biden for not lifting COVID authorities fast enough: The pandemic is over, the right says. Why do we still have restrictions on our movement? Why are there still restrictions on air travel?

Interestingly, the only restriction Republicans wanted to keep in place was the one at the border to stop people from coming into the United States who looked different from them.

The pandemic is over. Title 42 can't stay in place. The President doesn't have the legal authority to continue to turn people around and deny them the right to apply for asylum. So it is just not true that this is President Biden's choice. And if you are a constitutionalist, if you are somebody that believes that the President cannot and should not exceed his constitutional statutory authority, then you have to support the lifting of title 42. Now, we could change the law, and there are proposals to do that, but President Biden cannot keep title 42 in place any longer than he declares a public health emergency.

The second myth—and I have heard this from some of my colleagues here—is that everything was great under President Trump and it exploded under President Biden. In fact, sometimes you hear this stat: that crossings were at a historic low under President Trump.

Well, that is true to the extent that gas prices were at a historic low under President Trump, because crossings were at a historic low for 1 year, for 2020, when we were in the middle of the teeth of the pandemic, and nobody was going anywhere. Yes, during that period of time, when we shut down the border, when nobody in the United States was moving, when nobody in Mexico was moving, we did have a relatively low number of crossings. But just before the pandemic, when President Trump was in office, we had a historically high number of crossings.

In 2019, 800,000 people showed up at the border. That was twice the number for the previous decade, on average. During President Obama's time in office and the first few years of President Trump, 400,000 people were showing up. Then, in 2019, the number spiked to 800,000. They go down for 1 year, but they came back up as soon as the worst of the pandemic abated.

So it is just not true that this problem was a creation of President Biden's swearing-in. Numbers were abnormally high right before the pandemic, and they started jumping back up once the pandemic started to lessen in its severity.

The third myth is that President Biden didn't prepare for the end of title 42. That is also not true, and I gave you that statistic to show that. In fact, crossings right now are half what they were right before title 42 expired. I can't define all the reasons for that and maybe those numbers are temporary, but it is definitely true that President Biden has taken extraordinary steps to be ready for this moment.

Even while Congress refused to act and give him any help, President Biden surged thousands of troops to the border. He put more asylum officers there. He moved Border Patrol. He signed agreements with Mexico in which Mexico agreed to take a certain number of individuals who were coming from countries like Venezuela and Cuba. And he implemented a really tough new asylum rule—a rule that, frankly, many people on his political left say went beyond his statutory authority. That rule says that you actually cannot apply for asylum at the border unless you have applied beforehand in a safe third country or you made an appointment. That is a really innovative, tough new approach to try to reduce the number of crossings and presentations at the border—a step that, frankly, President Trump didn't even entertain.

So it is just not true to say that President Biden hasn't done anything. In fact, he has taken extraordinary steps to try to be as ready as he can, which leads me to the fourth and final myth, which is that this is all President Biden's problem. It is not. It is our problem. We haven't significantly updated the immigration laws of this country since the 1980s or 1990s. It has been 30 years since we have changed the law in this Nation to reflect the changing nature of migration globally and the changing nature of migration to the United States. We, through our inaction, have left President after President, Republican and Democrat, with a mess because our laws don't work; our immigration system is broken. Yet we blame the President for failing to be able to work miracles out of a system that has been fundamentally rendered ineffective.

Let's be very clear. Republicans have had ample opportunity to fix the laws of this Nation. In 2013, when the Presiding Officer and I got to the Senate, there was a deal on the table to fundamentally and comprehensively reform our immigration laws. Republicans in the Senate joined with Democrats to get that done, but the Republican Speaker of the House refused to have a vote on it in the House.

Since then, there have been a number of efforts to reach out and try to find compromise with Republicans, and it has generally been the Republican Party writ large that has decided that there is too big a political cost for them to take in trying to find common ground on immigration reform.

Now, I say that this is a position from the Republican Party writ large

because I do know and believe that there are individual Republican Senators in this body who do want to find compromise, who do want to recognize that this cannot be solved by any President so long as the laws of this Nation don't provide resources to move asylum claims faster, don't give Border Patrol what they need, don't allow enough people to come into this country through legal pathways.

Part of the reason that I am down here on the floor today trying to correct these myths and untruths is because I think it is a necessary predicate in order for us as a body, Republicans and Democrats, to sit down and talk about solving this problem.

The lack of action in Congress has left President Biden an impossible task. He has done the best that he conceivably can with a set of broken laws. But instead of spreading these myths and often outright lies about what is happening at the border and the consequences of lifting title 42, we should, as body, instead, do our job and fix our broken immigration laws.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I rise today to unmask one of the major players behind the Republican debt limit brinksmanship.

With renewable energy outcompeting fossil fuels, Big Oil is worried that its oil well has run dry and wants to keep pumping the American people dry for all that they are worth. So the oil and the gas industry is running its tried and true playbook with Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY taking the snap as their quarterback.

The Republicans all voted against the Inflation Reduction Act. They turned away from its provisions to create a livable future, its millions of new, clean energy jobs, its investments in environmental justice communities. The only thing Republicans haven't turned away is the billions of dollars in new investments unleashed in their States and districts from this landmark legislation, with \$150 billion in investments already announced across the country because of the IRA, because of the largest climate bill in American history.

I have seen Republicans on TV fearmongering about the Inflation Reduction Act, but I haven't seen a single Republican turn down any of those \$150 billion or any of those jobs, or all those benefits for those communities in red States.

But the fossil fuel industry itself is actually scared that something might happen to their season of record-shattering profits. They are scared that utilities will finally wake up and realize that installing new renewables is cheaper and more cost effective than running existing coal plants.

Natural gas plants are also set up to go the way of the dinosaur. In fact, we won't have to dig up any more dino-

saurus in order to create the fuel. Building new solar and wind, instead of new natural gas, could save American energy customers nearly \$30 billion on their energy bills.

Renewables are outcompeting fossil fuels. The average levelized cost of energy for coal and gas is much higher than wind and solar. How much? Well, coal is nearly double the cost of solar. Natural gas is almost 1.5 times more costly than wind. And this is not accounting for the new IRA subsidies, the new climate bill subsidies from last year.

These statistics are the real fear of fossil fuel executives. These clean energy gains threaten Big Oil's massive bonus and even bigger profit margin.

Big Oil more than doubled its profits in 2022, making nearly \$220 billion in that year alone and paying out \$110 billion to their investors. Those are windfalls made on the backs of American family budgets. Republicans say they care about budgets, but the only budget they are committed to protecting is the one of the big oil and big gas industry across our country.

That is why attacks on clean energy and climate action are on the Republicans' debt limit and budget agendas. That is why Republicans are attacking tax credits for the American-made clean energy that makes us more secure, saves money, and protects our health and our climate. That is why Republicans are reportedly trying to jam a Big Oil and Natural Gas wish list masquerading as a so-called permitting package through debt limit negotiations, instead of going through regular order on the floor of the United States Senate.

The Republican permitting package would give fossil fuels even more of a leg up while their repeal of the Inflation Reduction Act's clean energy provisions would hold our clean energy future hostage. Republicans don't want to use the budget to give students and children a head start. They want to give Big Oil a headstart over clean energy.

So just as we cannot default on our national debt, we cannot default on our debt to society. That means we cannot default on climate action for a livable future.

Climate should be off the table in debt limit negotiations—no repeal of the Inflation Reduction Act, no provisions to fast-track fossil fuel permitting in our country.

We know we need to build a clean energy future, but the Republicans' permitting proposal wouldn't help build on the IRA. It would bury the IRA. The Republicans' permitting priorities are a carbon bomb designed to unleash fossil fuels to push renewable energy off the grid, to stall the progress that was made.

Their priorities, apparently, don't include fixes for the electric transmission issues in this country, when transmission is what could improve reliability and deliver affordable energy

to all Americans. In other words, they want to have permitting for more oil and gas drilling, but they don't want to fix the transmission issues. None of that is on the table that the Republicans are asking for in order to solve the problem of moving renewable energy across the country.

Permitting should be about transmission lines, not pipelines.

And combined with their attacks on the Inflation Reduction Act, their priorities will devastate our climate, take away good-paying jobs, and cost Americans billions of dollars.

The Inflation Reduction Act is projected to save households more than \$1,000 every year by 2030. It is projected to create 550,000 clean energy jobs, and it is projected to give us a fighting chance at meeting our climate targets. We cannot throw that away.

We have a climate test for success—jobs, justice, and emissions reductions. That is our climate test. If we negotiate on the Inflation Reduction Act and permitting as part of debt limit conversations, we will fail that climate test, and the end result will be an environmental and climate catastrophe.

Climate action and clean energy progress can't be held hostage in this debate. Fast-tracking fossil fuels while attacking renewables is and always has been and always will be the Big Oil game plan. We can't play their game. We can't play with our future.

We cannot default on our debt, and we also cannot allow the destructive Republican budget to be implemented. That is why I have joined some of my Democratic colleagues in calling on President Biden to utilize his authority under the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, which clearly states:

The validity of the public debt of the United States . . . shall not be questioned.

It is in the U.S. Constitution. Using that authority would allow the President and the United States to continue to pay the country's bills on time and without delay. It will ensure that we prevent a potential global economic catastrophe.

But let's not forget that it is the Bush and Trump tax cuts for the wealthy that are the driving force behind the debt that the Republicans are now crying crocodile tears over.

Speaker MCCARTHY says he wants to limit, save, and grow. What he and the Republicans really want to do is to cut, gut, and slow: cut taxes even more for the wealthy and corporations; gut programs like Medicaid, Head Start, Meals on Wheels, Pell grants, and community health centers; and slow the pace of clean energy and climate action—wind, solar, all-electric vehicles, and battery storage technologies that will revolutionize energy consumption in our country—all to protect Big Oil buddies, gas buddies, all across the country.

A livable future and affordable clean energy are budget realities. We can save money for American families and save our planet at the same time.

The IRA's climate provisions and fossil fuel permitting should be off the table during this negotiation.

We cannot allow the well-being of American families or our planet to be held hostage to a radical, rightwing, conservative House of Representatives that is out of control in terms of its relationship with reality.

I appreciate the attention of the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

LOUISIANA HOUSE BILL 12

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am going to talk for a few minutes today about HB12. That is not HB12 from the U.S. House of Representatives; that is HB12 from the Louisiana House of Representatives. Why do I want to talk about it? Because it is important. It is important for my State, and I think it is important for other States.

HB12 passed the Louisiana House of Representatives yesterday—maybe it was the day before—by a vote of 88 to 15, and it is headed to my senate.

As the Presiding Officer knows, it is frustrating in that the American people can do things that take your breath away—we can unravel the human genome; we can take a diseased human heart—we can do that in America—and replace it with a new one and make it beat; we can send a person to the Moon—but we can't seem to teach our children how to read and write when we have 18 years to do it.

I don't come here this morning to assess blame. Our problem is shared in other countries. That is no excuse. Our problem is caused by a multitude of factors, but I believe and I will bet the Presiding Officer believes that every child can learn—that every child can learn. It is harder for some than others. I recognize that some of our children do not have a supportive home life, not just in America but in other parts of the world. It seems commonsensical to me that if parents do not love their child, the child is not going to stop loving the child's parents; the child is going to stop loving himself or herself. But I don't know how to fix that. All we can do is continue to believe that every child can learn—every child.

My State, like other States, has a problem with elementary and secondary education. Over half of my children—my young people—in Louisiana are not reading at their grade levels, and at some point, as a child is socially promoted in school and progresses, it almost becomes impossible for a child to learn if the child can't read.

It is not just money. Go look at a list of what States spend on elementary and secondary education—and not just States but local governments and the Federal Government as well. One of our States in America is spending \$54,000 a year on their public schools. I mean, God bless them, but that is a lot of money. It is not just money. We have to try and we have to be courageous

enough to try new things that we think will work.

Now, what does that have to do with HB12 in the Louisiana State Legislature? Here is what HB12 would do. It would say: Look, we are not blaming anyone, but if you are a child in the third grade in Louisiana and if you can't read, according to objective standards, at an acceptable level, then you are going to stay in the third grade. We don't care if you are 16 years old. We can hold you until you are 18. But we think you can learn, and you can't learn if you can't read.

Now, that doesn't mean that the child just repeats the third grade with no help. We will assign that child special tutors. We will assign that child special attention. We will give that child a number of efforts to demonstrate that child's proficiency after getting this special tutoring and attention. But we think every child can learn.

This approach has been tried in two other States—Mississippi and Florida—and it has worked in both States—in both States. We have copied it from Mississippi and Florida. We take no pride of authorship. I am always willing to copy other people's ideas that work and give them full credit. Let me just mention the success in Mississippi, and I hope my colleagues in the Louisiana Legislature—I love every one of them—are listening to me.

After Mississippi implemented its requirement that kids can't advance until they can read, this is what one analysis says of the results of that effort:

The results are stunning: In sixth grade, three years after the intervention, retained students outperform similar students by 1.2 standard deviations (a 0.8 effect size is generally considered "large"), with no measurable impact—

None—

on student absenteeism or special education classification, negative indicators sometimes associated with retention.

Those aren't my words; that came from an in-depth study at Boston University.

This analysis goes on to say:

The magnitude of Mississippi's accomplishments with early reading is truly impressive and rightly deserves attention and replication by other states. For low-income, Black, and Hispanic students, by 2019, Mississippi had risen to the top five of all the states on the fourth grade NAEP, with each group showing more than a year's additional progress since 2013.

I could go on. I could cite you similar analyses and statistics for the State of Florida.

Every child can learn. It just requires a little extra attention and love for some of our children.

Now, HB12 in the Louisiana Legislature would copy the program in Mississippi and Florida. It has passed, as it did last year, overwhelmingly, as I mentioned, in the Louisiana House of Representatives. Last year, in the Louisiana House of Representatives, it passed overwhelmingly. This year, just

recently, it passed by a vote of 88 to 15. Last year, when the bill went to my State's senate, the bill died. We are on our second try, and the bill is now before the Louisiana State Senate.

I know every member of my Louisiana State Senate. I respect all of them, and I am pleading with them. Please, please, please, pretty please with sugar on top, pass this bill. It has worked in other States. If it doesn't work in Louisiana, I will come right to this lectern and say it didn't work, that we tried it. We gave it our best shot, but it didn't work.

But I think it will, and I think our kids deserve the chance. Every child can learn. Every child can learn, but some of our children need special attention. This bill, HB12, before the Louisiana State Senate will provide that attention.

Please, members of my Senate, pass this bill.

I yield to my colleague from Hawaii.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

This month is an opportunity to celebrate the many contributions of AANHPI communities and the critical role we have played throughout our Nation's history.

From trailblazers like Patsy Mink and Anna May Wong to our own Vice President HARRIS, members of our community have long been leaders in government, science, business, the arts, and more. But while we celebrate our community, this month is also a reminder of how much work remains to advance equality and equity for our community.

The AANHPI community has long been the target of racism and discrimination in this country. Among other challenges, our communities are still combating anti-Asian violence, suffering from health disparities, and experiencing sex trafficking and violence at alarming rates.

The AANHPI community is the fastest growing demographic group in the United States. In the past 20 years alone, the number of Asian Americans in the United States has nearly doubled.

But we are not a monolith. AANHPI communities come from dozens of countries and speak countless languages. The diversity makes our community and our country stronger. That is why, in a moment, I will seek unanimous consent to pass a resolution recognizing AANHPI Heritage Month.

This resolution highlights many of the leaders of our community throughout history and some of the triumphs and challenges we have faced throughout the years. It affirms the important

role our communities continue to play in the story of our Nation and has bipartisan support.

As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 209.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 209) recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. HIRONO. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the Hirono amendment at the desk to the preamble be agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 209) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 90) to the preamble was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the eighth whereas clause, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike “important milestones for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community” and insert “anniversaries”.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 209

Whereas the people of the United States join together each May to pay tribute to the contributions of generations of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the history of the United States;

Whereas the history of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States is inextricably tied to the story of the United States;

Whereas the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community is an inherently diverse population, composed of more than 45 distinct ethnicities and more than 100 language dialects;

Whereas, according to the Bureau of the Census, the Asian American population grew faster than any other racial or ethnic group over the last decade, surging nearly 55.5 percent between 2010 and 2020, and during that same time period, the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander population grew by 30.8 percent;

Whereas there are approximately 24,000,000 residents of the United States who identify as Asian and approximately 1,600,000 residents of the United States who identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, making up more than 7 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas the month of May was selected for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month because the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the

United States on May 7, 1843, and the first transcontinental railroad was completed on May 10, 1869, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants;

Whereas section 102 of title 36, United States Code, officially designates May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month and requests the President to issue an annual proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;

Whereas 2023 marks several anniversaries, including—

(1) the 125th anniversary of United States v. Wong Kim Ark, 169 U.S. 649 (1898), a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that determined that the 14th Amendment grants birthright citizenship to all persons born in the United States, regardless of the national origin of their parents;

(2) the 80th anniversary of the Act entitled “An Act to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Acts, to establish quotas, and for other purposes”, approved December 17, 1943 (commonly known as the “Magnuson Act of 1943”) (57 Stat. 600, chapter 344), which formally repealed the Act entitled “An Act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese”, approved May 6, 1882 (commonly known as the “Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882”) (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126);

(3) the 35th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (50 U.S.C. 4211 et seq.), which granted reparations to Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II; and

(4) the 30th anniversary of the enactment of Public Law 103-150 (107 Stat. 1510), which acknowledged the 100th anniversary of the January 17, 1893, overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii and offered an apology to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the United States;

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to the United States at all levels of the Federal Government and in the Armed Forces, including—

(1) Daniel K. Inouye, a Medal of Honor and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient who, as President pro tempore of the Senate, was the then-highest-ranking Asian American government official in the history of the United States;

(2) Dalip Singh Saund, the first Asian American elected to Congress;

(3) Patsy T. Mink, the first woman of color and Asian American woman elected to Congress;

(4) Hiram L. Fong, the first Asian-American Senator;

(5) Daniel K. Akaka, the first Senator of Native Hawaiian ancestry;

(6) Norman Y. Mineta, the first Asian-American member of a Presidential cabinet;

(7) Elaine L. Chao, the first Asian-American woman member of a Presidential cabinet; and

(8) Kamala D. Harris, the first woman and the first Asian American to hold the Office of the Vice President;

Whereas the 118th Congress includes 21 Members of Asian or Pacific Islander descent;

Whereas, in 2023, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, a bicameral caucus of Members of Congress advocating on behalf of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, is composed of 72 Members, and other congressional caucuses work on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander issues also;

Whereas, in 2023, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders are serving in State and Territorial legislatures across the United States in record numbers, including in—

(1) the States of Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho,

Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming; and

(2) the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders represent more than 6 percent of Federal judges and 7 percent of Federal employees, including hundreds of staffers of Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander descent who serve as staff in the Senate and the House of Representatives;

Whereas, since March 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in reports of anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents, including those related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including—

(1) a 339-percent increase in anti-Asian hate crimes in 2021, and a 124-percent increase in 2020;

(2) according to Stop AAPI Hate, over 11,000 hate incidents reported since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic through March 2022, and countless others that have not been reported;

(3) on March 16, 2021, the murder of 8 people, including 6 Asian women, at 3 separate Asian-owned businesses in the Atlanta, Georgia, region; and

(4) on May 15, 2022, the shooting of 5 people in Laguna Hills, California, in which the Taiwanese congregation at Geneva Presbyterian Church was targeted;

Whereas the incidence of hate crimes against Asian Americans continues to be above levels observed before the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas discrimination against Asian Americans, especially in moments of crisis, is not a new phenomenon, and violence against Asian Americans has occurred throughout United States history, including—

(1) the enactment of the Act entitled “An Act supplementary to the Acts in relation to Immigration”, approved March 3, 1875 (commonly referred to as the “Page Act of 1875”) (18 Stat. 477, chapter 141), which restricted entry of Chinese, Japanese, and other Asian women to the United States and effectively prohibited the immigration of Chinese women, preventing the formation of Chinese families in the United States and limiting the number of native-born Chinese citizens;

(2) the enactment of the Act entitled “An Act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese”, approved May 6, 1882 (commonly known as the “Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882”) (22 Stat. 58, chapter 126), which was the first law to explicitly exclude an entire ethnic group from immigrating to the United States;

(3) the issuance of Executive Order 9066 in 1942, which authorized the forced relocation and incarceration of approximately 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry during World War II, the majority of whom were citizens of the United States;

(4) the murder of Vincent Chin;

(5) on January 17, 1989, the Cleveland Elementary School shooting in which a gunman used an AK-47 to kill 5 children, 4 of whom were of Southeast Asian descent;

(6) the rise in discrimination and violence against Muslim, Sikh, Arab, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Americans following the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001; and

(7) on August 5, 2012, the mass shooting at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in which a White supremacist fatally shot 6 people and wounded 4 others;

Whereas, in response to the uptick in anti-Asian hate crimes throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress passed the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act (Public Law 117-13; 135 Stat. 265), which was signed into law by President Joseph R. Biden on May 20, 2021;

Whereas, in celebration of the contributions of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders in the United States, Congress passed the Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act (Public Law 117-140; 136 Stat. 1259) to establish a commission to study the creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, which was signed into law by President Biden on June 13, 2022;

Whereas, as part of the American Women Quarters Program, the United States Mint has issued, or will issue, commemorative quarters honoring the contributions of—

(1) Chinese American film star Anna May Wong;

(2) Native Hawaiian composer and cultural advocate Edith Kanaka'ole; and

(3) Congresswoman Patsy Mink;

Whereas there remains much to be done to ensure that Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have access to resources and a voice in the Federal Government and continue to advance in the political landscape of the United States; and

Whereas celebrating Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, and history of, and to understand the challenges faced by, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; and

(2) recognizes that Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities enhance the rich diversity of and strengthen the United States.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, the negotiations are currently making progress. As Speaker MCCARTHY has said, he expects the House will vote next week if an agreement is reached, and the Senate would begin consideration after that.

Following the vote on the Abudu nomination, Members should remain aware and be able to return to the Senate within a 24-hour period to fulfill our responsibilities to avoid default.

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.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF NANCY G. ABUDU

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today I rise to oppose the nomination

of Nancy Abudu as President Biden's nominee for appointment as a U.S. circuit judge for the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Now, in a government as divided as ours is at this time, we expect to have some controversial nominees that come before us at the Judiciary Committee. We expect debate; we do expect disagreement; but what we should never expect or tolerate is a nominee who has proven herself completely unfit for the role she is asking.

Ms. Abudu has shown us that there is no such thing as a good-faith debate. She views disagreements over policy as evidence of bigotry. She describes herself as a radical legal activist and has compared her fellow Americans to Jim Crow-era racists and endorsed political violence against conservatives.

She has stated that policing is—and I am going to quote her here—the true threat to our collective safety. Hear me out on this. She has said that policing is—and I quote her—the true threat to our collective safety. She has embraced lawless sanctuary city policies and compared our criminal justice system to the horrors of slavery. These are her statements and her positions.

I would be doing a disservice to our Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers if I didn't point out the rank hypocrisy of my Democratic colleagues' attempt to force this nominee through during National Police Week.

Now, as I said, she feels like policing is a threat to our collective safety, but my Democratic colleagues, during this National Police Week, are choosing to push her forward.

She used the significant power of her position within the Southern Poverty Law Center to weaponize charges of hate against her political opponents, all the while covering up blatant discrimination within her organization.

Indeed, the Southern Poverty Law Center, every year, issues their "hate" list. This should give everyone pause, but perhaps the most egregious example of Ms. Abudu's hostility toward the rule of law involves this very Chamber, those of us of each party who sit in this Chamber.

In 2021, she engaged in a vicious mudslinging campaign in an attempt to manipulate the U.S. Senate into abandoning the filibuster and endorsing a radical overhaul of our Federal elections. Her campaign was so full of misrepresentations—and we will just call them falsehoods—that even some of the most progressive Members of her party balked at what she was doing. This is the conduct that the Biden administration is seeking to reward.

Justice is to be evenhanded; equal justice for all; one system of justice, not two tiers of justice. We must not tolerate what is happening here, and we must not approve this nominee.

We had a great discussion in the Judiciary Committee about people who are unfit for the bench, unfit for public service, and the need to make certain that people are fit for this service. Ms.

Abudu, by her actions, has proven herself to be unethical, unscrupulous, and completely untethered from any acceptable philosophy of law.

To approve this nominee would be to rubberstamp a nominee who terms herself a "radical leftist activist." It would rubberstamp a radical agenda. It would rubberstamp an activist judge. We don't want that on our courts, and this is something the American people have rejected repeatedly.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following articles be printed in the RECORD following the conclusion of my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NANCY ABUDU, ANOTHER CONCESSION TO THE FAR LEFT AND TO ONE OF ITS MOST DISREPUTABLE ORGANIZATIONS

(By Carrie Campbell Severino)

President Biden's judicial gifts to dark-money groups do not end with Ketanji Brown Jackson or other far-left nominees he picked for lower courts. Eleventh Circuit nominee Nancy Abudu made her career in the dark-money realm since 2005, when she joined the American Civil Liberties Union. She worked for several years for the group's Voting Rights Project, leaving just as another future Biden nominee—Dale Ho—became its director. From there, Abudu assumed the post of legal director of the ACLU of Florida.

In 2019, after over a decade with the ACLU, Abudu joined the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a once admirable group that in recent years has been mired in scandal and recognized as a racket that betrays its stated principles—not least by vilifying those it disagrees with as "hate groups." A number of liberals have acknowledged this, with Nathan J. Robinson, founder of the left-wing Current Affairs, calling the group's signature "Hate Map" an "outright fraud."

Abudu is the group's director for strategic litigation. A wide-ranging coalition of over 50 organizations and individuals protested her nomination in a letter to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Richard Durbin and Ranking Member Chuck Grassley. They stated bluntly: "Ms. Abudu works for a disreputable organization that has no business being a feeder for positions to any judicial office—not even of a traffic court—let alone the second highest court system in the United States. She is a political activist not a jurist and is unfit to serve at the federal appellate level."

The Family Research Council (FRC) circulated the letter. They have good reason to have sounded the alarm. They know the real danger of being labeled a "hate group" by the SPLC. As their letter to Durbin and Grassley explains:

These destructive accusations have done real harm to many people. In the first conviction under the post-9/11 District of Columbia terrorism statute, the convicted terrorist was shown to have been motivated by the SPLC's "hate group" designation and related identifying information.

In that case, SPLC materials facilitated a troubled young man's delusional, and thankfully unsuccessful, plan to commit mass murder. Using the SPLC "hate map," this native of northern Virginia targeted the Family Research Council (FRC) and two other nearby groups in August 2012 for having beliefs supporting traditional marriage. Fortunately, no one was killed, although he did shoot and critically wound FRC's unarmed building manager who subdued him while wounded.

To make matters worse, the SPLC's leadership—Abudu included—apparently haven't learned their lesson. “[O]ver the past decade the SPLC has targeted an increasing number of policy groups with whom it has policy disagreements. Any group that disagrees with the SPLC about positions it advocates is deemed to be evil and worthy of destruction,” laments the coalition letter.

In addition to its inflammatory designations, the SPLC has amassed a war chest to fund its left-wing activism totaling \$570 million as of October 2020. Its holdings are, to put it mildly, highly unusual for an American non-profit company. Among investments listed in its 2020 financial statements are \$162 million in non-U.S. equity funds, \$23 million in “arbitrage funds,” \$89 million in private equity funds, and \$7 million in long-short funds. The coalition letter observed, “The SPLC looks more like a hedge fund than a public interest legal and political activist group.”

Amy Sterling Casil, the CEO of the consulting firm Pacific Human Capital, remarked regarding its transfer of millions of dollars to foreign bank accounts that “I’ve never known a US-based nonprofit dealing in human rights or social services to have any foreign bank accounts.” She added, “I know of no legitimate reason for any US-based nonprofit to put money in overseas, unregulated bank accounts” and called the SPLC’s practice “unethical.” The watchdog group CharityWatch gave the SPLC a grade of “F.”

In addition to Abudu’s shady professional associations, she consistently has taken far-left positions in litigation. Perhaps the most prominent were cases Abudu argued while at the ACLU’s Voting Rights Center, for example, making unsuccessful challenges to felon voting provisions in Mississippi, Arizona, and Tennessee. As legal director of the ACLU of Florida, Abudu unsuccessfully challenged the state’s requirement that a felon’s voting rights could be restored only after all fines, fees, and restitution imposed as part of the felon’s sentence had been paid. The Eleventh Circuit, sitting en banc, found no evidence to support Abudu’s claim of intentional racial discrimination. Undeterred, Abudu joined several other groups to submit Florida’s law to the United Nations Committee on Human Rights for review of human rights violations.

Since joining the SPLC, Abudu has maintained her ties with the ACLU of Florida and continued her losing track record in court with an unsuccessful Eighth Amendment claim against Florida’s Department of Corrections for not fully accommodating a transgender inmate’s “social-transitioning” requests.

The Biden administration and congressional Democrats continue to make scurrilous allegations of suppression of voting rights in Republican-led states, cherry-picking them over Democrat-led states with more stringent election rules and brazenly trying to weaponize the courts to do their partisan bidding. And Biden’s Department of Justice has specifically targeted Georgia, where Abudu would sit if confirmed, alleging the state’s recent election law violated the Voting Rights Act and engaged in racial discrimination. If you believe a Judge Abudu would fairly evaluate Georgia’s voting integrity laws according to the rule of law rather than her own agenda, I have a bridge to sell you.

[From AMAC, Feb. 15, 2023]

BIDEN’S RADICAL JUDGES

(By Robert B. Charles)

Watch the flank! Sometimes an assault on vital interests and values does not come head-on, but from an angle, on the flank. We just saw the Chinese slip a balloon across the

continent, figurative knife between the ribs. Domestically, the judiciary is a flank—but it matters. Biden and Democrat Senate are loading the federal judiciary with leftists, and it matters.

In the first year of his White House, Biden got the largest number of Article III federal judges confirmed of any president since Ronald Reagan. The difference is that many of Biden’s nominees aspire to concentration of federal power.

Broadly speaking, they tend to tip against traditional understandings and caselaw tied to unfettered speech, free exercise of religion, gun ownership, traditional understandings of family, parental prerogatives, due process, equal protection, and the 4th, 5th, and 6th amendments.

His recent nominees are often openly pro-abortion, no apologies for opposing Dobbs, happy to be activists—as they think that is what courts are for, correcting errors of the Founders, Congress, strict constructionists, textualists, and those who dare to think words have meaning.

While Trump got 234 federal judges appointed, that was playing catchup after Obama’s 329 judicial confirmations. Now, continuing the leftist attack on our judiciary, Biden has pressed increasingly radical judges—and one radical justice—to the federal bench.

When a Supreme Court nominee considers is controversial to publicly define a woman, simply declines to do so, something is wildly wrong with the process. Imagine Justices Sandra Day O’Connor (appointed by Reagan) or Ruth Bader Ginsburg (appointed by Clinton) not knowing what a woman is.

Indeed, I think one can say—for very different reasons, but with a basic understanding of and respect for biology—O’Connor, Ginsburg, Reagan and Clinton ALL knew the difference between men and women.

Now comes the latest rash of leftist nominees. After Biden nominated 98 Article III judges in his first two years, 51 still awaiting confirmation, his left-lurching party now controls the Senate, which is in charge of judicial confirmations.

Beyond this, we face 10 vacancies on federal circuit courts—a bench that manages all federal appeals short of the Supreme Court, plus 75 US district court vacancies. An added 27 federal judicial vacancies will arise before end of Biden’s term (four appeals, 23 district).

The part that causes a shiver is not these numbers, but the under- and un-qualified nature of those being nominated to important judgeships. As one observer noted, this seems to be Biden’s means for “paying back the left-wing dark money groups who spent over a billion dollars to help elect him.” He will get the Democrat-controlled Senate to sweep a raft of leftists onto the courts.

Can he really do that? Yes and no. On the one hand, another collection of unabashed leftists is about to be swept into available openings, likely soon confirmed by the Democrat Senate, most with a rich history of working with and for leftist causes.

These include nominees proud to have worked on left-leaning cases that pushed pro-abortion, antigun, anti-free speech, and anti-conservative causes and cases. They include those who championed radical positions advanced by Planned Parenthood, gun control groups, and those working to punish free speech and worship.

Last week two dozen nominees got through the Senate Judiciary Committee, headed for floor votes. Among those to watch are judges like Julie Rikelman, who was the “litigation director” for the “Center for Reproductive Rights,” headed for the First Circuit Court of Appeals. She literally litigated against Dobbs, and lost.

Another to watch is Nancy Abudu, who was a litigation director for the Southern Poverty Law Center—after time with the ACLU. She is destined for the 11th Cir. Court of Appeals.

Even the typically quieter Republican National Lawyers Association spoke against her which wrote that, “Her views goes beyond ... even progressive activists, and we see no reason to believe that she will be an impartial judge on the hot button issue of election law.”

A reality check will lower the blood pressure a bit, as these judges will not—in one fell swoop—tip the balance of these circuits, but the idea that judges who are unable to be impartial on such a basic issue as “election law” are being nominated—and confirmed—is worrisome.

In the end, the core question is—what can be done, in an age of polarized, often strangely off-the-mark thinking—to protect the federal bench from becoming, over time, radicalized?

The answer is a few important things. First, level-headed Senators can put holds on some of these nominees, tabling them for a time, if not indefinitely. This will also send a signal. For votes needed to tip the Senate balance, possibly on fossil fuels, law enforcement, support for Ukraine, and illegal immigration limitation—the point can be made to centrists like Joe Manchin: Radicals must be kept off the federal bench.

In the event that radical appointees violate ethical norms on the bench, impeachments can be initiated, driving home the point that political activism is disallowed for federal judges.

Additionally, hard-hitting hearings of nominees should be the norm, with radical, non-judicial behaviors, statements, and past actions forcing Senate Democrats to tough decisions. While accountability is hard, the effort is worthy—and even some Democrats may balk.

Last, all Americans need to think harder about the flanks. As the Communist Chinese continue testing our national security, the radical left tests our commitment to individual liberty. Good judges are “judicial” in temperament, not activist, not partisan, not political. Watch the flank!

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). The Senator from California.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today as chair of the Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife to express my strong disapproval of Republican efforts to undermine the integrity and authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Now, around the world, scientists tell us that 1 million species face extinction, including 40 percent of animals in the United States. This is nothing short of a biodiversity crisis, one that will have dire impacts on the ecosystems around us and the clean air and clean water that we need to survive.

Yet, last week, for the second and the third time in just 2 weeks, Republicans passed a Congressional Review Act resolution to constrain the Fish and Wildlife Service and their ability to protect our planet.

Three times now we have had to stop all other business of the Senate and devote valuable floor time that we could have used to pass legislation to confirm or promote military leaders and

otherwise do the people's business. Instead, we had to stop to debate the merits of protecting threatened and endangered species from extinction. That is not a joke—for the folks watching at home—and this is not an exaggeration either.

Let's review. It was a half a century ago that Congress acknowledged the reality of habitat destruction and the threats to America's unique biodiversity. And, yes, Congress gave the Fish and Wildlife Service the power to administer a process for designating and protecting newly endangered species. Congress intentionally and purposefully handed the power over to experts in habitat loss and wildlife biologists—who are actually educated and trained—to determine which species are most at risk and what we need to do to protect them.

It is no different than how we regulate prescription drugs, for example. We rely on the FDA and their experts and their scientists to protect the American people rather than trying to individually legislate every single medication. Imagine trying to legislate every single medication in this body.

So the real effect of these CRAs is to set a precedent for personal grievances and for the folks who deny the science and prefer gridlock to prevail. Passage of these CRAs is the equivalent of saying that, whenever a powerful industry or a lone Member of Congress dislikes a rule that scientists at the Fish and Wildlife Service issue in the future, they are entitled to a vote to second-guess and overturn the actual experts.

I may be wrong, but I am not aware of any wildlife biologists currently serving in this Senate. At a time when more and more wildlife species are at risk of extinction, we can't constrain the ability of the Fish and Wildlife Service from following the science and issuing rules to protect them or, in the case of the critical habitat designation CRA, my colleagues are blatantly ignoring the realities of climate change and limiting our Nation's ability to react and respond in the years ahead.

I suggest that, rather than grinding Congress to a halt, those of us who voted to follow the process that Congress itself created is the responsible way to allow the scientists and experts to do their job. Rather than ignore the science of the climate crisis, I voted to live up to the responsibilities that we have as stewards of this great land.

And while this last week Senate Republicans got their way, I am proud to have a President in the White House who takes seriously our sacred responsibility to our planet and who refuses to overrule the experts and the scientists. But I also know that this is not the end of the CRAs and that our Republican colleagues will attempt to overrule the Fish and Wildlife Service and choose to put their personal grievances over progress in Congress.

So when that day comes again—because there will be future attempts—I will proudly, once again, stand with the experts and vote no.

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.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, this week is National Police Week. It is an opportunity to show our gratitude to the men and women in blue who risk their lives every day for our safety, as well as honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

This Police Week I want to tell a story of a police chief in my home State of Nebraska.

Local broadcast outlet KETV recently interviewed the new police chief of Ashland, a city of about 3,000 on the eastern side of the State. According to KETV, Chief Ryan Brady worked 19 days in a row at one point last year. He logged over 170 hours in a 2-week period. Chief Brady clocked more than 800 overtime hours last year. But he is on salary. So he is not paid for any of it.

I am amazed at Chief Brady's dedication to the job. He works day shifts, night shifts, and picks up his partners' shifts when they get sick.

But why does he have to do all that work? Why does he have to do so much? Well, because his department has encountered a staffing crisis. Between retirements and trouble recruiting, the Ashland Police Department has dwindled down to only a handful of officers.

Chief Brady told KETV:

Somebody's got to work. So the buck stops here. So, you know, if no one else can work, I work.

I have spoken with police officers and sheriffs all over my State, and I can tell you this is not a problem that is unique to Ashland. No, it is not even a problem unique to Nebraska. Severe police staffing shortages are affecting departments all across our country.

The Police Executive Research Forum found that agencies are losing officers faster than they can hire new ones. There were 47 percent more resignations in 2022 than in 2019, in addition to 19 percent more retirements over the same time period. That means that large groups of officers are leaving the force while few are trickling in. Understaffed staffs are doing their best to keep up with these changes, but there are also roadblocks we can help them remove when it comes to hiring.

Over the past year, I have worked with police departments across Nebraska, as well as national law enforcement groups representing departments across this country. From these conversations, I introduced the Recruit and Retain Act, which would help police departments tackle these staffing roadblocks.

This bipartisan bill would boost officer recruitment opportunities through the Justice Department's Community Oriented Policing Services hiring grants. These grants can keep departments afloat. But recruitment expenses like background checks, psychological evaluations, and other tests are not currently included in the eligible expenses. So this bill would allow COPS grants to cover these specific costs and make it easier to onboard new officers. Reducing the cost of hiring would go a long way in helping law enforcement raise staffing levels.

My bill would also establish the Pipeline Partnership Program, a new initiative aimed at fostering youth interest in law enforcement careers. Departments and local schools would work together to launch mentorship opportunities, job fairs, and other activities that give young people better insight into law enforcement work. This program would bolster community relationships. It would help to open up stronger local hiring pipelines for police departments too.

Finally, the bill would direct the Government Accountability Office to study both the causes of this latest recruitment and retention challenge as well as the effects they have on public safety.

I would like to thank Senator COONS for working with me on this bill for many months, as well as Senators CORNYN and KLOBUCHAR. It was great that we saw the Judiciary Committee pass this bill by voice vote today, and I look forward to its advancement.

I was also glad to join my colleague Senator CORNYN to help introduce two bills that further support law enforcement's tireless work. The Project Safe Neighborhoods Act of 2023 would reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods program through fiscal year 2026. The PSN program is an effective bipartisan solution to violent crime that has been working since 2001.

In Nebraska, PSN coordinates enforcement and prosecution partnerships among Federal, State, and local law enforcement, in addition to involvement with Nebraska communities to bring violent offenders to justice.

The second bill, the Back the Blue Act, would protect police officers by creating new Federal criminal penalties for attacking law enforcement officers. Too often police officers are harmed rather than honored in our country, and it is time that we make a Federal statement that attackers will be punished.

Another vital area to continue addressing is the mental health of our police officers, who face daily strains from the intensity of their jobs. I am planning to reintroduce a bill that would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to create a publicly accessible online dashboard so that organizations, including law enforcement groups, can easily search for Federal funding opportunities that support mental health. Potential applicants would be able to search for the

right mental health grants and track the status of those grants. This bill could truly be a lifeline to officers reeling from staffing issues or difficult cases.

In his interview, Ashland Police Chief Brady said:

I love this community. The hours that I'm putting in are because of my care for the people.

That dedication is what we honor during National Police Week, but let's not leave our appreciation for our selfless hard-working police officers behind on Saturday when Police Week ends. I urge my colleagues to continue backing the blue throughout the year and, especially, to pass these very critical bills.

I yield the floor.

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. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF NANCY G. ABUDU

Mr. RICKETTS. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to the nomination of Nancy Abudu to the U.S. Court of Appeals.

I served as Governor for 8 years, and, in that time, I had the great privilege of appointing dozens of judicial appointments to Nebraska courts. I appointed four of the current Nebraska Supreme Court justices and many more to lower courts.

When I considered a prospective nominee, I was often reminded of our State's motto: "Equality Before the law." That motto reflects a common-sense American principle that all people should receive equal treatment and equal opportunity, regardless of one's race or background. The women and men who serve in our courts should reflect this motto.

When I considered nominees, I looked at a few things. I looked at whether they were leaders with high integrity and character. I looked at their experience, and I looked at how they understood their role as a judge. Did they think the job of a judge was to make the law or to interpret the law?

I looked at if they had a respect for the law and whether they had the temperament to bring a thoughtful and fairminded approach to each case they would have at hand. I looked at whether they were respected by their peers. And I am proud of the appointments that I made.

Nancy Abudu is not someone I would have considered for a judgeship. Ms. Abudu is the kind of soft-on-crime, anti-police, activist we actually must keep off of the bench. And I want to take a moment to go over her record.

Ms. Abudu has argued publicly and repeatedly that American voting laws and the criminal justice system are racist and discriminatory. She has spe-

cifically maligned the three States that comprise the Eleventh Circuit that she is being considered for. In Alabama, she said that Jim Crow continues to cast a long shadow on the State's elections.

She said that Florida is engaged in a "war to strip poor and low-income people of all political power." And she accused Georgia State legislators of "punishing voters and undermining democracy" and said that the State is a "bad actor" and "simply cannot be trusted to protect the rights of voters."

At a time when Americans require certainty and security of our elections, Ms. Abudu has consistently argued dangerous and misleading positions, trying to undermine the public's trust of our elections and our voting rights. She has argued that prohibiting felons from voting is "practically the same system as during slavery." She argued that requiring voters to present identification is voter suppression.

My colleague, Ranking Member GRASSLEY, described Abudu as one of the "most activist judicial nominees we've ever seen." During her confirmation hearing, the Judiciary Committee heard Abudu double down in defense of her work in 2018 to challenge a Miami ordinance that banned sex offenders from living within 2,500 feet of a school.

Senator GRASSLEY questioned Abudu about a 2016 article where she advocated for laws that "would allow non-citizens to vote in local elections" and suggested that opponents of such legislation are "trying to incite hysteria that undocumented immigrants are also taking over the ballot box in addition to our country."

When asked which election she thought noncitizens should be permitted to vote in, Abudu declined to substantively respond, saying:

In the article, I noted that some cities allow noncitizens to vote in local elections.

Republican members of the Senate Judiciary Committee questioned Abudu about numerous partisan and inflammatory statements she has also made, including:

Systemic racism [is] embedded in the criminal justice system and other parts of our society.

That the "problem" with southern States when it comes to voting laws "is they're not always doing the right thing and the resentment they feel is that historically, the Federal Government has not allowed them to get away with it."

Governor DeSantis is digging his heels in to ensure poor people in his State are blocked from voting.

With respect to the privatization of schools, she said:

[W]e are not in an environment or a culture where we want to rely on our State legislators to do the right thing by our children, especially if they are Black or Brown.

Nancy Abudu's work at the Southern Poverty Law Center, SPLC, since 2019 and currently as the Strategic Litiga-

tion Director are also extremely concerning positions. For those unfamiliar, the Southern Poverty Law Center is a far-left activist organization that only targets conservatives whom they disagree with politically. The SPLC is well-known for, unapologetically and often without any justification, labeling conservative and religious organizations and individuals as "hate groups" or "extremists."

As a Federal judge recently found that the SPLC hate list does not "depend upon objective data or evidence" and its application of the "hate group" designation is "entirely subjective."

Another Federal judge ruled that SPLC's "representation or description" of a nonprofit organization as a hate group "is not one 'of fact.'"

SPLC's Hate Map, as they call it, is "outright fraud" and "a willful deception designed to scare older liberals into writing checks to the SPLC."

Their misinformation has real-world implications ranging from careless to incendiary and deadly. Floyd Lee Corkins entered the Family Research Council's headquarters with a 9-millimeter pistol, multiple ammunition clips, and a box of extra rounds, and the intent to "kill as many people as possible." Fortunately, Corkins was stopped by the building manager from carrying out this mass shooting.

Under FBI interrogation, Corkins said he chose to carry out the attack on FRC after it was labeled a "hate group" on the Southern Poverty Law Center's website.

In 2018, the SPLC paid \$3.375 million in damages after brandishing British Muslim reformer Maajid Nawaz as an anti-Muslim extremist.

Similarly, the SPLC was compelled to issue an official apology for placing Dr. Ben Carson under their extremist watchlist back in 2014.

In 2021, in Nebraska, we saw the Southern Poverty Law Center's reckless and misguided definition of "hate groups" used against University of Nebraska-Lincoln students. A Christian student organization called Ratio Christi filed a lawsuit alleging the University discriminated against the organization's conservative and Christian views when it denied funds for a speaker.

I spoke out at the time urging the University to support speakers from a wide variety of viewpoints on campus, including Christian speakers. The group of students had secured legal defense from the Alliance Defending Freedom, a religious freedom organization. The Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of ADF as a hate group was then used against the students in media reports across the State.

Fortunately, justice prevailed; and in a victory for free speech at public universities, a Federal court entered a partial judgment against the University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials who discriminated against Christian student organizations. The University revised its funding policies to provide

transparency and accountability in the process.

In 2023, an FBI whistleblower revealed the Bureau issued an internal memo—now rescinded—on “radical-traditionalist Christian ideology,” citing the SPLC. The memo characterized radical traditionalist Catholics primarily by their rejection of church developments since the Second Vatican Council—Vatican II—and opposition to homosexuality. The memo suggests the FBI should monitor these Catholics through “the development of sources with access,” including in places of worship. It presents a list of hate groups published by the SPLC as a place to start with this work.

The SPLC’s hate label destroys civil discourse and breeds contempt for those with different views.

Americans want judges that understand their role to interpret our laws, not make them. Americans want judges who want to give every litigant a fair shake. Americans want judges that believe in our Founding documents.

Ms. Abudu has failed to demonstrate she understands the critical role that a judge should play in our legal system. Her record proves that she is far outside the mainstream. Far-left activists do not belong on the Federal bench. I call on my colleagues to join me in opposing this radical nominee.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the members of this Senate have a chance to make history. We will vote to confirm Nancy Abudu to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

A graduate of Columbia University and Tulane Law School, Ms. Abudu has dedicated her career to defending the civil rights of all Americans. She has experience litigating and overseeing complex civil matters. She also has significant appellate experience, filing a number of briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court and arguing five cases before Federal courts of appeals.

Throughout her career, Ms. Abudu has defended voting rights, protected religious freedom, and advanced criminal justice reform. Her perspective and experience will be a valuable addition to the Eleventh Circuit, which currently has no former civil rights lawyers on the bench. And when confirmed, Ms. Abudu will also be the first Black woman ever to serve on the Eleventh Circuit. She was rated “well qualified” by the American Bar Association and has the strong support of her home state Senators: Mr. WARNOCK and Mr. OSSOFF.

As a lifelong champion of equal justice under law, Ms. Abudu will make an exceptional appellate judge. I am honored to support her nomination, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, today I rise to speak in opposition to the nomination of Nancy Abudu to serve on the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Ms. Abudu may well be the most radical judicial nominee nominated to date by President Biden.

I have had concerns with Ms. Abudu’s radical views and her apparent lack of respect for the rules of the court ever since her nomination. During her confirmation hearing, I asked her about allegations of potential judge shopping raised by Judge Burke of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama in a series of cases brought by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a result of troubling attorney conduct.

In this series of cases, the three Federal district courts in Alabama took the extraordinary and joint measure of convening to hear concerns raised by Judge Burke that Ms. Abudu’s litigation team and their cocouncil brazenly abused the judicial process.

Ms. Abudu is, to be clear, the Director of Strategic Litigation for the Southern Poverty Law Center. And strategic litigation is what they do. That is what they are about. She is the director of this division.

When I asked her about her strategic litigation decisions in this series of cases, she stated:

As Director of Strategic Litigation, my responsibility is to oversee and provide general management for our cases, but it is the subject matter experts in the litigation team that handle the day-to-day, including the filing of complaints, the briefing, and any oral arguments.

In response to my questioning, she refused to be forthright. She didn’t deny her oversight of these cases. She simply refused to admit that she was responsible for the strategic decisions the three Alabama Federal district courts found so troubling.

Her lack of candor and her apparent disregard for the protections built into our legal system disqualify her for a position on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

As I asked her about these—about these cases—pointing out only that the day-to-day litigation management was handled by other attorneys—which was obvious—she was openly, directly avoiding a direct line of inquiry, a line of inquiry that was very relevant to her nomination, to her confirmation process.

But, unfortunately, my concerns with Ms. Abudu’s nomination do not end—and they didn’t begin—with this troubling series of cases that I just described. You see, the attorneys general in every single State of the Eleventh Circuit—who are joined, by the way, by the attorneys general in a number of other States—but every single attorney general serving within the Eleventh Circuit is part of this letter articulating concerns and confirming that there are grave dangers in confirming Ms. Abudu to the Eleventh Circuit.

These attorneys general, along with attorneys general from 15 additional States, including my home State of Utah, recently sent a letter to the lead-

ership of this body expressing their numerous concerns with Ms. Abudu’s nomination.

The attorneys general of the people who would be subject to coming before Ms. Abudu in Federal cases are justifiably worried about her potential confirmation today. These are people who really need to be able to have the confidence that when appearing before Judge Abudu, she will not only respect the law, but that she will handle their cases without any preconceived biases—biases that could lead her off course as she administers justice in her courtroom. If anyone has preconceived notions, biases regarding how justice ought to be administered such that litigants could come to the conclusion that they won’t get a fair shake in front of that judge—not to mention the preconceived prejudices against the good people living in the Eleventh Circuit—Ms. Abudu has certainly demonstrated that she does.

Ms. Abudu is a longtime and current member and past leader of an entity called the National Lawyers Guild. This group identifies itself as consisting of a radical movement of legal activists—their words, not mine. After violent protests against Atlanta police officers, the National Lawyers Guild declared that “policing is the true threat to our collective safety.”

Imagine that. It is not crime, it is not other problems that police deal with; it is the police themselves policing—the act of policing.

They didn’t say specific police officers who may, unlike most officers, not be doing their jobs right. They said policing—policing itself—is the true threat to our collective safety.

Imagine that.

I agree with these attorneys general that Ms. Abudu’s longstanding and ongoing association with this radical anti-police group is, alone, grounds for refusing, rejecting her nomination.

I find it very troubling indeed that those who would be subject to having to come before Ms. Abudu find her track record dishonest and divisive. Let me quote from the letter outlining their concerns:

We are familiar with Ms. Abudu’s work and her willingness to demonize those with whom she disagrees, and we know well the importance of the seat on the Eleventh Circuit that she would fill. Ms. Abudu has proven herself unfit for that role. She has compared her fellow Americans to Jim-Crow-era racists. She has aligned herself with self-proclaimed “radical movement legal activists” who view “policing” as “the true threat to our collective safety.”

And the quote continues:

And she has proclaimed that our criminal justice system is “practically the same system as during slavery.” These spurious and outrageous statements vividly demonstrate that she lacks the judgment, fair-mindedness, and integrity required of a Federal judge.

Now, to be clear, Ms. Abudu chose to associate herself with the Southern Poverty Law Center, which is itself well known for leveling unfounded

charges of “hate” against any person or any group with which that organization happens to disagree.

She became a leader in that organization and fully embraced its deplorable tactics, which are not intended to foster debate and understanding but rather to silence opposition.

They are well known for publishing things. Their hate list has brought about hate. It led to a shooting in Washington, DC, of an entity here. Someone got shot after believing that the Southern Poverty Law Center had indicated that that was the appropriate action.

She has made offensive and baseless assertions against the people in the Eleventh Circuit. Now I want to quote some more from the Attorneys General letter:

Since becoming a leader [of the Southern Poverty Law Center], Ms. Abudu has engaged in [the] deplorable tactics [beloved by that organization] by disparaging those in her way, including each of the three States within the jurisdiction of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. For example, she and her team submitted a “Report” to Congress about Alabama’s supposed “unyielding record of racial discrimination in voting.” The Alabama Attorney General’s Office set the record straight in a follow-up report that went claim-by-claim, documenting the SPLC’s many misrepresentations.

The quote continues:

Each misrepresentation served the overarching theme of Ms. Abudu’s report—that any disagreement over policy is proof that her political opponents are evil. Indeed, according to Ms. Abudu, things in Alabama are the same or worse today than they were in 1965. As she tells it, Alabama’s goal—today—is to—

Now, these are her words—

“establish white supremacy in this State.”

The letter continues:

While some might see room for good faith debate, for example, about the merits of Alabama’s voter identification law, (which was upheld by the Eleventh Circuit)—

The Court on which she has been nominated to serve—

Ms. Abudu sees only a “relentless commitment to finding new ways to keep . . . Alabamians from making their voices heard,” all . . . part of a desperate attempt “to perpetuate majority white control.”

Her words, not mine.

The letter concludes:

These assertions are as offensive as they are baseless, and they are disqualifying for an aspiring Federal judge.

To quote one more time from the letter, another part of the letter says:

Though Ms. Abudu is surely aware of [the] facts, she prefers to use her powerful position at [the Southern Poverty Law Center] to sow division and erode trust among Americans—declaring that “Jim Crow is still alive and well [in the South].” But as the Supreme Court has recognized (and as any fair-minded person knows): “Things have changed in the South.” Ms. Abudu’s contrary contention doesn’t show simple professional disagreement. It shows, at best, insuperable bias. It more likely shows dishonesty. And it certainly shows unfitness for judicial office.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letter from these Attorneys General be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATE OF ALABAMA,
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
March 22, 2023.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER SCHUMER AND MINORITY LEADER MCCONNELL: On behalf of the State of Alabama and other concerned States, we write to warn you of the dishonest and divisive track record of Nancy Abudu, who President Biden has nominated to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. We are familiar with Ms. Abudu’s work and her willingness to demonize those with whom she disagrees, and we know well the importance of the seat on the Eleventh Circuit that she would fill. Ms. Abudu has proven herself unfit for that role. She has compared her fellow Americans to Jim-Crow-era racists. She has aligned herself with self-proclaimed “radical movement legal activists” who view “policing” as “the true threat to our collective safety.” And she has proclaimed that our criminal justice system is “practically the same system as during slavery.” These spurious and outrageous statements vividly demonstrate that she lacks the judgment, fair-mindedness, and integrity required of a federal judge. Her nomination should be rejected.

As you know, Ms. Abudu has been the Director of Strategic Litigation for the Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center since 2019. The SPLC is infamous for leveling unfounded charges of “hate” against political opponents.

Since becoming a leader in that organization, Ms. Abudu has engaged in those same deplorable tactics by disparaging those in her way, including each of the three States within the jurisdiction of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. For example, she and her team submitted a “Report” to Congress about Alabama’s supposed “unyielding record of racial discrimination in voting.” The Alabama Attorney General’s Office set the record straight in a follow-up report that went claim-by-claim, documenting the SPLC’s many misrepresentations. Each misrepresentation served the overarching theme of Ms. Abudu’s report—that any disagreement over policy is proof that her political opponents are evil. Indeed, according to Ms. Abudu, things in Alabama are the same or worse today than they were in 1965. As she tells it, Alabama’s goal—today—is to “establish white supremacy in this State.” While some might see room for good faith debate, for example, about the merits of Alabama’s voter identification law (which was upheld by the Eleventh Circuit), Ms. Abudu sees only a “relentless commitment to finding new ways to keep Black Alabamians from making their voices heard,” all as part of a desperate attempt “to perpetuate majority white control.”

These assertions are as offensive as they are baseless, and they are disqualifying for an aspiring federal judge. For decades, black and white voter registration and turnout in Alabama has been at or near parity. In 2018, Alabama had the second highest black voter registration rate in the entire country.” Though Ms. Abudu is surely aware of these facts, she prefers to use her powerful position at SPLC to sow division and erode trust among Americans—declaring that “Jim Crow is still alive and well.” But as the Supreme Court has recognized (and as any fair-minded person knows): “Things have

changed in the South.” Ms. Abudu’s contrary contention doesn’t show simple professional disagreement. It shows, at best, insuperable bias. It more likely shows dishonesty. And it certainly shows unfitness for judicial office.

Ms. Abudu has a similar track record of misstatements when it comes to Florida. She baselessly accused Governor DeSantis of “digging in his heels to ensure poor people in his state are blocked from voting” and suggested that Florida is engaged in a “war to strip poor and low-income people of all political power.”

She has also demonstrated marked hostility to the State of Georgia and especially its law enforcement officers. Without evidence, she has asserted that Georgia has a “culture of law enforcement that still targets Black and Brown people.” She has derided the entire State, claiming that “Georgia continues to be a bad actor,” and that the state legislature “is committed to keeping us in the past and that is scary.” How could Ms. Abudu impartially adjudicate the many Eleventh Circuit cases involving Georgia, its statutes, its citizens, and especially its law enforcement officers, when she already believes that the State is a “bad actor” with a “culture of law enforcement” that “targets Black and Brown people”?

It’s also important to recognize that Ms. Abudu attempted to leverage misrepresentations and invective to affect this Chamber’s vote on legislation. She derided the supposed “anti-voter legislatures . . . in the Deep South” as justification for a federal overhaul of State elections. She even insisted on “abolishing the filibuster” to accomplish her goal, referring to it as “a legislative tool popular with pro-Jim Crow senators of the past.” Fortunately, the Senate saw through this divisive narrative. But if the Senate confirms Ms. Abudu to a seat on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, she will be empowered to press her radical agenda from a position of power checked only by the occasional review of the United States Supreme Court. This Chamber must not reward her behavior with a lifetime appointment to a seat where she would decide appeals in important cases involving the very States she says are irredeemably trapped in 1965.

The SPLC’s unethical conduct goes beyond Ms. Abudu’s misrepresentations to this body. Several SPLC attorneys are currently being investigated by a three-judge federal district court for attempts to circumvent court rules by filing and then re-filing litigation against the State of Alabama. Ms. Abudu protests that she “was not involved” in the conduct under investigation but that’s hard to square with her job directing the SPLC’s strategic litigation, including her self-described role of “the review and approval of litigation requests.” Even if it’s true that Ms. Abudu wasn’t involved in the decision to try to circumvent federal court rules, this conduct occurred on her watch, which raises further questions about her judgment.

More recently, another SPLC attorney—presumably someone under Ms. Abudu’s supervision in her role as Director of Strategic Litigation—was arrested and charged with domestic terrorism in relation to violent “protests” related to police facilities in Atlanta. The arrested attorney worked in the same office that Ms. Abudu lists as her work address. In response to the arrest, the SPLC tacitly approved its employee’s alleged terrorism, choosing instead to put out a joint statement with the radical National Lawyers Guild criticizing the supposed “heavy-handed law enforcement intervention against protesters.” It’s not clear whether Ms. Abudu was involved with that attorney or the SPLC’s response to his arrest, but the SPLC’s response shows the culture of its office and its attitude toward the rule of law and law enforcement.

Ms. Abudu's status as a current member and past leader of the National Lawyers Guild is similarly troubling. The NLG is a self-described group of "radical movement legal activists." And in response to violent protests against the Atlanta police facilities mentioned above, NLG declared that "policing is the true threat to our collective safety." Ms. Abudu's longstanding and ongoing association with this radical, anti-police group is yet another ground for rejecting her nomination.

It would be hard to overstate the importance of federal circuit courts of appeals. Nearly every federal appeal ends at the circuit court. Attorneys in our offices regularly practice before these courts, and we have great respect for these judges who dedicate their lives to the rule of law and to ensuring that all litigants before them are fairly heard.

Ms. Abudu's dishonest and divisive record shows that she would not be such a judge. She is an activist. She has repeatedly used misrepresentations and hateful rhetoric to advance her political goals. And she has thus shown herself unfit for this lifetime appointment. Because our judiciary needs jurists who will uphold the rule of law, not "radical movement legal activists" in robes, the Senate should reject Ms. Abudu's nomination.

Sincerely,

Steve Marshall, Alabama Attorney General; Tim Griffin, Arkansas Attorney General; Chris Carr, Georgia Attorney General; Todd Rokita, Indiana Attorney General; Daniel Cameron, Kentucky Attorney General; Lynn Fitch, Mississippi Attorney General; Ashley Moody, Florida Attorney General; Raúl Labrador, Idaho Attorney General; Brenna Bird, Attorney General of Iowa; Jeff Landry, Louisiana Attorney General; Andrew Bailey, Missouri Attorney General; Mike Hilgers, Nebraska Attorney General; Austin Knudsen, Montana Attorney General; Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General; Ken Paxton, Attorney General of Texas; Alan Wilson, South Carolina Attorney General; Sean D. Reyes, Utah Attorney General; Patrick Morrisey, West Virginia Attorney General.

Mr. LEE. She has shown marked hostility toward Alabamians, Floridians, and Georgians. She has accused them of suppressing minorities and poor people from voting. She has accused their police officers of targeting minorities, and all throughout her accusations is the threat of racism. It animates her every action, her every assault, her every view.

She accuses Georgia of being "committed to keeping us in the past and that is scary."

As the Attorneys General appropriately ask, "How could Ms. Abudu impartially adjudicate the many Eleventh Circuit cases involving Georgia, its statutes, its citizens, and especially its law enforcement officers, when she already believes the State is a 'bad actor' with a 'culture of law enforcement' that 'targets Black and Brown people'?"

There again, they are quoting her words. Ms. Abudu's record of hostility toward the people and the laws of the Eleventh Circuit is nothing short of alarming. When you combine that hostility with her lack of respect for the judicial system and her ongoing commitment to a group of self-described "radical movement legal activists," I

simply don't know how any Member of this body can still believe she will serve the people of the Eleventh Circuit or, even less, our judicial system well.

But the only way one can justify voting for this nominee is if one agrees with her hostile views and is comfortable with her activist approach. I am not, and I oppose her nomination in the strongest possible terms.

VOTE ON ABUDU NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Ms. BALDWIN: Mr. President, I know of no further debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, under the previous order, The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Abudu nomination?

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted "no."

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 132 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Schatz
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schumer
Booker	Kaine	Shaheen
Brown	Kelly	Sinema
Cantwell	King	Smith
Cardin	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Carper	Lujan	Tester
Casey	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Welch
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Padilla	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Manchin	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Mullin	Young
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—4

Ernst	Rubio
Moran	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from South Carolina.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I would like to speak for just a few minutes here.

No. 1, the judge we just confirmed, I think to the 11th Judicial Circuit, Ms. Abudu, is an example of the system being broken. This nominee, whom I voted against in committee, is way beyond what I think the market should be bearing. This is, in my view, a partisan's dream.

It is OK to be a litigant in causes I don't agree with. It is OK to represent organizations that I differ with. I don't hold a client against a lawyer, but I do hold positions against the lawyer when it comes to cause-driven litigation.

This nominee, at every turn, has taken the left fork in the road, to the point of being in the ditch. As a lawyer, she sued a Florida community that was trying to protect children from sexual predators by having requirements of notice but also being away from schools certain distances, and she sued the community basically claiming that was unfair to the sexual abuser.

It is moments like this that should be a wake-up call for this body. Her record as an advocate is not just representing liberal causes, but the rhetoric used and the arguments made convinced me in committee that this is an activist on steroids.

I have tried to work with my Democratic colleagues, voting for circuit and district court judges, understanding that Democrats would pick someone I would not choose. That is the way the system works. But, in this case, it was a partisan vote. Not one Republican voted for this nominee, and her record, I think, is one of activism and stridency that will, in my view, shape her time as a judge and shape the court in a way that is inconsistent with the rule of law as I know it.

So to my Democratic colleagues, you have confirmed this nominee, but I am sure this is not the last we will hear about Ms. Abudu.

Today, it was announced that Rachael Rollins, the U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts, is going to resign, I think. She is under investigation for unethical behavior and using her office for revenge.

She is one of the few and may be the only U.S. attorney that I voted against in this Congress. There may have been one other. But it was pretty obvious to those of us on the committee that the warning signs regarding Ms. Rollins were rampant and that we were buying a problem.

The point I am trying to make to my colleagues is, after we changed the

rules of confirmation—you don't need one vote from the other side if you have the majority, and there will come a day, maybe, when we find ourselves in that situation—I always have worried that doing away with the collaborative process to get a nominee to move forward—judges or U.S. attorneys—is going to create a problem where you are down to picking people who have the most vocal support from the most active, extreme elements in both parties. And I think this is a case: Exhibit A, Ms. Rollins.

And to my colleagues, all of us are going to have to understand that I respect the home State Senators' ability to nominate district court judges. The blue slip process I will honor for district court judges, U.S. attorneys. But it puts pressure on us to up our game, and Ms. Rollins I voted against in committee, and it was obvious that our concerns were justified.

Mr. Delaney, nominated for the First Judicial Circuit, performed poorly in the committee. He represented a private school that was sued for allowing sexual harassment to be unchecked and to be covered up.

It is OK to represent unpopular causes. Everybody needs a lawyer. But his answers about how he engaged one of the plaintiffs—a minor at the time—were terrible, and it seems to me that he should have been better prepared. He had a lot of support from people in New Hampshire, some on our side of the aisle. But I guess my point is that you have to be prepared to answer hard questions, and Mr. Delaney was woefully unprepared.

And to my colleagues on the Republican side, I think you have done a very good job of asking hard, relevant questions to the nominees before our committee, and we have had a lot of bipartisan support for judges, and we have had some opposition.

As to moving forward, I hope the White House will prepare these nominees better—a basic understanding of the Constitution, of a litigant practice, basic concepts of the law, like Brady motions, and just how the Constitution is set up. That is not too much to ask the people who want to be a judge for the rest of their life.

So, to the White House, this process needs to change. You need to up your game. Your goal, I think, should be to try to find people who some of us can vote for on the Republican side and, when they get in front of the committee, make a good impression. I am not saying we did it all right on our side when we were in charge. There are probably examples where we didn't. But I tried to make sure that some people who were nominated didn't make it because some of us on the Republican side said no.

There are more than a handful of judges coming out of the committee that I think should not be on the bench, and I say that with the understanding that my inclination is to vote for judges nominated by the other side,

assuming that that is what I would like to have happen when it comes our turn—that if we all vote against the other party's judges, then you are going to put the judiciary in a world of hurt if you have a President of one party and a Senate made up of the other. And that is sort of—we will be there one day, and given the behavior of the body, I don't know how we deal with that.

But between now and then, I am hoping that there will be more serious deliberation by colleagues on the Democratic side to make sure that the people we are putting forward can answer basic questions. And sometimes, maybe, we ask bad questions, but I don't believe that the questions being asked of these nominees are unfair. And it just is stunning that people have been in the law as long as some of these nominees have and can't answer the basics.

So this idea that you are going to come through the Judiciary Committee and not be asked hard, relevant questions, I hope that has gone by the wayside. The idea that I will support Democratic nominees is real up to a point. And there have been several of us on this side who have probably voted for more Democratic nominees than we have opposed, and I would try to continue to honor the process.

I want to keep the blue slip in place. I am asking colleagues from red States to work with the White House to see if they can find consensus. When I was chairman, there was a lot of pressure on me to do away with the blue slip so we could nominate anybody we wanted to at the district court level. If you had two Democratic Senators in the State, the blue slip would go away; we could nominate anybody we wanted to.

I think that is bad for the Senate, and I think that, over time, would be bad for the judiciary. I didn't change the process; I don't want it changed now. And I do expect us on the Republican side to collaborate with the White House and find consensus where you can.

But, having said that, the last several months have sort of been a disaster for the committee in the sense that people are not prepared, and you are picking folks who really shouldn't have lifetime appointments, from my point of view. And we can pass them all on party lines and make this problem worse, or you can get a handful of Democrats to do what I have done in the past: not only vote yes but sometimes say no.

And Mr. Delaney, I think, will probably fall by the wayside. And I say that with no animosity toward him. I just think that is the right outcome here. So if that does happen, I would want to applaud the White House for understanding that sometimes you can't go beyond what the market would bear.

I have shown a disposition and a willingness to work with you, but the recent nominee we just passed is way out of the mainstream, and I am hoping

that we can get back on track and have nominees come before the committee who are prepared to make it, quite frankly, easier to find consensus. And if that doesn't happen, we are going to have less consensus. And there are a handful of nominees waiting to come to the floor whom I would vigorously oppose because I think they are not qualified.

So, with that, Mr. President, I wish you a great break and hope we can go home and do our business at home and abroad—wherever that takes us—and come back safely.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The majority leader.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as I mentioned earlier, negotiations continue making progress. As Speaker MCCARTHY says, he expects the House will vote next week if an agreement is reached, and the Senate would begin consideration after that. Members should be aware and be able to return to the Senate within a 24-hour period to fulfill our responsibilities to avoid default. But I also want to take a moment to talk about some of the work the Senate has made progress on recently in the last work period.

Over this work period, the Senate confirmed more than seven district court judges and three new circuit court judges—Bradley Garcia, Anthony Johnstone, and Nancy Abudu—confirmed earlier this afternoon to serve a lifetime appointment on the Eleventh Circuit that represents Florida, Georgia, and Alabama.

Ms. Abudu's appointment to the bench is barrier-breaking. She will be the first Black woman to preside on the Eleventh Circuit, and her circuit is home to nearly 8 million—8 million—Black Americans, including the Presiding Officer's great State.

We have a duty to ensure that Federal judges are individuals of the highest caliber, and that includes appointing judges from a wide variety of personal and professional backgrounds. Ms. Abudu meets that higher standard, and she will serve admirably on the bench.

With the confirmation of Ms. Abudu, the Senate has now confirmed 129 judges under President Biden—129.

Elsewhere, the Senate passed the bipartisan Fire Grants and Safety Act so firefighters can better afford lifesaving equipment and personnel, particularly in smaller, more rural, and more suburban areas, where the equipment is harder to find and harder to afford.

Senators also reintroduced the SAFE Banking Act to enable cannabis businesses to access critical banking structures. Just last week, the Banking Committee held its first hearing on this legislation. And I will also work to make sure we include criminal justice provisions to SAFE Banking.

Last week, the Commerce Committee moved on the bipartisan Railway Safety Act out of committee. I will work

with Senators on both sides, including Senators BROWN and VANCE, the two lead sponsors, as well as CASEY and FETTERMAN, also sponsors, to bring the Railway Safety Act for a vote soon.

I will likewise work with my colleagues on efforts to make prescription drugs more affordable, including insulin. Last week, the HELP Committee advanced significant drug reforms, and it is my hope this process will continue to move forward in a bipartisan manner and will enable us to lower the cost of prescription drugs, particularly insulin.

This work period, I joined with colleagues and committee chairs to announce the next steps in the Senate's effort to outcompete the Chinese Government and preserve America's global leadership in the 21st century. Last week, the Commerce Committee marked up bipartisan legislation on the U.S. semiconductor supply chains, and, this week, the Appropriations Committee held a bipartisan hearing on investments to outcompete the Chinese Government. The House Government Affairs Committee also marked up several bills on security and competitiveness. Our committees will continue working on various efforts on this issue during the next work period. Outcompeting the Chinese Government will be one of the great challenges of our generation, and we must be clear-eyed and act accordingly.

So this has been a busy stretch for the Senate on a number of different fronts: more judges, progress with Fire Grants, SAFE Banking, Rail Safety, competing with the Chinese Government, prescription drug reform, and a whole host of important issues.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL CASASCO

Mr. President, now I wish to thank and honor a longtime employee of the Senate Recording Studio who is retiring today after nearly four decades, Paul Casasco.

Paul, for all we know, this is your last day, but you are very diligent. You may be recording this right now. If you are, hi, Paul. We love you.

Paul is the senior audio operator for the Senate Chamber. His tenure dates back to the first days when the Senate proceedings were televised, back in 1986. Paul witnessed the history and literally made history happen by using video to expand public access to the Senate in ways we had never seen before.

From helping install the cameras here in this Chamber to operating nearly every piece of production equipment, to broadcasting everything from floor activity to committee hearings, Paul has played an essential role in broadcasting the work of the Senate to the public. In a very real way, Paul's work has given the American people a front-row seat to the Senate, allowing them to hear every word, every speech, every debate.

So, on behalf of the U.S. Senate, we thank Paul for his many years of service to this Chamber and congratulate

him on a well-earned retirement, and wish him and his family the very best.

TRIBUTE TO LANE BODIAN

Mr. President, one more retirement, one deeply meaningful to me—Lane Bodian, affectionately known as Corporal Bodian. I don't know why that happened, but it did. I have nicknames for a lot of the people I care about on my staff.

Lane has done an amazing, amazing job covering foreign policy for me for over a decade. He is so smart. He is so level-headed. He is so dedicated. When he comes up with ideas, I almost always say: This is exactly the right way to go.

When there is trouble brewing in foreign policy areas, Lane seems to find the best ways to try and solve those problems and ease the tensions that we have seen throughout the world.

In addition to his hard work, to his diligence, to his dedication, and to his deep intelligence and thoughtfulness, he is a nice guy. Everyone loves Lane. He is decent. He is smart. He is caring.

Lane, I know you are going on to bigger and better things. Many on my staff do after long tenures, I am happy to say. This one, I think, is 11 years or 12 years. We wish you the best. But you will always, always, always be a dear friend to the Schumer family and a member of the greater Schumer family, our staff. We stick together. We watch each other. We care for each other long after people leave, and you are going to long be part of it. So, Lane, Godspeed. You are the greatest.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations: all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN219 AIR FORCE nomination of Nathan J. Powell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN552 AIR FORCE nomination of Christine B. Olivares, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN597 AIR FORCE nominations (28) beginning FRANCISCA A. ALAKA LAMPTON, and ending VICTORIA M. WEIGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN598 AIR FORCE nominations (51) beginning BRITNEY M. ALONZO, and ending

JUSTIN MATTHEW WOODS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN600 AIR FORCE nominations (146) beginning MARIA L. ADAMS, and ending MITCHELL H. YUAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN601 AIR FORCE nominations (239) beginning MICHAEL A. ADAMS, II, and ending PHILLIP A. ZENCEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PG639 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning with THOMAS A. BIEDIGER, and ending with RYAN D. NUDI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 9, 2023.

IN THE ARMY

PN553 ARMY nomination of Gilberto Deleon, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN554 ARMY nomination of Bradley M. Mravik, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN555 ARMY nomination of Justin L. Purvis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN556 ARMY nomination of John J. Adams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN610 ARMY nomination of Paul M. Tobin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN611 ARMY nominations (207) beginning JON P. ALEXANDER, and ending ADAM M. ZIHAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN612 ARMY nominations (51) beginning DAVID J. ADAMS, and ending BRIAN H. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN613 ARMY nominations (244) beginning STEFAN E. ADAMCIK, and ending ANDREW D. ZUPFER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN616 ARMY nominations (6) beginning TONY B. FEARS, and ending MICHAEL S. SHARP, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN640 ARMY nomination of Ryan R. Pommier, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 9, 2023.

PN641 ARMY nomination of Sebastian A. Coates, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 9, 2023.

PN642 ARMY nomination of James M. Caldwell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 9, 2023.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN247 MARINE CORPS nominations (41) beginning RYAN K. ALDRICH, and ending JEFFREY W. WONG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN249 MARINE CORPS nomination of Steven M. Angeline, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record January 26, 2023.

PN557 MARINE CORPS nomination of Bradley B. Keller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN558 MARINE CORPS nomination of Nicholas B. Staiton, which was received by

the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN617 MARINE CORPS nomination of Joseph P. Ball, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN618 MARINE CORPS nomination of Mark J. Deal, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

IN THE NAVY

PN352 NAVY nomination of Richard C. Eytel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 13, 2023.

PN479 NAVY nomination of David Wagenborg, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2023.

PN525 NAVY nomination of James O. Samman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 17, 2023.

PN576 NAVY nomination of Charles G. Emond, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2023.

PN635 NAVY nomination of Cassandra D. Thompson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

PN636 NAVY nomination of Arron J. Wilson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 4, 2023.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE AMENDMENT ACT

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today as the Senate considers this week the resolution to rescind the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Amendment Act, passed by the DC City Council on January 19, 2023.

As a general matter, I believe that the people of Washington, DC, and their elected representatives should have the autonomy to govern themselves. For years, I have cosponsored and fought to pass the Washington D.C. Admission Act, which would admit the District of Columbia as a state.

I have also long supported funding for the police, as well as reforms, to help ensure that our justice system works for everyone. That includes being the lead sponsor of the COPS Reauthorization Act to provide Federal funding to law enforcement departments across the country to hire and retain police officers. I also support police reform measures focused on holding officers who break the law accountable for misconduct, increasing transparency in police practices, and improving police conduct and training.

The DC City Council's bill included many changes to strengthen accountability measures and improve conduct, including reforms to prevent the use of chokeholds, limit the use of force, and expand the use of de-escalation tactics. The bill also takes steps to prevent officers who have committed serious acts of misconduct or were fired for disciplinary reasons from serving on the DC police force. I support these efforts, which is why I oppose the resolution.

It is also important to note that the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Amendment Act does not include changes to qualified immunity. As Congressman JIM CLYBURN has said, as we work toward common ground on police reform, we cannot "sacrifice good on the altar of perfect" and let disagreements about qualified immunity stand in the way of reform. The men and women in law enforcement who risk their lives every single day must have the confidence to make split-second decisions that can make the difference between life and death. I would not support this measure if changes to qualified immunity were made that put law enforcement officers who act in good faith at risk.

While there are a significant number of critical reforms included in DC's police reform bill, I am not in agreement with the provisions that prevent the unions that represent DC police officers from including disciplinary procedures in their collective bargaining agreements. All other unions that represent public servants in the District of Columbia negotiate for fair disciplinary proceedings, and while police officers serve a unique role that requires oversight, we should not deny police unions the same opportunity. The DC Council should ensure that police officers who break the law are held accountable, but it should not do so by undermining the right of law enforcement to collectively negotiate.

I also think changes could be made to provisions that set a fixed timetable for the release of data related to incidents involving the use of force. Law enforcement, working with City officials, should have some measure of flexibility to determine the appropriate timing for releasing information to protect public safety.

It is my hope that DC government officials will address these issues as they continue to work with law enforcement and other interested parties to make needed reforms to their justice system.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, today I would like to applaud the Senate's passage of S. Res. 203, a resolution recognizing Jewish American Heritage Month. This resolution is an important reminder of the numerous contributions of Jewish Americans to our society.

I have long felt connected to the Jewish values of "tzedakah" and "chesed,"

values that, at their core, speak about justice, decency, kindness, and mercy. I would not be where I am today if it were not for the Jewish Americans who embodied these values, people like Rabbi Heschel, who marched side-by-side with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and demanded equality and justice, or leaders like Rabbi Joachim Prinz, who fled Berlin in 1937, moved to Newark, NJ, and was one of five people who spoke before Dr. King at the March on Washington. Rabbi Prinz's entire speech was focused on helping people understand that one of the most urgent challenges we face in society is silence, silence in the face of injustice. Because of the leadership of so many Jewish Americans, who refused to be silent and decided to act, we were able to move the moral arc of this Nation towards justice.

So I stand here in the Senate incredibly proud to represent vibrant Jewish communities across New Jersey. And I stand here, at a time when anti-Semitism is on the rise, to speak out against this hate that violates our most commonly held values. We all have a responsibility to stamp out anti-Semitism and remind ourselves that our diversity strengthens the society and culture of the United States.

S. Res. 203 does just that by honoring and celebrating the incredible history of the Jewish people in the United States and their contributions to our country, and I strongly support this resolution's passage.

TRIBUTE TO THE COVENANT SCHOOL OF NASHVILLE FIRST RESPONDERS

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, this National Police Week, along with my colleague Senator HAGERTY, I would like to honor the unbelievably courageous officers of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department.

On March 27, a depraved individual attacked the Covenant School in Nashville, TN, and took the lives of 9-year-old Evelyn Dieckhaus, 9-year-old Hallie Scruggs, 9-year-old William Kinney, substitute teacher Cynthia Peak, custodian Mike Hill, and Dr. Katherine Koonce. Just minutes after receiving the emergency call, a group of dedicated officers arrived on the scene and immediately rushed toward the danger. Their unflinching courage and decisive action under fire allowed them to eliminate the threat against this gentle community just minutes after it began and saved countless lives.

Violence against children and their caretakers is an act of unspeakable evil that strikes at the heart of our purpose as parents, grandparents, neighbors, brothers and sisters in Christ, and community protectors. But even in the face of such tremendous loss, Nashvillians find comfort in the knowledge that uncommonly brave men and women have dedicated their lives to protecting us from harm. On behalf of all Tennesseans, I thank Officer Rex Engelbert, Detective Mike

Collazo, Detective Zachary Plese, Detective Ryan Cagle, and Detective Sergeant Jeffery Mathes for their incredible bravery on behalf of the students and teachers at The Covenant School. They showed true professionalism, courage, and selflessness—which is the very definition of heroism. I also recognize and honor Chief John Drake for his steady presence and clarity of mind on that terrible day.

During times of overwhelming fear and uncertainty, the people of the Volunteer State look to their leaders not only for swift action but for comfort and reassurance. The brave men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities deserve all the admiration, gratitude, and support we can offer, and I am so honored to represent them here in the U.S. Senate.

Mr. HAGERTY. I thank Senator BLACKBURN.

Mr. President, I join Senator BLACKBURN today to honor the heroic, lifesaving actions by Officer Rex Engelbert of Nashville, TN; Detective Michael Collazo of Smyrna, TN; Detective Sergeant Jeffery Mathes of Nashville, TN; Detective Ryan Cagle of Charlotte, TN; and Detective Zachary Plese of Nashville, TN. These dedicated officers showed exceptional courage by putting their lives on the line to save others.

On March 27, 2023, an unspeakable tragedy took place at The Covenant School in Nashville, TN. A cowardly and depraved murderer's gruesome actions took six innocent lives—including those of three 9-year-old children. I join the families affected, the Nashville community, Tennesseans across our State, and millions of Americans in mourning this heartbreaking and outrageous act of evil.

What is unmistakably clear is the incredible bravery and heroism of the first responders, who prevented this tragedy from being even worse.

Officer Engelbert, Detective Collazo, Detective Sergeant Mathes, Detective Cagle, and Detective Plese, nobly and without hesitation, rushed into an active shooter situation at The Covenant School. Released body camera and surveillance footage shows that these officers confronted and eliminated the lethal threat within a mere 3 minutes.

The rapid response and swift assessments of the emergency not only underscore the strength of their training, but also their bravery as they quickly entered the school despite obvious risks to their own safety. Their actions likely saved countless lives.

I echo the words of Governor Bill Lee when I say, "Gratitude doesn't begin to cover it."

Today, we honor the heroic actions of Officer Engelbert, Detective Collazo, Detective Sergeant Mathes, Detective Cagle, Detective Plese, and the other brave first responders who rushed to the aid of strangers, putting others before themselves that day. I join Tennesseans and all Americans to express our heartfelt gratitude.

U.N. GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, this week, May 15–21, 2023, marks U.N. Global Road Safety Week, with a focus this year on sustainable transport. As governments look to tackle the issues of climate change, some of the answers lie in making it easier for people to walk, cycle, and use public transport as a way to navigate our cities, but in order to do that, we need to prioritize making these options safer. I recognize the tremendous contributions of our partner organizations in this global effort, including the Association for Safe International Road Travel ASIRT.

More than 1 million people die from road crashes every year, and tens of millions are seriously injured. Road traffic crashes are leading cause of death among young people between the ages of 15 and 29 and the eighth among all people worldwide. It is time to draw attention to the need for improved legislation, awareness, infrastructure, and technology to save more families from the tragedy of losing a loved one.

On this seventh anniversary of U.N. Global Road Safety Week, it is critical to recommit to the goals of raising awareness about road safety and the importance of taking steps to end these preventable deaths. The World Health Organization, in collaboration with partners including governments, NGOs, businesses, and individuals, organizes periodic U.N. Global Safety Weeks. It was initiated in 2007 and, as of 2019, has become an annual event.

In September 2020, the U.N. General Assembly announced the ambitious goal of halving road deaths within 10 years through the adoption of the resolution "Improving global road safety," proclaiming the Decade of Action for Road Safety from 2021–2030. The Global Plan for the Decade of Action provides a roadmap for achieving these goals through improving the design of roads and vehicles, enhancing laws and enforcement of road safety measures, and providing timely and lifesaving emergency care for those injured. Using these policies can help promote walking, cycling, and public transit. Additionally, the U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 calls on governments and their stakeholders, including NGOs and private citizens, to address the personal, medical, and financial burdens associated with road traffic deaths and injuries.

We must improve the safety of our roads for all who wish to use them, be it for walking, cycling, or driving. As we continue to shift towards more sustainable modes of transit, it is imperative that our laws enable us to curb dangerous behaviors and keep people safe. It is our responsibility to protect our citizens through designing road networks with the most at-risk in mind, and doing the utmost to prevent untimely death or injury due to crashes.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WADE LITTON

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Mr. Wade Litton of Greenwood, MS, for his service and contributions to the State of Mississippi while serving as the 87th president of Delta Council.

Organized in 1935, Delta Council plays an important role in uniting agricultural, business, and economic development leadership to solve problems and promote greater opportunities in the Mississippi Delta region, which encompasses 19 counties in northwest Mississippi. Mr. Litton has worked tirelessly this year to advance the priorities of Delta Council, including healthcare, farm policy, economic development, flood control, and education. He is also the third generation of his family to serve as president of Delta Council.

Mr. Litton is the chief executive officer of Wade, Inc., a fourth-generation company that operates 14 John Deere dealerships in the Mississippi Delta. As a businessman, Mr. Litton and his company are at the forefront of evolving farm technology tools that enable producers to become more efficient and productive. Mr. Litton's priorities in leading Delta Council have been to continue the work of the organization and to build stronger relationships with the people of the Delta to help improve the economy and quality of life for all citizens. He is deeply involved in industrial and community development, including the Delta Strong regional economic development association. Mr. Litton assumed the role of Delta Council president during unprecedented times characterized by rising inflation, rural healthcare disruptions, the after effects of the global coronavirus pandemic, and a multitude of other challenges. Wade Litton has been a steady and calm leader over this past year and has contributed his vast knowledge and service to many critical issues during his tenure as president.

Outside of his time spent running his business and serving Delta Council, Mr. Litton contributes his time to many other important organizations. He serves as a commissioner for Greenwood Utilities, a member of the Young Presidents' Organization, and is involved with the Greenwood-Leflore Chamber of Commerce, the Greenwood United Way, the Boys and Girls Club of Leflore County, the Agribusiness Industry Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, and the Greenwood Rotary Club. He is also a youth soccer and baseball coach. Mr. Litton, his wife Meagan, and his three children Kennan, Robert, and Elizabeth are members of the First Presbyterian Church, where he serves as an elder.

It is my pleasure to join the citizens of the great State of Mississippi in expressing our appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Wade Litton and in sharing these good wishes with his family. His

years of service and leadership have undoubtedly contributed to the overall success of this highly respected 88-year-old organization, Delta Council.●

REMEMBERING WILLIAM DESHAY ENGLISH

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life and legacy of William “Bill” Deshay English, an Alaskan who passed away on January 11, 2023. The stories of Mr. English’s remarkable life began on a dog sled in a remote part of our State during the cold, snowy depths of winter. After seeing a “giant mosquito” buzzing in the sky as a child, he saw his passion and would go on to become a pilot.

Alaska prides itself as the “flyingest state” in the Nation and it is individuals like Bill English who pioneered that reputation. Even today, nearly 80 percent of our communities are not connected to the road system, so we rely on exceptional pilots to keep Alaskans safe as we travel across some of the most rugged terrain on the planet. Bill English was one of the best. Across more than 36,000 hours of commercial flight, he maintained a perfect safety record. That led to his selection as an Alaska Living Aviator Legend in 2012 and his induction into the Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame 2 years later.

A celebration of life was held for Mr. English in Anchorage last week, where guests shared stories and pictures of his life, including his service to our Nation during World War II, his flying adventures, and his acts of kindness. I join Mr. English’s family and friends in mourning his loss, while remembering his quintessentially Alaskan life and the nearly 100 years he contributed to our beautiful State.

Mr. President, I request that Bill English’s obituary be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

OBITUARY FOR WILLIAM DESHAY ENGLISH

William (Bill) Deshay English’s life began on January 31, 1923, with an often-told and much-loved story. After going into labor, Bill’s mother, Agorak, mushed her dog team into the dead of night and subzero temperatures. She was embarked on a harrowing ten-mile journey from her home in Wiseman, Alaska to Coldfoot where the region’s only midwife resided. Charged with running the general store, Bill’s father, William Sr., stayed behind in Wiseman while he awaited the arrival of his newborn son. When Agorak drove her team back to Wiseman with infant Bill wrapped in furs, his father’s worry burst into a celebration throughout the remote, scenic Arctic village on the banks of the Koyukuk River. It was here that Bill spent his childhood as a happy, active village kid.

During the late 1920s, aviator Noel Wien made an historic excursion above the Arctic Circle in his open cockpit biplane, landing on a gravel bar near Wiseman. Young Bill was entranced by the “giant mosquito” buzzing in the sky, a fascination that would eventually turn into a deep passion for the art of flying and a dream of becoming a pilot.

When Bill reached adolescence, his parents sent him to live with his father’s family in California. Despite the culture shock, Bill

excelled academically and developed a passion for track and field. He found that sports offered a way for him to connect with his peers despite coming from a very different background. He graduated from high school in California, after which he returned to Fairbanks and enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving from 1943–1945. Following World War II, Bill was able to pursue his childhood dream of becoming a pilot. He quickly earned his license and applied to work for the very same man, Noel Wien, who had inspired his dream two decades earlier.

In 1948, Bill married Shirley Nelson, a Seattle-native who moved to Fairbanks in 1946 to study English at UAF. Their romance began when Shirley, watching the planes land at Weeks Field in Fairbanks, spotted Bill, clad in caribou mukluks made by his mother, stepping out of his Cessna 140. Love blossomed, and the two would develop an enduring bond that would last 72 years and lead to three children, Sharon (1949), Bill Jr. (1950), and Tamara (1968).

After joining Wien Airlines in 1946, Bill became one of the first Native Alaskan commercial pilots and began a 37-year career as Captain that would take him to the far reaches of Alaska and eventually to a seat on Wien’s board of directors. Along the way, he became the first Native Alaskan pilot to earn an Airline Transport Rating and the first to serve as an FAA examiner. He retired with more than 36,000 hours of commercial flight and a perfect safety record.

During his early tenure at Wien in Fairbanks, Bill helped promote the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics and became its first Master of Ceremonies—a position he proudly served in through the early 1970s. After Bill retired from Wien in 1983, an Anchorage businessman seeking a sure, experienced pilot with solid credentials hired Bill to fly his private jet, a Lockheed Jet Star, around the globe.

Bill was a huge proponent of lifelong education. In his middle-aged years, he earned a Bachelor’s in Business Administration degree with a major in Transportation from the University of Washington. He understood the economic and political influence that ANCSA corporations possessed to advance the education and well-being of Native Alaskan youth. In his retirement, he served on the CIRI Board of Directors and the Cook Inlet Housing Authority Board.

For his long and dedicated career in which he contributed to the evolution, growth, and safety of aviation in Alaska, he was honored in 2012 as an Alaska Living Aviator Legend, and in 2014, was formally inducted into the Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame. In response, he spoke with humility and gratitude for the support he received from fellow Alaskans throughout his life. He was grateful for the opportunity to give back to the State, communities, and people who had made possible the flying career he loved.

Bill passed peacefully on January 11, 2023—nearly 100 years after that first ride in a dog sled. He was at home in Anchorage, surrounded by his loved ones. He will be remembered for his good-natured humor, quiet energy, curiosity, and the enduring peace with which he moved through the world. He will be dearly missed.

He is predeceased by his parents William and Agorak, sister Dishoo, his wife Shirley, and daughter Tamara. He is survived by his daughter Sharon and son Bill Jr., grandchildren Gretta and Wiley; numerous relatives in the Kotzebue area and in the Oakland, California area.

Bill’s family is eternally grateful to the many individuals and organizations who helped care for Bill and Shirley in their final months including the Providence Hospice team, Alzheimer’s Resource of Alaska, and Veterans Affairs of Alaska.●

RECOGNIZING LA RAZA

● Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I rise to commend La Raza radio station for its service to the Latino community in Georgia.

Based in Suwanee, GA, La Raza is the largest Latino radio station in Georgia, informing more than 1 million Latinos throughout the State. The station hosts numerous popular radio shows, including Los Hijos de La Manana, that provide all-day news and entertainment for Latinos across Georgia. Every year, La Raza also hosts a family-friendly festival, bringing nearly 50,000 community members together from across the State to enjoy performances and authentic Mexican food.

As Georgia’s U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend La Raza’s 19 years of service to Latino communities in Atlanta and throughout the entire State of Georgia. ●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JAMES BONNER

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the service of MG James Bonner of the U.S. Army. Tomorrow, he will relinquish command after nearly three years of leadership at the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

During Major General Bonner’s tenure, he demonstrated dedicated leadership and played a crucial role in training approximately 240,000 soldiers, marines, sailors, airmen, coast guardsmen, and civilians at Fort Leonard Wood. Major General Bonner worked diligently to emphasize the critical mission of the Army and Fort Leonard Wood in regional middle schools, high schools, and universities. He also tirelessly advocated for the fort and its surrounding community, expanding partnerships with local, State, and Federal leaders. Throughout his time, he hosted numerous elected officials, including the Missouri Governor, the Secretary of the Army, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Sergeant Major of the Army, and the Marine Corps Commandant. During each visit, Major General Bonner ensured these strategic leaders witnessed the unique and irreplaceable capabilities and competencies on display at Fort Leonard Wood.

In fact, I had the opportunity to personally witness Major General Bonner’s leadership last week when I visited Fort Leonard Wood. My main focus was to meet with military families residing on the installation and discuss ways to improve their quality of life. Major General Bonner joined me during these visits, and I could clearly see his genuine care and concern for the families under his command.

Recognizing Major General Bonner’s exceptional talent, the Army has selected him to become the commanding general of U.S. Army North, where he will lead the Army’s efforts to defend the homeland. After 3 years of commanding the finest CBRNE, engineer,

and military police soldiers in the Army, I believe there is no one more qualified for this role. I express my gratitude to Major General Bonner for his dedicated service to the soldiers and families of the Fort Leonard Wood community and extend my best wishes for his future endeavors. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to MG Christopher Beck, who will assume command tomorrow. I am committed to continuing my support for the Fort Leonard Wood community and those who train there.●

TRIBUTE TO MARC ROECKER

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from Missouri, Mr. Marc Roecker. Marc is CEO and general manager of Laclede Electric Cooperative, headquartered in Lebanon, MO, and will be retiring from this position at the end of May. For nearly 42 years, Marc has been a leader in Rural Electric Cooperatives both in Iowa and Missouri.

Over the past 10 years as CEO and general manager, Marc has overseen a significant amount of growth, implemented many technological improvements, and helped navigate the twists and turns of the economy, and he has done it all with a steady hand. He has been a great leader and a great friend of the Ozarks region.

In his community, Marc was selected to serve on the Fort Leonard Wood Institute and Sustainable Ozarks Partnership at Fort Leonard Wood. These groups are focused on fostering the region's continued commitment to national defense and advocating for local and regional development initiatives, as well as the sustainment and growth of Fort Leonard Wood. Marc is a strong advocate for supporting the men and women who serve our country in the Armed Forces, both past and present.

Leading up to his retirement, Marc has been asked what he will miss the most. In response, he says he will miss the people he has met over the years: members, employees, board directors, and colleagues alike. He said there is something very special about being a part of an electric cooperative and working with people who are so committed to serving their members.

Laclede Electric Cooperative and the Ozarks region are incredibly grateful for Marc's dedication to the electric industry and Rural Electric Cooperatives. His selfless service to his community is an incredible example of citizenship, and they are all fortunate to call him a neighbor and friend. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Marc Roecker, and I wish him the best in his much-deserved retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO ABIGAIL JOHNSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Abigail Johnson, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of

the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Abigail is a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, SD, where she is pursuing degrees in political science and psychology. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Abigail for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 12:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

At 12:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2494. An act to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3091. An act to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of 6 years: Mr. Trent Kelly of Saltillo, Mississippi.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2494. An act to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3091. An act to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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-1224. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ledprona (CAS# 2433753-68-3) for Use in or on Potato; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 10947-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1225. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Aspergillus Flavus Strain AF36; Amendment to an Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 10871-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1226. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyflufenamid; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 10880-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1227. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fomesafen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 10908-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1228. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Implementing Interagency Working Group (IWG) Recommendations on Improving the Consultation Process Required Under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for Pesticide Registration and Registration Review"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1229. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a legislative proposal to amend Sections 3232 and 3212 of the National Nuclear Security Administration Act to transfer cybersecurity responsibilities from the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Office of Defense Nuclear Security to the NNSA Administrator; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1230. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a legislative proposal that would make it a federal crime to knowingly interfere with the transport of atomic weapons and special nuclear material, nuclear weapons components, or restricted data in the custody of Nuclear Materials Couriers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1231. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13413 with respect to the Democratic Republic of the Congo; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1232. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13067 with respect to Sudan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1233. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on

the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1234. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Facilitating the LIBOR Transition Consistent with the LIBOR Act (Regulation Z)" (RIN3170-AB19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1235. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (Regulation F); Time-Barred Debt" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1236. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Angola; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1237. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's annual report on its operations for fiscal year 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1238. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the actions of the Government of Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-19. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Washington respectfully urging the United States Congress to pass and the President of the United States to sign H.R. 3339 or similar legislation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 8001

Whereas, The American society of civil engineers in its 2021 infrastructure report card rated the current state of infrastructure in the United States at C-minus and indicated that \$6.1 trillion would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair; and

Whereas, The American society of civil engineers stated that newer projects and over \$2.62 trillion worth of corrective projects are currently unfunded, and the remaining projects are not adequately funded; and

Whereas, Congress took step forward in 2021 passing the Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act, providing \$1.2 trillion in transportation investments, but it does not come close to meeting the current need reported by the American society of civil engineers; and

Whereas, The American society of civil engineers' Seattle, Tacoma-Olympia, and Inland Empire sections in 2019 rated the current state of infrastructure in Washington at C, with drinking water, roads, transit, stormwater, and wastewater receiving a rating of C-minus or worse; and

Whereas, Washington's cities, counties, ports, and business associations in a 2019 re-

port identified more than \$222 billion in infrastructure needs throughout Washington including highways, bridges, freight rail, ports, airports, rural broadband, and energy; and

Whereas, Washington needs financing capacity to build 21st Century infrastructure, including high-speed rail, renewable energy conversion, public housing, and other projects, but many new and visionary projects will not be able to secure funding through traditional commercial investment banking processes and will remain unfunded; and

Whereas, A new national infrastructure bank could directly aid in fostering an economic recovery and build necessary infrastructure projects; and

Whereas, U.S. Representative Danny Davis on May 19, 2021, introduced legislation in Congress, H.R. 3339, to establish a new \$5 trillion national infrastructure bank authorized to invest solely in infrastructure projects; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank is modeled on four previous institutions created, respectively, by Presidents George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, which helped spur massive economic growth; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank would be funded through a repurposing of existing treasury debt, as was done previously in the United States, and would require no new federal spending; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank could directly finance much of our nation's infrastructure, in partnership with state and local officials, and lead to the re-employment of people who have lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank will supplement, not supplant, the good work of the Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act and allow us to fully invest in our future while creating an estimated 25 million new jobs paying Davis-Bacon wages; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank would ensure project labor agreements for all projects and buy American provisions also while awarding a significant number of contracts to disadvantaged business enterprises and mandating large-scale minority hiring; and

Whereas, The new national infrastructure bank is expected to grow the economy by four to five percent each year; and

Whereas, Some 14 state legislatures and numerous county and city governments have introduced or passed resolutions in support of the new national infrastructure bank, and it has been endorsed by organizations including the national association of counties, the U.S. high-speed rail association, the national Latino farmers and ranchers, the national congress of black women, the national federation of federal employees, the public banking institute, the American sustainable business council, the national association of minority contractors, and many others;

Now, Therefore, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress pass and the President sign H.R. 3339 or similar legislation.

Be it *Resolved*, That copies of this Memorial be immediately transmitted to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of Washington.

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. VANCE (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1670. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the TRICARE program for certain members of the Retired Reserve of the reserve components; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1671. A bill to establish a new Federal body to provide reasonable oversight and regulation of digital platforms; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1672. A bill to require officers and employees of the legislative and executive branches to make certain disclosures related to communications with information content providers and interactive computer services regarding restricting speech; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1673. A bill to amend title XVIII to protect patient access to ground ambulance services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 1674. A bill to provide for better security and accountability with respect to the strategic and non-strategic nuclear arsenals of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1675. A bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 with respect to the Acer access and development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. SUL-LIVAN, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1676. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide mandatory funding from the Commodity Credit Corporation for reimbursement payments to geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1677. A bill to secure the Federal voting rights of persons when released from incarceration; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1678. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize the high technology program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1679. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United

States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1680. A bill to prohibit Federal funding of State firearm ownership databases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. LUMMIS:

S. 1681. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to claims relating to uranium mining; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1682. A bill to amend subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, regarding prevalent wage determinations in order to expand access to affordable housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 1683. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a comprehensive study on child safety in aviation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1684. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a vehicle summer meal delivery pilot program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 1685. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a consortium relating to exposures to toxic substances and identifying chemicals that are safe to use; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1686. A bill to establish a community disaster assistance fund for housing and community development and to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide, from the fund, assistance through a community development block grant disaster recovery program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1687. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a system to notify individuals approaching Medicare eligibility; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1688. A bill to require certain grantees under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1975 to submit a plan to track discriminatory land use policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 1689. A bill to prioritize efforts of the Department of State to combat international trafficking in precursor chemicals and covered synthetic drugs with the Government of Mexico, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to persons of the People's Republic of China contributing

to international proliferation of illicit drugs or their means of production, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1690. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to establish a Good Steward Cover Crop program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1691. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the enrollment of retiring individuals in the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1692. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for payments to certain individuals who dye fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1693. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to reauthorize Forest Service flexible partnerships; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1694. A bill to abolish the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1695. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit to issuers of American infrastructure bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1696. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a pilot program for providing portable benefits to eligible workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1697. A bill to provide for the overall health and well-being of young people, including the promotion and attainment of lifelong sexual health and healthy relationships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BENNET, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1698. A bill to require group health plans and group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for over-the-counter contraceptives; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 1699. A bill to support the use of technology in maternal health care, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1700. A bill to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1701. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the National Institutes of Health, to take certain steps to increase clinical trial diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. LUJAN):

S. 1702. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs that include the history of peoples of Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander descent in the settling and founding of America, the social, economic, and political environments that led to the development of discriminatory laws targeting Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders and their relation to current events, and the impact and contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the development and enhancement of American life, United States history, literature, the economy, politics, body of laws, and culture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1703. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure Medicare-only PACE program enrollees have a choice of prescription drug plans under Medicare part D; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1704. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to facilitate electric vehicle sharing services operated at public housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1705. A bill to amend the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program to promote career awareness in accounting as part of a well-rounded STEM educational experience; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1706. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1707. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1708. A bill to create dedicated funds to conserve butterflies in North America, plants in the Pacific Islands, freshwater mussels in the United States, and desert fish in the Southwest United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1709. A bill to require elementary schools and secondary schools that receive Federal funds to obtain parental consent before facilitating a child's gender transition in any form, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1710. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to grow and diversify the perinatal workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 1711. A bill to strengthen the requirements relating to advance electronic information for cargo, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 1712. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for reciprocal marketing approval of certain drugs, biological products, and devices that are authorized to be lawfully marketed abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY)):

S. 1713. A bill to require certain public housing agencies to absorb port-in housing choice vouchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1714. A bill to provide paid family leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1715. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to select and implement landscape-scale forest restoration projects, to assist communities in increasing their resilience to wildfire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 1716. A bill to provide authority to include funding requests for the chemical and biological defense program in military department budget accounts; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BARRASSO:

S. 1717. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from disbursing financial awards to entities related to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 1718. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to clarify the requisite timeline for making a decision on the approval or disapproval of a State underground injection control program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 1719. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to establish emergency fire management areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 1720. A bill to provide support for energy infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1721. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the authority of the Secretary of each military department to replace damaged or destroyed facilities to include replacement of certain facilities in failing condition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1722. A bill to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace for certain employees of air carrier employers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. KELLY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 1723. A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1724. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify employer-provided fringe benefits for bicycle commuting; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1725. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the exception for de minimis payments by third party settlement organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1726. A bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to provide emergency relief to producers of livestock with herds adversely affected by Mexican gray wolves, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1727. A bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to

aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1728. A bill to prohibit the delivery of opioids by means of the dark web, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1729. A bill to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services and 988 services in order to provide information and referral to all residents and visitors in the United States for mental health emergencies, homelessness needs, other social and human services needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1730. A bill to strengthen the collection of data regarding interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1731. A bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1732. A bill to require application stores to publicly list the country of origin of the applications that they distribute, and to provide consumers the ability to protect themselves; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 1733. A bill to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARRASSO:

S. 1734. A bill to enhance the research security protocols of the Department of Energy for the purpose of preventing theft of government research by nationals of foreign countries of concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 1735. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve assistance to community wood facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1736. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to reauthorize the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1737. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study and submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices that may be prevalent in the advertising or marketing of firearms and to issue regulations to prohibit unfair or deceptive acts or practices related to the advertising or marketing of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 1738. A bill to establish a grant program to address the crises in accessing affordable housing and child care through the co-location of housing and child care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1739. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish an Innovation Voucher Grant Program; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WICKER, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1740. A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to authorize capacity building grants for community college agriculture and natural resources programs; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1741. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit electric vehicle original equipment manufacturers from participating in the renewable fuel program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1742. A bill to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1743. A bill to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 to modify the forest inventory and analysis program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1744. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1745. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand access to the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include certain veterans seeking mental health or sub-

stance-use services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 1746. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide sanctions for States using certain congestion pricing systems, to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 to require consent of affected States in carrying out value pricing pilot projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1747. A bill to repeal the Alien Enemies Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 1748. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the interregional transmission planning process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 1749. A bill to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to nursing facility requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1750. A bill to prohibit and prevent seclusion, mechanical restraint, chemical restraint, and dangerous restraints that restrict breathing, and to prevent and reduce the use of physical restraint in schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LUJAN (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1751. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 1752. A bill to amend the permitting requirements of foreign air carriers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1753. A bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. VANCE (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. Res. 218. A resolution expressing support for the law enforcement officers of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 219. A resolution amending the Standing Rules of the Senate to authorize the Majority Leader to move to proceed to the en bloc consideration of certain nominations; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 220. A resolution recognizing the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 221. A resolution promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2023, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. Res. 222. A resolution expressing the approval of Congress for the 50th anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States prisoners of war from Vietnam and in recognition of the extraordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war during the Vietnam War; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KELLY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WICKER):

S. Res. 223. A resolution designating the week of May 21 through May 27, 2023, as "National Public Works Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 224. A resolution designating May 2023 as "ALS Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. Res. 225. A resolution commemorating the 107th running of the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race and recognizing the race as "the greatest spectacle in racing"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. Res. 226. A resolution designating May 20, 2023, as "Kids to Parks Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KING, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. KELLY):

S. Con. Res. 10. A concurrent resolution providing for an annual joint hearing of the

Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch; to the Committee on the Budget.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 10

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to improve the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 61

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 61, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to implement a strategy to combat the efforts of transnational criminal organizations to recruit individuals in the United States via social media platforms and other online services and assess their use of such platforms and services for illicit activities, and for other purposes.

S. 120

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 120, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for charitable donations to nonprofit organizations providing education scholarships to qualified elementary and secondary students.

S. 184

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 184, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 305, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in com-

memoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 320

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 320, a bill to amend title II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the disability insurance benefits waiting period for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 344

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 363

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 363, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865.

S. 747

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to States, territories, and Indian Tribes to address contamination by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances on farms, and for other purposes.

S. 786

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 786, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 806

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 806, a bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to establish a grant program to assist with the purchase, installation, and maintenance of point-of-entry and point-of-use drinking water quality improvement products, and for other purposes.

S. 809

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 809, a bill to transfer funds for Energy Efficiency Improvements and Renewable Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities to the Attorney General to award grants to States to promote safety and security in schools.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 831

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 831, a bill to address transnational repression by foreign governments against private individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 893

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 893, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to raise the retirement age for pilots engaged in commercial aviation operations, and for other purposes.

S. 971

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 971, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the Medicaid coverage exclusion for inmates in custody pending disposition of charges, and for other purposes.

S. 994

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 994, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

S. 996

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 996, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration project to improve outpatient clinical care for individuals with sickle cell disease.

S. 1024

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1024, a bill to authorize

the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote student access to defibrillation in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

S. 1111

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1111, a bill to enhance United States civil nuclear leadership, support the licensing of advanced nuclear technologies, strengthen the domestic nuclear energy fuel cycle and supply chain, and improve the regulation of nuclear energy, and for other purposes.

S. 1190

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1190, a bill to repeal the debt ceiling, and for other purposes.

S. 1284

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1284, a bill to improve forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, and for other purposes.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 1358

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1358, a bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 and the Flood Control Act of 1968 to provide for provisions relating to collection and retention of user fees at recreation facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to apply additional payments, discounts, and other financial assistance towards the cost-sharing requirements of health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1387

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1387, a bill to reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, and for other purposes.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide an affirmative defense for certain criminal violations, and for other purposes.

S. 1469

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1469, a bill to require certification of small business concerns as small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans in order to be counted toward goals for contract awards, and for other purposes.

S. 1470

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1470, a bill to amend the Small Business Act relating to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and for other purposes.

S. 1487

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1487, a bill to enhance protections for election records.

S. 1502

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1502, a bill to direct the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out teacher leadership programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1514

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1514, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 1529

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1529, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for greater protection of roosters, and for other purposes.

S. 1530

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1530, a bill to permit COPS grants to be used for the purpose of increasing the compensation and hiring of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1554

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1554, a bill to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated.

S. 1557

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Virginia

(Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1557, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1558

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1558, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

S. CON. RES. 5

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 5, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 188, a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 217

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 217, a resolution supporting the designation of May 15, 2023, as "National Senior Fraud Awareness Day" to raise awareness about the increasing number of fraudulent scams targeted at seniors in the United States, to encourage the implementation of policies to prevent those scams from happening, and to improve protections from those scams for seniors.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1682. A bill to amend subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, regarding prevalent wage determinations in order to expand access to affordable housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1682

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 “Housing Supply Expansion Act”.

SEC. 2. UPDATES TO WAGE RATE CALCULATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3142(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting “or from geographic groupings other than civil subdivisions of the State (which may include metropolitan statistical areas or other groupings determined appropriate by the Secretary)” after “in which the work is to be performed”.

(b) **CHANGES TO SURVEY METHODOLOGY.**—Section 3142 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) **SURVEY INFORMATION COLLECTION.**—By not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Housing Supply Expansion Act, the Secretary shall—

“(1) review the Secretary’s method of collecting survey information for determining prevailing wages for purposes of subsection (a); and

“(2) revise how such survey information is collected, following a public notice and opportunity for public comment, by—

“(A) including surveys that allow for reliable and objective sources of data and a defensible methodology, which may include information collected through Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys; and

“(B) improving the percentage of businesses choosing to participate in prevailing wage determination surveys and ensuring proportional representation of businesses represented by labor organizations and businesses not represented by labor organizations in the prevailing wage determination surveys that are completed.”.

SEC. 3. MULTIPLE WAGE RATE DETERMINATIONS.

Section 3142 of title 40, United States Code, as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) **FEDERAL HOUSING ACTS.**—A determination of prevailing wages by the Secretary of Labor applicable under section 212(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715c(a)), section 104(b)(1) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4114(b)(1)), section 12(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437j(a)), or section 811(j)(5) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(j)(5)) shall be limited to 1 wage rate determination under subsection (b) of this section that corresponds to the overall residential character of the project.”.

SEC. 4. DAVIS-BACON MODERNIZATION WORKING GROUP.

(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term “Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group” means the working group established under subsection (b)(1).

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, shall establish within the Department of Labor, a Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group to recommend the update and modernization of certain requirements under subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, as described in subsection (c).

(2) **DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall be considered established on the date on which a majority of the members of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group have been appointed, consistent with subsection (d).

(c) **DUTIES.**—The Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall—

(1) recommend whether, and if so by how much, the residential classification can be applied to affordable housing units with 5 stories or more for purposes of prevailing wage determinations under subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code;

(2) develop administrative and legislative recommendations of ways, and for what specific circumstances in which, the prevailing wage rate requirements under subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, could be waived or streamlined for certain affordable rental Federal Housing Administration new construction projects; and

(3) review the potential positive and negative outcomes of directing the Bureau of Labor Statistics to determine prevailing wages (rather than the Secretary of Labor under section 3142(b) of title 40, United States Code), in a way that would not rely on the collection of voluntary surveys from businesses but rather on data that is already collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(d) **MEMBERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall be composed of the following representatives of Federal agencies and relevant non-Federal industry stakeholder organizations:

(A) A representative from the Department of Labor, appointed by the Secretary of Labor.

(B) A representative from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, appointed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(C) A representative of a housing construction industry association, appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(D) A representative of a financial services industry association, appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(E) A representative of an affordable housing industry association, appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(F) A representative of a State public housing agency, as defined in section 3 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a), appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(G) A representative of a tribally designated housing entity, as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103), appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(H) A representative of a labor organization representing the housing construction workforce, appointed by the Secretary of Labor in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) **CHAIR.**—The representative from the Department of Labor appointed under paragraph (1)(A) shall serve as the chair of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group, and that representative shall be responsible for organizing the business of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group.

(e) **OTHER MATTERS.**—

(1) **NO COMPENSATION.**—A member of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall serve without compensation.

(2) **SUPPORT.**—The Secretary of Labor may detail an employee of the Department of Labor to assist and support the work of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group, though such a detailee shall not be considered to be a member of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group.

(f) **REPORT.**—

(1) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group is established, the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall submit a report containing its findings and recommendations under subsection (c), including recommendations resulting from the review under subsection (c)(3), to the Secretary of Labor, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

(2) **MAJORITY SUPPORT.**—Each recommendation made under paragraph (1) shall be agreed to by a majority of the members of the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group.

(g) **NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.**—Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group.

(h) **SUNSET.**—The Davis-Bacon Modernization Working Group shall terminate on the date the report is completed under subsection (f)(1).

SEC. 5. NATIONAL HOUSING ACT.

Section 212(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715c(a)) is amended by striking “similar character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a–276a–5)” and inserting “residential character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, that is applicable at the time the application is filed”.

SEC. 6. HOUSING ACT OF 1959.

Section 202(j)(5)(A) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(j)(5)(A)) is amended by striking “similar character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act)” and inserting “residential character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, that is applicable at the time the application is filed”.

SEC. 7. NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 1996.

Section 104(b)(1) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4114(b)(1)) is amended by striking “, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act; chapter 411; 46 Stat. 1494; 40 U.S.C. 276a et seq.),” and inserting “for corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction of a residential character, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, that is applicable at the time the application is filed”.

SEC. 8. CRANSTON-GONZALEZ NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACT.

Section 811(j)(5)(A) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(j)(5)(A)) is amended by striking “similar character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act)” and inserting “residential character, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, that is applicable at the time the application is filed”.

SEC. 9. UNITED STATES HOUSING ACT OF 1937.

Section 12(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437j(a)) is amended by striking “, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to the Davis-Bacon

Act (49 Stat. 1011)" and inserting "for corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on construction of a residential character, as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, that is applicable at the time the application is filed".

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 1685. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a consortium relating to exposures to toxic substances and identifying chemicals that are safe to use; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Supercomputing for Safer Chemicals Act or the SUPERSAFE Act. Through the use of supercomputing and artificial intelligence, we have an opportunity to transform our scientific understanding of the detrimental effects associated with certain industrial chemical uses and to shift American commerce towards safer and more sustainable products and manufacturing.

The legislation would establish a SUPERSAFE Consortium to be led by the Environmental Protection Agency in consultation with the heads of relevant Federal Agencies, the National Labs, academic and other research institutions, State agencies, and other entities as determined by the EPA. The purpose of the SUPERSAFE Consortium is to identify exposures to toxic substance and chemicals that are safer to use in commerce.

Specifically, the SUPERSAFE Consortium established by this bill would use supercomputing, machine learning, and other similar capabilities to establish rapid approaches for large-scale identification of toxic substances and the development of safer alternatives to toxic substances by developing and validating computational toxicology methods; address the need to identify safe chemicals for use in consumer and industrial products and in their manufacture to support the move away from toxic substances and toward safe-by-design alternatives; and make recommendations on how the information produced can be applied in risk assessments and other characterizations for use by the Environmental Protection Agency and other Agencies in regulatory decisions and by industry in identifying toxic and safer chemicals.

Importantly, establishing a SUPERSAFE Consortium would encourage interagency collaboration and leverage the best scientific ideas through inclusion of State agencies and public and academic research institutions.

Currently, tens of thousands of untested chemicals can be used in commercial products, resulting in consumer, community, and worker exposures to potentially toxic chemicals. Too often, there is insufficient scientific data for evaluating health effects or identifying safer chemicals, and existing approaches to generating

this data are slow, costly, and rely on animal testing.

We are well poised to address this problem and discover safer chemicals by establishing a SUPERSAFE Consortium to use supercomputing, machine learning, and other similar capabilities. These technologies can be developed and applied to rapidly provide information to evaluate chemical safety to identify safe chemicals that avoid the chronic diseases and environmental harm caused by toxic chemicals.

Unfortunately, too many Americans are exposed to toxic chemicals such as PFAS and lead. Congress has stepped up and provided billions to remediate toxic exposures, including via the bipartisan infrastructure law, to address PFAS and lead pollution. Establishing a SUPERSAFE Consortium in Federal law could help avoid the widespread pollution that our communities face so we can address potential pollution challenges before they become widespread.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this bill as quickly as possible.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1705. A bill to amend the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program to promote career awareness in accounting as part of a well-rounded STEM educational experience; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the STEM Education in Accounting Act, which would help address workforce shortages in the accounting profession by recognizing accounting as part of a STEM education and adding accounting education programs as an allowable use of K-12 Federal grant funding. I want to thank Senator ROSEN for coleading this bill with me.

Accountants play a key role in today's economy. They serve as trusted advisers for companies large and small, assist in measuring business performance, help individuals and businesses file their taxes in an accurate and timely manner, and even investigate instances of financial fraud. Yet, the United States is facing a shortage of accountants willing and able to fill this important economic role. In Maine, for example, municipalities have struggled to find public accountants to conduct their annual audits.

Recent trends suggest this shortage will continue. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job openings for accountants and auditors are expected to grow by 6 percent from 2021 to 2031—about 136,400 openings each year. At the same time, fewer students are pursuing accounting degrees than in prior years.

The STEM Education in Accounting Act seeks to improve the accounting pipeline by expanding K-12 students' exposure to accounting programs. As with other areas of STEM education,

this bill would qualify accounting instruction for Federal funds. This recognition aligns with the increasing need for accounting professionals to have high-level math and technology skills, including the ability to analyze big data, ensure data security, and manage cybersecurity risk.

In particular, this bill would allow States and school districts to use a portion of their Federal student support and academic enrichment grant funding to support accounting education, including accounting career awareness. The Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant Program was created as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act and aims to help States and school districts offer a well-rounded educational experience to all students. The STEM Education in Accounting Act would also allow school districts to use this flexible grant to strengthen accounting curricula, including increasing access to high-quality accounting courses for members of groups underrepresented in the accounting profession.

Businesses and individuals rely on accountants to help them develop and reach their financial goals. The STEM Education in Accounting Act would help address the shortage of accountants by promoting accounting education and improving the pipeline of future accountants. I encourage my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 1735. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve assistance to community wood facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Community Wood Facilities Assistance Act of 2023 and thank my colleagues, Senators COLLINS, SHAHEEN, and KELLY, for joining me as original cosponsors of the bill.

This bill will assist with the construction of facilities that make sustainable use of small-diameter timber from forest-thinning projects and other needed treatments in eastern and western forests.

In doing so, the bill would also create jobs in rural and forest-dependent communities while decreasing wildfire risk in our vulnerable forests.

The Forest Service reports that 80 million acres of Forest Service lands are at risk of catastrophic wildfire or abnormal levels of insect and disease infestations.

These impacts are only made worse by historic levels of drought. In California alone, 129 million trees have died across 8.9 million acres due to drought and bark beetles. Thirty-six million of those tree deaths were in 2022, triple the number from the previous year. This is clearly a crisis.

Removing select small trees and other hazardous fuels in our forests are critical for preserving our forests over the long term. Not only does this ease the competition large trees face for water, it also reduces the spread of bark beetles and makes the forest less susceptible to catastrophic wildfire.

Between the bipartisan infrastructure law and the Inflation Reduction Act, Congress has provided billions of dollars for hazardous fuels reduction and forest thinning work. What is needed now is the economic infrastructure to support this work.

Unfortunately, the number of sawmills, bioenergy facilities, and other forest-product companies have been shrinking for decades. This is due in part to increased production efficiency, but in other instances, market instability forced the closure of many large mills.

One result of the decrease in sawmills is the inability for the market to react nimbly to supply and demand. In 2020, even though massive wildfires should have meant a boom in salvageable trees, the COVID-19 pandemic constrained mill capacity and throughput. This constraint, along with a surge in consumer demand, led to a near 400 percent increase in lumber prices, which are only now resolving.

An analysis by The Nature Conservancy and Bain and Company management consultants recommended incentives to “bridge the gap between the cost of ecological thinning and the economic viability of wood-processing infrastructure.”

As the report explains, “If more aggressive restoration targets can be met, there will be significant need for additional processing capacity to defray restoration costs and provide valuable end uses for thinned material.”

Our bill would make targeted changes to existing Forest Service grant programs to help the forest product industry grow and provide outlets for the billions of acres of wood that will result from the investments made in the bipartisan infrastructure law and Inflation Reduction Act.

The two grant programs we target in this bill are the Community Wood Energy and Wood Innovations Grant Program and the Wood Innovations Program.

These programs would benefit from changes, particularly from higher Federal cost-shares and an increased ability to provide more funding for each project, in addition to a higher authorized funding.

The first of these, the Community Wood Energy and Wood Innovations Grant Program, provides grants for the capital cost of small wood products facilities. Our bill would first change the name to avoid confusion with the Wood Innovations Program.

Our bill would also double the authorization level to \$50 million per year, allow the program to fund new facility construction in addition to improvements. The maximum grant

amount would also increase from \$1 to \$5 million, and the Federal cost share would increase from 35 percent to 50 percent, making it easier for small companies to use.

Our bill will also revise the Forest Service’s Wood Innovations Grant Program, which provides grants for innovative uses and applications of wood products and the expansion of related markets. It would similarly allow this program to be used for new facilities in addition to retrofits and improvements and lower the minimum non-Federal cost-share from 50 percent to 33.3 percent.

Congress has an opportunity this year to make these important changes to these grant programs and help stimulate a self-sustaining forest product economy and promote healthier forests. I thank Senators COLLINS, SHAHEEN, and KELLY for their partnership on this bill, and I urge the full Senate to promptly take up this bill and pass it as soon as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 218—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. VANCE (for himself and Mr. CASIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 218

Whereas more than 800,000 law enforcement officers in the United States risk their lives daily to serve and protect their communities;

Whereas there are more than 23,000 fallen law enforcement officers honored on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, dating back to 1786, when the first law enforcement officer in the United States died in the line of duty;

Whereas, during the 2 years preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 800 law enforcement officers died in the United States in the line of duty, the highest number of such deaths over a 2-year period in the history of the United States;

Whereas some politicians and interest groups have responded to the risks faced by law enforcement officers with calls to “defund” or even “abolish” law enforcement agencies across the United States;

Whereas defunding law enforcement agencies or otherwise demoralizing law enforcement officers will make it more difficult for officers to intervene in dangerous situations and high-risk neighborhoods;

Whereas a law enforcement officer will typically encounter between 400 and 600 traumatic events during the career of the officer, compared with 3 or 4 traumatic events encountered by the average citizen;

Whereas the unusually high number of traumatic events experienced by law enforcement officers has contributed to a 54 percent higher suicide rate among officers than among individuals in other jobs;

Whereas the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the Department of Justice has confirmed that there is no statistically significant difference between the rates at which major racial and ethnic groups are stopped in police-initiated interactions;

Whereas the innovative and dedicated efforts of law enforcement officers have successfully brought down crime rates from historic highs;

Whereas the “defund and defame the police” movement that began in 2020 has—

(1) coincided with a dramatic rise in homicides and other violent crimes in cities and towns across the United States; and

(2) caused the retention and recruitment of sworn law enforcement officers to drop to a dangerously low level, with current numbers showing fewer law enforcement officers per resident than at any other time during the 25-year period preceding the date of adoption of this resolution;

Whereas, in 2020—

(1) 60,105 law enforcement officers were assaulted by criminals, resulting in 18,633 injuries; and

(2) the number of arrests made by law enforcement officers throughout the United States dropped to 7,630,000, a 24 percent reduction from 2019 and the fewest number of such arrests in 25 years;

Whereas 72 percent of law enforcement officers surveyed are less willing to stop and question suspicious individuals than they were before 2020;

Whereas the rhetoric associated with the “defund and defame the police” movement has created an increasingly dangerous environment for law enforcement officers in which, in 2022 alone, 331 officers were shot, 62 of whom were shot fatally; and

Whereas supporting law enforcement officers with the equipment, training, and funding needed to protect communities in the United States from criminal violence has long received overwhelming public support from across the political spectrum: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) highly respects and values the law enforcement officers of the United States and greatly appreciates all that those officers do to protect and serve their communities;

(2) remembers and honors law enforcement officers who have experienced a death or injury in the line of duty and the families of those officers;

(3) calls for increased measures to be taken to maximize the safety and well-being of law enforcement officers, including improvements relating to the retention and recruitment of officers, improved training and equipment for officers, tougher penalties for assaulting or killing an officer, and increased mental health resources for officers;

(4) strongly condemns the misguided and disastrous movement to “defund and defame the police”; and

(5) calls on all levels of government to ensure that law enforcement officers receive the support and resources needed to keep all communities in the United States safe.

SENATE RESOLUTION 219—AMENDING THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAJORITY LEADER TO MOVE TO PROCEED TO THE EN BLOC CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN NOMINATIONS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 219

Resolved,

SECTION 1. EN BLOC CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN NOMINATIONS.

Rule XXXI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by adding at the end the following:

"8.(a) In this paragraph, the term 'covered nomination' means a nomination to a position that is not a position—

"(1) at level I of the Executive Schedule under section 5312 of title 5, United States Code;

"(2) as a judge of a court of appeals of the United States; or

"(3) as Chief Justice of the United States or as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

"(b) It shall be in order for the Majority Leader to move to proceed to the en bloc consideration of not more than 10 covered nominations that were reported to the Senate by the same committee of the Senate and placed on the calendar.

"(c) Consideration of a motion to proceed under subparagraph (b), and the en bloc consideration of the nominations that are the subject of the motion, shall be conducted in the same manner as if it were a motion to proceed to the consideration of a single nomination."

SENATE RESOLUTION 220—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 220

Whereas the Department of Defense State Partnership Program (referred to in this preamble as the "State Partnership Program") has evolved from a program designed to assist countries emerging from behind the Iron Curtain to one that now involves 100 nations and the National Guard of every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas members of the National Guard work with partner militaries to bolster capabilities, improve interoperability, and enhance principles of responsible governance;

Whereas the State Partnership Program delivers a significant return on investment by broadening the pool of security partners who are willing and able to support defense and security cooperation objectives of the United States around the world;

Whereas most of the earliest State Partnership Program partner countries in Europe have gone on to become United States allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and many of them credit the State Partnership Program and their National Guard State partners with helping to make that possible;

Whereas the State Partnership Program helps ensure that the Department of Defense has capable, trusted, and interoperable partners;

Whereas the State Partnership Program has created 88 enduring, cost-effective partnerships with 100 nations encompassing over ½ of the countries in the world;

Whereas members of the National Guard typically engage in more than 1,000 State Partnership Program events per year;

Whereas the National Guard Bureau is working with the commanders of the combatant commands and the Department of State to increase State Partnership Program partnerships by 2 nations per year for the next 15 years; and

Whereas commanders of the combatant commands and United States ambassadors strongly endorse the State Partnership Program for cultivating long-term relationships with partners: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(2) expresses deep gratitude for the continuing service by members of the National Guard in support of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(3) recognizes the outsized influence of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in developing and supporting enduring relationships around the world that serve both the interests of the partner nations and the United States; and

(4) supports the continued expansion of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in furtherance of global security cooperation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 221—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2023, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 221

Whereas the origin of National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2023 is "Better Health Through Better Understanding";

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to enhance and protect the health and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas African American women were as likely to have been diagnosed with breast cancer as non-Hispanic White women, but African American women were 41 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women between 2015 and 2019;

Whereas African American women were twice as likely to be diagnosed with and 2.3 times more likely to die of stomach cancer than non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American men are 70 percent more likely to die from a stroke than non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanics are twice as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to be hospitalized for end-stage renal disease caused by diabetes, and are 30 percent more likely to die of diabetes, than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas Asian Americans are 40 percent more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the HIV or AIDS case rate among Hispanic men is 4 times the HIV or AIDS case rate among non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanic women are 3 times as likely as non-Hispanic White women to die of HIV infection;

Whereas, in 2019, African Americans accounted for 42.1 percent of HIV infections and Hispanic Americans accounted for almost 30 percent of HIV infections;

Whereas, in 2019, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.4 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2018, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, although the prevalence of obesity is high among all population groups in the United States, 48.1 percent of American Indian and Alaska Natives, 51.7 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, 38.3 percent of African Americans, 34.9 percent of Hispanics, 30 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, and 13 percent of Asian Americans older than 18 years old were obese;

Whereas Asian American and Pacific Islander adults accounted for 30.1 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases, and non-Hispanic White adults accounted for 13.5 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases;

Whereas heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes are some of the leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have higher prevalence and are at a higher risk of diabetes, substance use, obesity, sudden infant death syndrome, liver disease, viral hepatitis, and suicide than other groups in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 2.2 years shorter than the life expectancy of the overall population of the United States;

Whereas African American women die from childbirth or pregnancy-related causes at a rate that is 3 to 4 times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American infants are almost 4 times more likely to die due to complications related to low birth weight than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have an infant mortality rate twice as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are 2.7 times more likely to die from accidental deaths before their first birthday than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with sickle cell disease each year in the United States, with the disease occurring in approximately 1 in 365 newborn Black or African-American infants and 1 in 16,300 newborn Hispanic-American infants, and can be found in individuals of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Asian, and Indian origin;

Whereas, while more than 1 in 6 older adults have untreated cavities, non-Hispanic Black older adults have between 2 and 3 times the rate of untreated cavities as non-Hispanic White older adults;

Whereas the 2022 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report found American Indians and Alaska Natives received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for 43 percent of quality measures;

Whereas, as of 2023, with respect to hospitalizations due to COVID-19, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2.4 times more likely, African Americans are 2.1 times more likely, and Hispanics are 1.8 times more likely to be hospitalized compared to non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, as of 2023, with respect to deaths due to COVID-19, American Indians and Alaska Natives are 2 times more likely, African Americans are 1.6 times more likely, and Hispanics are 1.7 times more likely to die compared to non-Hispanic Whites; and

Whereas the health innovations of the United States present a unique opportunity to improve public health and health care practices across the United States and to reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the recognition of National Minority Health Month in April 2023, which includes bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations in the United States, such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 222—EXPRESSING THE APPROVAL OF CONGRESS FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE HOMECOMING OF UNITED STATES PRISONERS OF WAR FROM VIETNAM AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF SUCH PRISONERS OF WAR DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. MORAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 222

Whereas more than 2,700,000 members of the United States Armed Forces served in the Vietnam War;

Whereas more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives and more than 300,000 were wounded;

Whereas, during the conflict, approximately 766 members of the Armed Forces of the United States were taken captive as prisoners of war by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the allies of that Government;

Whereas prisoners of war, the majority of which were aviators, included members of the Air Force, Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and United States civilians, and during captivity the prisoners endured brutal conditions, including torture, forced labor, and prolonged solitary confinement;

Whereas prisoners of war were held in more than a dozen prisons throughout North Vietnam and elsewhere, including in the infamous prison camp known to the prisoners of war from the United States as the "Hanoi Hilton", but despite the challenging conditions, many of the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese and the allies of the North Vietnamese maintained their honor, resilience, and loyalty to their country and fellow members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the return of the prisoners of war was a nonnegotiable condition for President Richard Nixon as his administration negotiated an end to the Vietnam War;

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet-Nam (commonly known as the "Paris Peace Accords") was signed, requiring the return of the United States prisoners of

war within 60 days of the signing of the agreement;

Whereas, between February and April 1973, 591 prisoners of war were released by the North Vietnamese and their allies;

Whereas 116 prisoners of war died in captivity;

Whereas the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (referred to in this preamble as "POW/MIA") movement in the United States, and the National League of POW/MIA Families, made a tremendous effort to return the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese and their allies to the United States;

Whereas, in 1972, the National League of POW/MIA Families adopted the National POW/MIA flag, which flies over Federal buildings, including the United States Capitol, on days the United States flag is flown;

Whereas, 50 years after the prisoners of war held by the North Vietnamese gained their freedom, the resilience, courage, and patriotism of the prisoners of war continues to inspire generations of citizens of the United States; and

Whereas the Richard Nixon Presidential Library will host the official 50th Anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States POWs from Vietnam, from May 23 to 25, 2023, in Yorba Linda, California: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses approval for the 50th anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States prisoners of war from Vietnam; and

(2) recognizes the extraordinary service and sacrifices of the United States prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

SENATE RESOLUTION 223—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 21 THROUGH MAY 27, 2023, AS "NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK"

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KELLY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 223

Whereas public works professionals work around the clock to ensure the vital infrastructure, facilities, and services of communities to deliver dependable, sustainable, and resilient human needs that include the health, safety, and well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas public works infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals who represent Federal, State, and local governments and private sector organizations throughout the United States;

Whereas public works professionals design, build, operate, and maintain the transportation systems, water infrastructure, sewage and refuse disposal systems, public buildings, sanitation and waste management systems, and other structures and facilities that are vital to the people and communities of the United States;

Whereas public works first responders are the first to arrive and last to leave a natural disaster area or incident scene; and

Whereas understanding the role that public infrastructure plays in protecting the environment, improving public health and safety, contributing to economic vitality, and enhancing the quality of life of every community of the United States is in the interest of the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 21 through May 27, 2023, as "National Public Works Week";

(2) recognizes and celebrates the important contributions that public works professionals make every day to improve—

(A) the public infrastructure of the United States; and

(B) the communities that public works professionals serve; and

(3) urges individuals and communities throughout the United States to join with representatives of the Federal Government and the American Public Works Association in activities and ceremonies that are designed—

(A) to pay tribute to the public works professionals of the United States; and

(B) to recognize the substantial contributions that public works professionals make to the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 224—DESIGNATING MAY 2023 AS "ALS AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 224

Whereas amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this preamble as "ALS") is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord;

Whereas the life expectancy for an individual with ALS is between 2 and 5 years after the date on which the individual receives an ALS diagnosis;

Whereas ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender, or socioeconomic boundaries;

Whereas ALS may affect any individual in any location;

Whereas the cause of ALS is unknown in up to 90 percent of cases;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of ALS cases have a strong known genetic driver;

Whereas, on average, the period between the date on which an individual first experiences symptoms of ALS and the date on which the individual is diagnosed with ALS is more than 1 year;

Whereas the onset of ALS often involves muscle weakness or stiffness, and the progression of ALS results in the further weakening, wasting, and paralysis of—

(1) the muscles of the limbs and trunk; and

(2) the muscles that control vital functions, such as speech, swallowing, and breathing;

Whereas ALS can strike individuals of any age, but it predominantly strikes adults;

Whereas it is estimated that tens of thousands of individuals in the United States have ALS at any given time;

Whereas, based on studies of the population of the United States, more than 5,000 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each year, and 15 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each day;

Whereas, every 90 minutes, someone dies from ALS in the United States;

Whereas the majority of individuals with ALS die of respiratory failure;

Whereas, in the United States, military veterans are more likely to be diagnosed with ALS than individuals with no history of military service;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, there is no cure for ALS;

Whereas the spouses, children, and family members of individuals living with ALS provide support to those individuals with love, day-to-day care, and more; and

Whereas an individual with ALS, and the caregivers of such an individual, can be required to bear significant costs for medical care, equipment, and home care services for the individual as the disease progresses: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2023 as “ALS Awareness Month”;

(2) affirms the dedication of the Senate to—

(A) ensuring individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this resolving clause as “ALS”) have access to effective treatments as soon as possible;

(B) identifying risk factors and causes of ALS to prevent new cases;

(C) empowering individuals with ALS to engage with the world in the way they want;

(D) reducing the physical, emotional, and financial burdens of living with ALS; and

(E) ensuring all individuals with ALS and their caregivers receive high quality services and supports that benefit them; and

(3) commends the dedication of the family members, friends, organizations, volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the United States who are working to improve the quality and length of life of ALS patients and the development of treatments and cures that reach patients as soon as possible.

SENATE RESOLUTION 225—COMMEMORATING THE 107TH RUNNING OF THE INDIANAPOLIS 500 MILE RACE AND RECOGNIZING THE RACE AS “THE GREATEST SPECTACLE IN RACING”

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 225

Whereas Sunday, May 28, 2023, will mark the 107th running of the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race (referred to in this preamble as the “Indianapolis 500”);

Whereas the Indianapolis 500 has occurred every year since 1911, except during the involvement of the United States in World Wars I and II from 1917 through 1918 and 1942 through 1945, respectively;

Whereas the Indianapolis 500 is the largest single day sporting event in the world, with more than 300,000 fans packing the grandstands and the expansive infield of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on race day;

Whereas radio coverage of the Indianapolis 500 dates back to 1922, and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Radio Network was established in 1952;

Whereas a radio broadcast of the entire Indianapolis 500 first began in 1953 and the radio broadcast reaches millions of listeners each year;

Whereas Alice Greene, a copywriter at the Indianapolis-based radio station WIBC, coined the phrase “the greatest spectacle in racing” in 1954, and the phrase was made famous by broadcaster Sid Collins, who served as the voice of the Indianapolis 500 for nearly 3 decades;

Whereas the Indianapolis 500 has played an integral part in the culture and heritage of—

(1) Indianapolis, Indiana;

(2) motorsports; and

(3) the automotive industry in the United States and throughout the world; and

Whereas the Indianapolis Motor Speedway has been a showcase of speed, human achievement, and the continuous pursuit of glory, and is a source of great pride for all citizens of Indiana: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 107th running of the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race; and

(2) recognizes the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race as “the greatest spectacle in racing”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 226—DESIGNATING MAY 20, 2023, AS “KIDS TO PARKS DAY”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 226

Whereas the 13th annual Kids to Parks Day will be celebrated on May 20, 2023;

Whereas the goals of Kids to Parks Day are—

(1) to promote healthy outdoor recreation and responsible environmental stewardship;

(2) to empower young people; and

(3) to encourage families to get outdoors and visit the parks and public land of the United States;

Whereas, on Kids to Parks Day, individuals from rural, suburban, and urban areas of the United States can be reintroduced to the splendid national, State, and neighborhood parks located in their communities;

Whereas communities across the United States offer a variety of natural resources and public land, often with free access, to individuals seeking outdoor recreation;

Whereas the people of the United States, young and old, should be encouraged to lead more healthy and active lifestyles;

Whereas Kids to Parks Day is an opportunity for families to take a break from their busy lives and enjoy a day of active, wholesome fun; and

Whereas Kids to Parks Day will—

(1) broaden an appreciation for nature and the outdoors in young people;

(2) foster a safe setting for independent play and healthy adventure in neighborhood parks; and

(3) facilitate self-reliance while strengthening communities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 20, 2023, as “Kids to Parks Day”;

(2) recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation and the preservation of open spaces for the health and education of the young people of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Kids to Parks Day with safe family trips to parks.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 10—PROVIDING FOR AN ANNUAL JOINT HEARING OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET OF THE SENATE AND THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KING, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr.

DAINES, and Mr. KELLY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget:

S. CON. RES. 10

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution”.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL JOINT HEARING OF BUDGET COMMITTEES TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the date on which the Secretary of the Treasury submits to Congress the audited financial statement required under paragraph (1) of section 331(e) of title 31, United States Code, on a date agreed upon by the chairs of the Budget Committees and the Comptroller General of the United States, the chairs shall conduct a joint hearing to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General—

(1) reviewing the findings of the audit required under paragraph (2) of such section; and

(2) providing, with respect to the information included by the Secretary in the report accompanying such audited financial statement, an analysis of the financial position and condition of the Federal Government, including financial measures (such as the net operating cost, income, budget deficits, or budget surpluses) and sustainability measures (such as the long-term fiscal projection or social insurance projection) described in such report.

(b) PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAO STRATEGIES AND MEANS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall ensure that the presentation at each joint hearing conducted under subsection (a) is made in accordance with the Strategies and Means of the Government Accountability Office, to ensure that the presentation will provide professional, objective, fact-based, nonpartisan, nonideological, fair, and balanced information to the Members attending the hearing.

(c) RULES APPLICABLE TO HEARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each joint hearing conducted by the chairs of the Budget Committees under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with Standing Rules of the Senate and the Rules of the House of Representatives which apply to such a hearing, including the provisions requiring hearings conducted by committees to be open to the public, including to radio, television, and still photography coverage.

(2) PERMITTING PARTICIPATION BY SENATORS AND MEMBERS NOT SERVING ON BUDGET COMMITTEES.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Standing Rules of the Senate or the Rules of the House of Representatives, any Senator and any Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) may participate in a joint hearing under subsection (a) in the same manner and to the same extent as a Senator or Member of the House of Representatives who is a member of either of the Budget Committees.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Budget Committees” means the Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement under subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any audited financial statement under section 331(e)(1) of title 31, United States Code, submitted on or after the date of adoption of this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 90. Ms. HIRONO proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 209, recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 90. Ms. HIRONO proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 209, recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; as follows:

In the eighth whereas clause, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), strike “important milestones for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community” and insert “anniversaries”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I have five requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 10:40 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent my staff, Isabella Vesely, an intern in my office, be

granted floor privileges until May 19, 2023.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to June Zhu of my staff during today’s session of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 221, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 221) promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2023, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, last month was National Minority Health Month. Senator SCOTT of South Carolina joined me in introducing a Senate resolution commemorating National Minority Health Month. We couldn’t quite get it over the finish line before the end of April, but I am pleased the Senate is poised to pass the resolution now.

National Minority Health Month has its origins in National Negro Health Week, which Booker T. Washington established in 1915 to address the poor health status of African Americans in the early 20th century.

The commemorative month is helpful because it improves the public’s awareness of the health challenges that disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minorities in the United States. It helps us to celebrate the progress we have made in addressing health disparities. Most important, it is a measure to recommit ourselves to tackling the longstanding health disparities that still exist.

Today, because of historical and contemporary injustices across our society, including those in the healthcare system, communities of color continue to face health disparities that result in poorer quality of life and lower life expectancies when compared to their White counterparts. For people of color who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender—LGBT—these disparities are often exacerbated.

Disparities in healthcare access, treatment, and outcomes are signifi-

cant for a variety of reasons. Most important, these disparities limit the health of the Nation overall. The U.S. population today is more racially and ethnically diverse than at any other time in our history. According to the 2020 census, nearly 4 in 10 Americans identify with a race or ethnic group other than White. In a nation as diverse as ours and one that is meant to treat everyone equally, it is immoral for certain populations to receive inadequate, inaccessible, or poor medical care.

In addition to ethical considerations, health inequities result in significant costs to our economy. According to a recent analysis, racial disparities amount to approximately \$93 billion in excess medical care costs and \$42 billion in lost productivity per year, as well as additional economic losses due to premature deaths.

For the health of our families, communities, States and Nation, it is critical that we work to advance policies that will move in the direction of achieving health equity.

In recent years, we have faced a variety of serious public health challenges that have clearly highlighted health disparities. Whether we are discussing the COVID-19 pandemic, the outbreak of monkeypox last summer, or the spread of respiratory illnesses like the flu and RSV this past winter, these public health challenges have shown that we must respond appropriately and in a timely fashion to ensure that vulnerable communities receive the resources and care they need.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, for instance, public health data has shown that people of color experienced a disproportionate share of cases and deaths due to this disease. According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC—released in December 2022, American Indian or Alaska Native adults are 2.5 times more likely to be hospitalized and twice as likely to die from COVID-19 than White individuals. Similarly, Black and Hispanic adults are more likely to be hospitalized and more likely to die from COVID-19. Racial disparities were also found in access to COVID-19 vaccination for the first few months of vaccine deployment.

At the time, I fought for additional outreach and better data to close the vaccination rate gap. Thanks in part to a strong focus on these efforts, the gaps in COVID-19 vaccination rates finally narrowed several months after vaccine deployment initially began, but they should not have existed in the first place.

The COVID-19 pandemic also exacerbated our Nation’s behavioral health crisis as social isolation contributed to spikes in anxiety, depression, substance abuse, domestic violence, and suicide. Adults and children across all groups continue to experience increased behavioral health issues, but the burden on minority populations is heaviest.

For American Indian and Alaska Native adults, the death rate from suicide is about 20 percent higher than the White population. In 2019, suicide was the leading and second leading cause of death for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders and African Americans aged 15 to 24, respectively. High school-aged Asian American males were 30 percent more likely to consider attempting suicide than White male students. This is why I continue to work with my colleagues to improve access to behavioral healthcare for everyone.

Prior to the pandemic, people of color and other underserved groups faced longstanding disparities in health, and today, many of these inequities continue to persist. Across a variety of health measures, including infant mortality, pregnancy-related deaths, overall physical and mental health status, and prevalence of chronic conditions, minority groups continue to fare worse than white individuals. Life expectancy is another area where racial and ethnic disparities are clearly apparent. Today, life expectancy among Black people is nearly 6 years lower than White people, with the lowest expectancy among Black men.

When we consider chronic diseases like diabetes, minority populations also fare worse than White people. Diabetes rates for Black, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native adults are all higher than the rate for White adults. These disparities can often be exacerbated for people of color who identify as LGBTQ, who are more likely to experience certain health challenges like substance abuse, mental health conditions, violence, and sexually transmitted infections at increased rates. I could go on and on.

To address health inequities, we must tackle their underlying causes, many of which are born out of inadequate access to care for minority populations, high costs of healthcare, and other social, economic, and environmental factors, which are known as “social determinants of health.” Factors like one’s income level, as well as access to transportation, education, and housing play a key role in health and well-being.

Accessible and affordable health coverage is key to addressing health inequities. I am proud of the work we did to pass the Affordable Care Act—ACA—which expanded health coverage to millions of Americans across the country. I am also pleased that we built on the success of the ACA through the American Rescue Plan to extend care to an additional 5.8 million Americans, including 181,000 Marylanders. We have unfinished business, however, as recent Census Bureau data show that minority groups are still less likely to have health insurance than their White counterparts.

I am proud of the work that the National Institutes of Health—NIH—based in Maryland, and NIH’s National Institute for Minority Health & Health

Disparities—NIMHD—are doing to advance the field of scientific research into health disparities.

The evidence-based research that NIMHD invests in at institutions throughout the country is expanding the scientific knowledge base and informing practice and policy to reduce health disparities. Some recent work of NIMHD has focused on the benefits of Medicaid expansion for young adults; the prevention, treatment, and management of co-morbid chronic diseases; and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy within communities of color. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to build on this progress.

As we recognize April as National Minority Health Month, let us rededicate ourselves to ensuring that all Americans have access to affordable, high-quality healthcare and renew our pledge to do everything possible to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity once and for all.

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 221) was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

EXPRESSING THE APPROVAL OF CONGRESS FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE HOMECOMING OF UNITED STATES PRISONERS OF WAR FROM VIETNAM AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF SUCH PRISONERS OF WAR DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 222, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 222) expressing the approval of Congress for the 50th anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States prisoners of war from Vietnam and in recognition of the extraordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered

made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 222) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023, THROUGH TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned to convene for pro forma sessions, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times: Friday, May 19, at 9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, May 23, at 12 noon; Thursday, May 25, at 12:30 p.m.; and Friday, May 26, at 9 a.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, the 26th, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 30; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Papillion nomination; further, that the confirmation vote occur at 5:30 p.m. and that if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:45 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:52 p.m., adjourned until Friday, May 19, 2023, at 9:45 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 18, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

NANCY G. ABUDU, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF NATHAN J. POWELL, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTINE B. OLIVARES, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FRANCISCA A. ALAKA LAMPTON AND ENDING WITH VICTORIA M. WEIGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRITNEY M. ALONZO AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN MATTHEW WOODS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARIA L. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH MITCHELL H. YUAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL A. ADAMS II AND ENDING WITH PHILLIP A. ZENCEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS A. BIEDIGER AND ENDING WITH RYAN D. NUDI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 9, 2023.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF GILBERTO DELEON, JR., TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRADLEY M. MRAVIK, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JUSTIN L. PURVIS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN J. ADAMS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PAUL M. TOBIN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JON P. ALEXANDER AND ENDING WITH ADAM M. ZIHAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID J. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH BRIAN H. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINA-

TIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEFAN E. ADAMCIK AND ENDING WITH ANDREW D. ZUPFER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TONY B. FEARS AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL S. SHARP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 4, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RYAN R. POMMIER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SEBASTIAN A. COATES, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. CALDWELL, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RYAN K. ALDRICH AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY W. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF STEVEN M. ANGELINE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF BRADLEY B. KELLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF NICHOLAS B. STAITON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOSEPH P. BALL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF MARK J. DEAL, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF RICHARD C. EYTEL, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF DAVID WAGENBORG, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JAMES O. SAMMAN, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHARLES G. EMOND, JR., TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CASSANDRA D. THOMPSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ARRON J. WILSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2494, PROTECT OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3091, FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SERVICE WEAPON PURCHASE ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 40, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CONDEMNING EFFORTS TO DEFUND OR DISMANTLE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to speak on the Rule offered in consideration of H.R. 2494—Protect Our Law enforcement with Immigration Control and Enforcement (POLICE) Act of 2023, H.R. 3091—Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act, and H. Con. Res. 40—Expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies.

It is unfortunate that this Rule in particular does not include the many amendments that have been offered by my Democratic Colleagues.

As it pertains to H.R. 2494—Protect Our Law enforcement with Immigration Control and Enforcement (POLICE) Act of 2023, this bill in particular is incredibly ill drafted and intended bill that does not seek to address illegal immigration or support for law enforcement—rather it creates punitive deportation penalties to remove individuals who are lawfully here—cruelly scaling back on legal immigration pathways rather than increasing them.

This bill is a solution in search of a problem—essentially seeking to expand the scope of people who can be deported.

It is so broadly drafted that people who pose no real danger to law enforcement could be subject to deportation.

Let's be clear, this is not about undocumented immigrants who are already removable. This is about people who have come lawfully and been admitted to the United States.

We are talking about lawful permanent residents. People who have set down roots and established themselves here in the United States.

Given that my Republican colleagues have been unwilling to add a conviction requirement or a requirement that the offense included the intention to cause harm or use violence, I would hope they would be willing to accept an amendment that allows an immigration judge or Department of Homeland Security adjudicator to look at variety of mitigating factors

when assessing if someone should be deemed deportable.

And so, my amendment offered in the Rules Committee would have allowed for mitigating factors to be taken into account before someone is deported as a result of an assault on a law enforcement officer.

As has already been discussed, this bill is attempting to add a new avenue to deport people with green cards.

If we are going to deport these people, it should be for a serious offense and there needs to be serious consideration of the circumstances pertaining to the alleged offense.

People who are convicted of serious assaults on law enforcement officers are already deportable.

Under current immigration law, if an individual is convicted of a crime of violence and sentenced to a year or more in prison, that is an aggravated felony and that person is deportable.

The same is true for someone who is convicted of a “crime involving moral turpitude,” where the crime is punishable by imprisonment of one year or more.

Both of these deportability grounds are currently invoked when there is a conviction for a serious, intentional assault on a law enforcement officer, where bodily injury occurs or is intended.

This amendment would allow the official making the final determination on deportation the ability to examine additional mitigating factors as evidence weighing against deportation.

The official would be able to take into account:

- if there was intent to harm;
- the severity of offense;
- if the act resulted in harm;
- the individual's military service (if any);
- how long the individual has been in the United States; and
- the individual's ties to the community.

These factors are vitally important for an immigration judge or other adjudicator to consider in order to ensure that we do not end up with some of the absurd results which have already been outlined today by my colleagues.

We should not be deporting long-term green card holders for minor offenses. Just as a reminder, these examples include:

A green card holder in a fire who pushes a firefighter out of the way of a falling beam. This person would have committed assault and become deportable.

Likewise, if a foreign student whose religion prohibits blood transfusions is receiving medical care from an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and she swats the EMT's hand away because she is trying to give him a blood transfusion, that student will have committed assault on a law enforcement officer and become deportable under this bill.

As another example, if a green card holder sees a fight on the street and attempts to intervene by getting between the individuals and pushing them apart. If one of the individuals was an undercover police officer performing his duties, the individual would have com-

mitted assault under this bill and become deportable.

In all of these examples, one would hope the individuals would never be charged, let alone convicted of a crime.

However, even without a conviction or intent to harm requirement, by admitting to actions that constitute assault, any of those individuals would have admitted to intentionally assaulting a law enforcement officer and would become deportable under this bill.

We should not be deporting green card holders for such minor offenses.

If the majority insists on doing so, they should at least allow adjudicators to look at mitigating factors to ensure that we are preventing good members of our society from getting swept up in this overbroad bill.

Additionally, in speaking on the Rule for H. Res. 40, Expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies, let me just say that it is unfortunate that the Rules Committee did not consider amendments on this bills.

Despite having the opportunity for open debate, the Committee regrettably chose to consider this legislation under a closed rule—foreclosing any ability for us to make this Resolution one that we could come together on.

Had the Rule allowed, I would have submitted an amendment to remove incendiary and vague language as well as false and misleading claims from this Resolution in an effort to gain agreement around what should be its central point—that we recognize and appreciate the service of all law enforcement officers and condemn all calls to abolish law enforcement agencies of any kind.

First and foremost, my amendment would have removed the word “local” anywhere it appears because we should state unequivocally that we support all law enforcement officers—unconditionally.

We know that all law enforcement—male, female, LGBTQ+, very experienced, rookie, patrol, or behind a desk—work tirelessly to protect us and keep us safe. Whether they are state, local, tribal, or federal agents or officers—we are grateful for their service.

These are the individuals we rely on to stop a mass shooter as they opened fire on shoppers at a mall in Texas; to guard and police our borders; to seek out predators behind a computer screen; or to help us locate an elderly or disabled loved one who has wandered off.

And so, this Resolution, as it is currently written, ignores a large portion of dedicated officers who do not fall within the definition of “local law enforcement”—a term of art of which we legislators are well aware.

My amendment would have corrected that omission and acknowledges the 137,000 federal agents and officers in the 50 states and the District of Columbia—including the United States Capitol Police.

Secondly, my amendment would have eliminated problematic, unnecessary language and misleading claims.

• 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.

For example, my amendment would have removed the claim that leftist activists and progressive politicians actively encouraged resentment toward law enforcement, which casts a wide, unfair, and erroneous net.

It would also eliminate the claim that language regarding funding police vilifies and harms local law enforcement.

We can all agree that we need law enforcement. Of that, there is no doubt. But defunding the police means different things to different people.

From completely abolishing or disbanding law enforcement agencies—as some of my Republican colleagues have proposed we do to ATF, FBI, and even DOJ—to adding resources to other programs or services that might have been neglected in the past or to lighten the load of officers who are called upon to respond to too much.

That is why I believe my amendment would have allowed Congress to come together on this Resolution, using language on which we all can agree—that does not accuse, disparage, or attempt to shame.

Resolutions like this one make it difficult for us to commence the truly difficult work of making policing safer for law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

I have worked for decades to adopt reasonable gun violence prevention legislation and to institute transformative policing reforms.

All too often law enforcement officers are taken by the violence we expect them to prevent. And increasingly, officers and agents are losing their lives to gun-related violence—often times with handguns.

Although the number of law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty decreased by more than 30 percent over the first six months of 2022 compared to that same period in 2021, the number of officers killed by guns increased by nearly 20 percent.

And, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, for the whole of 2022, the number of officers killed decreased by roughly 61 percent—that is from 586 federal, state, tribal and local law enforcement officers killed in 2021 down to 224.

Despite this dramatic decrease in line-of-duty deaths, due almost entirely to the significant reduction in deaths resulting from COVID-19, by the end of 2022, the same number of officers died by gunfire as in the previous year—reflecting a 21 percent increase over the historical average of firearms-related deaths between 2010 and 2020. This is unacceptable.

Let's get back to the real work of Congress instead of engaging in partisan gamesmanship.

Lastly, in speaking on the Rule for H.R. 3091, the Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act.

Rather than destroying retired, surplus handguns, this legislation would allow federal agencies to sell those handguns to federal law enforcement officers in good standing—promoting public safety, reducing waste, and recouping taxpayer funds.

Although I support this underlying legislation, I would point out that the previous version of this bill, introduced by former Congresswoman Val Demings, included a requirement that any law enforcement officer making a purchase must pass a background check as part of the transfer. But this version does not.

Congresswoman Demings's bill also wisely advised via a sense of Congress that pro-

ceeds from the sale of these handguns should be used to fund gun violence prevention or gun safety programs.

These are both excellent ideas that we should add back into this legislation.

While we might assume that no problems could arise in the sale of a handgun to an officer in good standing, a background check or records check of some kind would ensure that vital information has not been missed, overlooked, or fallen through a gap in reporting.

Questions still remain and law enforcement continues to investigate the mass shooting that occurred in Allen, Texas.

But we know that a Defense Department official said that Army staff “quickly identified” that the shooter “was a problem.”

And the Pentagon confirmed that the shooter was terminated from the Army for mental health reasons—after only three months and without completing basic training.

And yet, years later, he completed several firearms proficiency courses for his work as a security guard, amassed a cache of firearms and 13 large capacity magazines, and no one caught that this person probably should not have guns.

Even law enforcement officers purchasing firearms for official use must provide a federal firearms licensee with a certification on agency letterhead that the officer will use the firearm in their official duties and that a records check establishes that the purchasing officer has no convictions for misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence—despite there being no requirement to undergo a background check.

Background checks, and records checks in limited circumstances, are important because they help promote public trust.

By ensuring that only responsible, law-abiding individuals, including law enforcement officers, can purchase firearms and are willing to undergo background checks to do so, this program could set the example and promote safer, more secure communities across the country.

We can and we must do more when it comes to buying, selling, and trading firearms. That is why the proceeds derived from the sale of these retired, surplus handguns would be best spent on programs focused exclusively on gun violence prevention and gun safety education and training.

The money earned from these sales could help us find solutions to end the bloodshed because far too many people have died.

RECOGNIZING THE MEN AND WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the men and women in law enforcement who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. On Friday, May 19, 2023, Sheriff James Allard and the Steuben County Sheriff's Department will host its annual Law Enforcement Memorial Service to honor those who stood on that thin blue line that keeps our families safe and our communities strong across New York's Southern Tier.

Most of us expect our loved ones to come home from work at the end of the day, but there is no such guarantee for Law Enforcement Officers as they take their post. We as a nation must come together to support our Law Enforcement and recognize the inherent danger and sacrifice that these men and women endure to keep the rest of us safe.

I also want to recognize the spouses, children and friends left behind. The pain of losing a loved one never truly goes away, and my heart goes out to those who share in that burden of service and sacrifice.

John 15:13: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

It is my humble honor to ask my colleagues to join me in remembering these brave, dedicated, and courageous men and women who were lost in the line of duty.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HEAD START

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a remarkable milestone in our Nation's history—the 58th anniversary of Head Start. The Head Start Project launched in 1965 as a comprehensive, anti-poverty, child development program. Since then, more than 37 million children and their families have enjoyed the benefits of Head Start.

Early in my professional career, I worked as a Head Start teacher at the Nettelhorst School in Chicago. Today, Head Start serves almost 29,000 children and their families in Illinois alone. As I reflect on my experience there and on the history of Head Start, I am still in awe at the impact it has on lifting families out of generational poverty. Head Start has proven itself to be an invaluable program, empowering children from low-income families, those suffering from homelessness and those in the foster care system, and setting them on a path towards success.

As we celebrate the 58th anniversary of this extraordinary program, let us reaffirm our commitment to Head Start, and ensure that every child in America has access to a bright future. Happy Birthday Head Start.

CONGRATULATING THE SPRING GROVE AREA HIGH SCHOOL ROCKETRY TEAM FOR THEIR VICTORY IN THE NASA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Spring Grove Area High School rocketry team for their victory in the national championship hosted by NASA.

The team has been working meticulously since last August perfecting their design, and to great effect. Despite their team's small size relative to the competition, they worked closely as a team to win against all odds, beating out 800 students from 21 states.

Team captain Alex Fiorillo said it best: “take every opportunity you have and . . . you might end up making history.” This group certainly did.

To the team members: Alex Fiorillo, Dylan Tichy, Max Trimmer, Wyatt Amspacher, Sage Dewall, Haley Hake, and Eli Hoke—congratulations on this incredible feat. I wish them all continued success in all their future endeavors.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUBA'S RESTAURANT

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 25th anniversary of Suba's Restaurant, located in Mountain City, Tennessee. For a quarter of a century, this exemplary establishment has been a cornerstone of the local culinary scene, delighting patrons with its delicious food, exceptional service, and warm atmosphere.

Suba's Restaurant, owned and operated by LuAnne and Richard Suba, along with their partner Debby Reece, first opened its doors in 1998, quickly becoming a beloved gathering place for friends, families, and visitors alike. Over the past 25 years, Suba's has been particularly renowned for its amazing desserts, which have become a highlight of the dining experience. The creative and mouthwatering desserts crafted by their talented team have left patrons returning time and time again.

Their commitment to the local economy extends beyond their menu. Suba's Restaurant has created numerous job opportunities for the residents of Mountain City and the surrounding areas. Their dedicated staff are a testament to the restaurant's inclusive and nurturing work environment.

In recognition of their outstanding contributions to the community, Suba's Restaurant was nominated as Johnson County's Best in the 2023 Readers' Choice Awards. This accolade is a testament to the unwavering dedication of the owners, staff, and everyone involved in making Suba's a cherished part of our community.

In these 25 years, Suba's Restaurant has truly become an indispensable part of Mountain City, Tennessee. It is with great pride that we recognize and celebrate this milestone, and extend our heartfelt congratulations to LuAnne and Richard Suba, Debby Reece, and the entire team at Suba's.

As we honor their unwavering dedication to our community, we also wish them continued success and growth over the next 25 years.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERVICE OF CLYDE JOHN STANLAKE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who wore many hats, and wore all of them with a smile. Clyde John

Stanlake of Laingsburg was a public servant, a pillar of the community, and a beloved face around town. His death leaves a void in the hearts of the Laingsburg community where his kindness and example of selfless service will never be forgotten.

To say that Clyde loved Laingsburg is an understatement. To say that he served Laingsburg is woefully inadequate as well. For more than 30 years, he literally put his life on the line for this community, serving as a firefighter, a medical first responder, and a lieutenant with LSW Emergency Services from 1987 to 2017. After a long shift of fighting fire's and saving lives, Clyde continued to give of himself in service with his other responsibilities: he was elected to multiple terms on Laingsburg City Council, served on the Planning Commission, and was president of the Library Board. As if that wasn't enough, Clyde devoted whatever spare time he had to community organizations. He was a lifelong member of the Lions Club, and the only member in the club's history to have been chosen to serve as president not once, not twice, but four times. Clyde chaired the annual Springtime Festival—Laingsburg's biggest community event—for many years, and was grand marshal of the parade on several occasions.

If you didn't know Clyde from the fire station, City Hall, the festival, or the Lions Club, you most certainly knew him from the grocery store. A faithful employee of the Sage Market for 40 years, no shopper walked through the door during Clyde's shift without receiving a friendly smile and a sincere welcome. Beloved by his coworkers, his managers, and shoppers alike, his honesty, integrity, and reliability were legendary.

Clyde was the embodiment of community goodwill in virtually every form. He upheld his oath to serve and protect, ran for office to represent his community, volunteered for every cause, and never stopped trying to make a difference in people's lives. And he did it all with his signature smile. In the polarized, divided world we live in, Clyde's faithful service was all the more rare, and his absence is all the more painful.

The Laingsburg community lost a bright light when Clyde passed away in February 2023, but his lessons call to us from every corner of the community if we're willing to listen, to learn, and to try to use our lives as he used his: in service to each other. Mr. Speaker, I send my condolences to the Laingsburg community and ask that Clyde John Stanlake forever be remembered here, in the People's House, as someone who changed the world with a smile.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN WILLIAM J. "BILL" DIEHL, USCG (RET.)

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Captain William J. "Bill" Diehl after serving 13 years as the president of the Greater Houston Port Bureau.

Captain Diehl was born and raised in Olean, New York, as one of nine children. Of those, 6 served in the military, each retiring with more than 20 years of service. He is a 1982

United States Coast Guard Academy graduate with a master's degree from the University of Michigan in Naval Architecture, Marine Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

Before working at the Port Bureau, Captain Diehl spent 31 years in the U.S. Coast Guard. In his final assignment, he commanded the Coast Guard's largest operational unit: Sector Houston-Galveston. During Hurricane Ike, Captain Diehl served as the Coast Guard Incident Commander, leading 2,600 Coast Guard personnel who saved 235 lives. He also directed the clean-up of 240 oil spills and spearheaded the most substantial waterway restoration effort in the branch's history. In 2008, he retired with two Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the 9-11 Medal, and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, among many other awards.

Captain Diehl joined the Greater Houston Port Bureau after his career in the Coast Guard. This organization serves more than 260 member companies in the Houston region and supplies its members with detailed vessel traffic information, market analysis, and maritime expertise on safety, security, and environmental issues. Under Captain Diehl's leadership, the Port Bureau dramatically increased in membership, expanded its business, and hosted countless port education sessions. He also worked with the Houston Congressional Delegation to advocate for dredging, coastal protection, and Project-11, an initiative to deepen and widen the Houston Ship Channel.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Captain Diehl, who has exemplified the Coast Guard's motto, "Semper Paratus," throughout his career—both in and out of uniform. A special thank you to his wife, Annette; their children, Rachel, Daniel, and Michael; and 2 grandchildren, Avery and John—without their support, his accomplishments and service to country would not have been possible.

Congratulations to my friend. Bravo Zulu.

CELEBRATING 58 YEARS OF HEAD START

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, I recognize and celebrate 58 years of quality Head Start programming. I am grateful for Head Start and its dedicated staff that go above-and-beyond to meet the needs of children and families in Chicago and across the nation.

Since its establishment in 1965, Head Start has provided comprehensive early childhood education to over 35 million American children and families. Head Start was specifically designed to help break the cycle of poverty for low-income families by delivering targeted services to meet the emotional, social, nutritional, physical, and mental health of program participants. Having started out as a volunteer-based, eight-week, summer, bridge program back in the 1960's, Head Start now serves as the primary means by which pre-school children living in poverty receive school readiness support and services. Further, Head Start has assisted lower-income families, pregnant woman, infants, and toddlers through the introduction of the Early Head Start Program since 1995.

Presently, Head Start programs reach over one million children and their families each year. Head Start serves urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout the United States as well as in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories. In each Head Start site, the overarching goal remains the same—to support the positive growth and development of children from birth to age 5 through services that promote early learning, healthy choices, and family well-being. Head Start programs help America succeed by helping our most vulnerable citizens succeed in school and in life.

In my own Congressional District and hometown of Chicago, countless families have benefited greatly from Head Start and Early Head Start. I am grateful that Head Start serves almost 29,000 children and their families in Illinois. Over the past year, Head Start and its dedicated staff have helped over 17,000 children in my state keep up-to-date on health screenings, over 10,000 children receive preventative dental care, and over 20,000 families receive support services. In fact, Head Start employees in Illinois performed over 260,000 home visits over the past year. I personally know how valuable these home visits are; early in my career, I was responsible for training Head Start and other early childhood educators on how best to conduct home visits in inner-city Chicago.

There are dozens of amazing Head Start and Early Head Start sites in Chicago. The following community-based organizations are examples of those grantees that provide top-notch services in our local communities: Ada S. McKinley Community Services; Carole Robertson Center for Learning; Chicago Commons Association; the City of Chicago; Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago, Inc.; Henry Booth House; and Start Early.

Famed singer and songwriter Marvin Gaye once stated that “our children are the future, teach them well and let them lead the way.” Head Start is doing just that by making a valued investment in our children and therefore our future. I applaud President Biden for signing the Executive Order on Childcare on April 18, 2023, that will marshal additional federal funds and support for Head Start caregivers and childcare, in general.

I hope my colleagues will join me today in recognizing and celebrating 58 years of Head Start. Going forward, I commit to continuing to work to find additional ways, resources, and means to support this vital, early childhood education and school readiness program that serves millions of hard-working American families and our youngest citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 224.

CONGRATULATING THE MANHEIM TOWNSHIP BOWLING TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Manheim Township Bowling Team for capturing the state championship this year. This is the first time in the school district's history that their bowling team has earned the title of state champions.

Despite finishing third in Section One of the Lancaster-Lebanon League, the team took advantage of the opportunity and continued to defy the odds to be successful.

Head Coach Steve Schulz in an interview: “Our good performance in the regular season blossomed into undisputed excellence in the postseason. Each bowler persevered through disappointing shots or tenacious single pin leaves to throw the best shots to strike again.”

Congratulations to each of the students for their successful season. I wish them all continued success in all their future endeavors. Their efforts have certainly made our community proud. The perseverance they exhibited this season is remarkable.

Congratulations again to the Manheim Township Blue Streaks Bowling Team on capturing the state championship.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMARTER APPROACHES TO NUCLEAR EXPENDITURES (SANE) ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Smarter Approaches to Nuclear Expenditures (SANE) Act.

The United States will spend \$494 billion on our nuclear arsenal through Fiscal Year 2028, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Even the Pentagon acknowledges that this level of spending—more than XXXX—is not necessary to secure the United States. The Defense Department's 2013 Report on Nuclear Employment Strategy of the United States declared we can ensure the security of the U.S. and our allies and maintain a strong and credible strategic deterrent, while pursuing up to a one-third reduction in deployed nuclear weapons from the level established in the New START Treaty. Other experts, including a commission chaired by former Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General James Cartwright, said the U.S. could go even lower without jeopardizing security.

The SANE Act aims to inject fiscal responsibility and strategic reality into the United States' nuclear weapons planning by reducing the purchase of replacement nuclear submarines, cutting the existing ICBM fleet, cancelling the development of new ICBMs, removing the nuclear mission from the F-35, eliminating the life extension program for the tactical B61 gravity bomb and cancelling the development of a new air-launched cruise missile, and terminating construction of new facili-

ties for nuclear weapons processing and storage.

By strategically sizing our nuclear weapons programs, the SANE Act will save at least \$73 billion over 5 years and stay within the New START Treaty warhead levels.

America must reconcile the facts: our Defense budget is already squeezed, a nuclear deterrent is irrelevant to current international security challenges, yet a nuclear deterrent is still a national security imperative. The SANE Act would secure our nuclear deterrent without undercutting critical investments in readiness and other essential programs.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE JUSTICE FOR SHIREEN ACT

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce the Justice for Shireen Act today. I thank my House and Senate Colleagues that joined me to call for a report to Congress from the FBI and State Department, in consultation with the Attorney General, Secretary of Defense and Director of National Intelligence, on the death of American-Palestinian Journalist, Shireen Abu Akleh. I send my deep condolences to the Abu Akleh family for this terrible .killing and stand with them to demand justice and accountability.

Shireen Abu Akleh, an American-Palestinian Journalist, was killed, one year ago, on May 11, 2022. She was killed wearing a clearly marked press vest on assignment, reporting on a military raid which took place in the occupied city of Jenin. One year ago, I led a letter, signed by 58 Members of Congress, to the FBI and State Department calling for an independent and open investigation led by her home country, the United States, and 24 Senators have echoed this request. It is imperative that Congress be given the information it needs to conduct the necessary oversight. We must ensure no taxpayer dollars contribute to human rights violations or anyone's death—most especially an American abroad.

As an American, Ms. Abu Akleh was entitled to the full protections afforded to U.S. citizens living abroad. As Members of Congress, we need to uphold the values that our Nation was founded on, including human rights, equality for all, and freedom of speech. As Members of Congress, we have a duty to protect Americans reporting abroad. An Israeli investigation has concluded, finding that it was indeed an Israeli soldier that shot Ms. Abu Akleh in her line of duty. It is the responsibility of the U.S. to learn all the unanswered questions leading up to, during and after the fatal shot that killed Ms. Abu Akleh. Additionally, this bill requires an identification of any United States defense materials or services that were implicated in the death of Ms. Abu Akleh. No U.S. weapons and military services by the U.S. should be used to kill Americans on foreign soil. American taxpayers should not be paying for any violation of human rights abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in calling for justice and accountability for Shireen Abu Akleh.

CONDEMNING PROFITMAKING
FROM CHILD MUTILATION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the health care industry's obscene profitmaking derived from mutilating little children.

The grotesque fad of chemically castrating boys or performing breast removal surgery on girls is not healthcare. This is a shameful time for those doctors and hospitals that enjoy mutilating children—for sky-high profits (surgery costs about \$150,000).

As a society, we have decided that children and young adults have not developed the mental capacity to make wise decisions in certain areas. For example, if you are under 21 you can't rent a car, buy tobacco, buy a shot of whiskey, and you have to be 18 to vote or buy a gun. You are, after all, still maturing.

However, today, a 5-year-old or 10-year-old child can "decide" they are really the opposite gender, and once a doctor at a children's hospital gets a whiff of that, they smell profits and want to start the process of chemically, surgically, and often permanently castrating boys and maiming girls. It is horribly disfiguring of our children.

In my view this is not healthcare. This is abuse. It is parental-abuse for any parent to subject their child to this. It is unethical and unprofessional for any hospital or doctor to participate in this mutilation.

Victims of this abuse are starting to speak up, but for many it is too late.

If a person is 18 or older, and they want to castrate themselves, I would recommend counseling for mental illness, but at least they have reached the age of majority where they can make decisions, even dumb decisions, on their own behalf.

There is no excuse for any doctor who does this mutilation on anyone under 18. I would vote to criminalize this practice and revoke the medical license of any quack that does these surgeries and hormone treatments.

History will prove us right. The leftists agitating for child mutilation are fundamentally demonic and harming children.

This story is about a hospital in Minnesota claiming that "gender dysphoria" is just like asthma and diabetes. It is not. It is about big money for this hospital—a hospital that cares nothing about the long term impacts its actions will have on these children.

HONORING MS. DIANN BALL

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Diann Ball, a devoted public servant, as she celebrates her retirement after 50 years of service to the Marianna Black Library in Bryson City, North Carolina. For more than half a century, Ms. Ball has served the

Marianna Black Library and the Fontana Regional Library system with unwavering commitment and passion.

Ms. Ball began her journey at the Marianna Black Library on February 3, 1973, marking the inception of her career within the library system. Starting at the age of 18, like many others, Ms. Ball began with recording and cataloging books, diligently placing them on shelves and assisting patrons in finding their desired titles. As time progressed, she took on additional responsibilities, including organizing and conducting library programs, eventually taking on the role of program coordinator. Through these endeavors, Ms. Ball played a pivotal role in expanding access to learning and fostering a love for reading among individuals of all backgrounds throughout the rural and historically underprivileged mountains of Western North Carolina.

Ms. Ball's involvement in the Marianna Black Library's mobile library program, called "Rover the Bookmobile," demonstrated her enduring dedication to promoting literacy. Through this program, books were brought directly to patrons who would otherwise be unable to visit the library themselves. Ms. Ball contributed to educational advancement by supporting persons of all ages in their research and educational endeavors, facilitating an environment conducive to teaching and learning. Her dedication to empowering individuals to grow intellectually is truly commendable.

Ms. Ball's contributions have elevated the Marianna Black Library and the Fontana Regional Library system, making them better, more accessible and inclusive places for all. Her extensive knowledge of both the library and her community has made her the go-to person for information, particularly for visitors seeking information regarding their family history. Ms. Ball's warm and familial approach to assisting individuals has left a lasting impact on countless citizens in Swain County.

As we celebrate Diann's 50 years of service to the people of Swain County and the town of Bryson City, we extend our deepest appreciation and gratitude for her invaluable contributions. She has truly exemplified the spirit of public service throughout her distinguished career, and represents the best that Western North Carolina has to offer.

HONORING PEACHY LEE FOR HER
SUCCESS IN POETRY OUT LOUD

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Peachy Lee of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, for her commemorable achievements at the Poetry Out Loud competitions. Poetry Out Loud is an annual event which encourages students to study poetry by performing live recitations. The program is organized by the National Endowment of the Arts, The Poetry Foundation as well as various state and local agencies. The event is hosted local, regional, state and national levels.

Peachy Lee is a senior at the Lancaster Country Day School in Pennsylvania's 11th

Congressional District. In March, Peachy competed at the Pennsylvania Poetry Out Loud Competition and placed first to move on to the national competition. Her poetry selections were "Cartoon Physics, part 1" and "England in 1819." On May 9th and 10th, Peachy competed here in Washington, D.C. at the national competition and received an honorable mention for her performance. I am so proud to have students such as Peachy Lee representing my district and state here in the Nation's Capital. Again, congratulations to Peachy Lee on her accomplishments and best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors.

CELEBRATING CLERMONT COUNTY
DEPUTY BOBBY HAU PHAM,
MEDAL OF VALOR

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clermont County Deputy Bobby Hau Pham, who was awarded the Medal of Valor by President Biden for his heroic efforts while on duty, rescuing the life of a woman trapped in a car sinking underwater.

On November 23, 2021, Deputy Pham sprang into action after a woman drove her car into East Fork Lake, submerging it under water. Fighting through dark, frigid conditions, Deputy Pham sprang into action, jumped in the water, and fearlessly worked to rescue the driver from the sinking car.

Through his bravery, Deputy Pham saved her life, and he said he would do it all over again wherever needed. Deputy Pham is an example of the extraordinary actions our law enforcement officers make each and every day to protect our citizens and communities. I want to thank all who put on the uniform and risk their lives to protect us every day.

I thank Deputy Pham for his service and courage. I congratulate him on being recognized with the Medal of Valor, our Nation's highest honor for bravery by a public safety officer, for his actions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, due to a family funeral, I was not able to be present to cast my vote for the following roll call votes on May 17, 2023 and May 18, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 217; NAY on Roll Call No. 218; YEA on Roll Call No. 219; YEA on Roll Call No. 220; YEA on Roll Call No. 221; YEA on Roll Call No. 222; YEA on Roll Call No. 223; NAY on Roll Call No. 224; YEA on Roll Call No. 225; YEA on Roll Call No. 226; and YEA on Roll Call No. 227.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING FOR MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS RESPONSE ACT OF 2023

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Police Week, along with our Oklahoma colleague, Congresswoman STEPHANIE BICE. I am honored to introduce the bipartisan Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act of 2023.

Congress must support and stand with the brave men and women in law enforcement who work every day to keep our communities safe.

Our bipartisan bill provides greater Federal support grants to law enforcement departments at the state, local, territorial, and tribal level to obtain vital behavioral health crisis response training. More safely and effectively resolving behavioral health crisis situations can save lives.

We all know that post pandemic, too many in our country have experienced mental health crises. Our law enforcement and corrections officers are often on the front lines, responding to crisis calls related to these situations. The opioid epidemic complicates this situation in far too many stances.

As America's prisons and jails are filled with individuals with mental health challenges, Congress must do more to address mental health across the board. Our law enforcement officers need to be equipped with the proper tools, regimen, and training to adequately address mental health crises.

I urge my colleagues to support this vital legislation to do just that.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, during Bike to Work Week and in advance of Bike to Work Day, today I am introducing the Bicycle Commuter Act of 2023.

The bicycle's value on one's physical and mental health, to say nothing of the health of our communities, is more apparent than ever since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. For years, I've said that the bicycle is the most efficient form of urban transportation ever devised. Communities across the country are getting on board with this sentiment and substantially investing in building better, safer bike networks and improving facilities for biking to work. While rates of biking to work have increased by more than two-thirds since 2000, only 0.4 percent of workers biked to work in 2021. Congress has the opportunity to increase mode share and, critically, not penalize one mode of transportation over another.

Unfortunately, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (P.L. 115-97), suspended the previously available bicycle commuting reimbursement benefit through 2025, taking away a valuable financial incentive for people who choose to bike to

work. The Bicycle Commuter Act reverses the bicycle commuter benefit's suspension in Public Law 115-97 and changes the structure of the benefit by making the benefit a pre-tax benefit, allowing employees to receive a bicycle benefit of up to 30 percent of the parking benefit, allowing the bicycle benefit to be used in concert with the transit and parking benefits, and adding bikeshare and scootershare as eligible for the benefit and clarifying that electric bikes are eligible.

I thank Senator BROWN for his leadership on this legislation in the Senate. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to advance this critical effort for the health and wellbeing of the American public, our communities, and our planet.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CORPORAL CLARK E. WORLINE

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the life and service of a dedicated American, Corporal Clark E. Worline. Corporal Worline was born on May 19, 1930. He enlisted in the Army in June 1947 and was assigned to the U.S. Army Chemical Center in Maryland until his unit was sent to the Republic of Korea during the Korean War.

Corporal Worline served with Charlie Company, 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion, Eighth U.S. Army. His unit was part of the Second Infantry Division which came under heavy attack on November 24, 1950, during the Battle of Chongchon against the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces in the vicinity of Sinjang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Corporal Worline's unit was surrounded the next day, and six soldiers from his unit were reported missing in action on November 26, 1950. While no witness accounts or other historical records exist, the Army believes he may have been captured and marched to a temporary holding camp known as Death Valley in December 1950. In March 1951, a group of POWs were marched to POW Camp 5, located at Pyoktong, along the Yalu River in North Korea. Corporal Worline was likely in a group of 109 prisoners that made the march. Corporal Worline was never returned, and the U.S. Army declared him dead on December 31, 1953. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart Medal and also received the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, and the Republic of Korea War Service Medal.

During Operation GLORY, the exchange of dead between combatant countries of the Korean War in Autumn 1954, remains that were recovered from POW Camp 5, Pyoktong, North Korea, were returned to the U.S. Army. One set of Camp 5 remains was designated Unknown X-14326 and interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as The Punchbowl, in Hawaii.

In August 2019, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency analyzed those remains for possible identification through match with any soldier known to have been buried at Camp 5.

Although Corporal Worline was not reported as having been at Camp 5, the presence of two other soldiers from his unit at that camp and historical precedence that POWs often remained at such camps without the knowledge of others around them established the possibility that Corporal Worline died there without his presence or death being noted by either the North Korean People's Army or other American POWs.

His remains were identified on September 9, 2022, by The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. Their review made positive identification and allowed Corporal Worline to begin his final journey home. As part of his repatriation, the Honorable Transfer of Remains from Dayton International Airport took place on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. After Corporal Worline's memorial service on Friday, May 19, he will finally be laid to rest at Fairview Cemetery in his hometown of Dupont, Ohio with full military honors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the life and service of Corporal Clark E. Worline. On behalf of the people of Northwest Ohio, we recognize the sacrifice that Corporal Worline made for his country, and we thank his family for his service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING MS. JAN CANTWELL AND HER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. KEVIN KILEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize one of my constituents, Jan Cantwell, for her exceptional service and dedication to our community. Jan has devoted her life to serving others. Starting at a young age, she was an active participant in her community as a Girl Scout and a camp counselor for the YMCA. As a former small business owner, she volunteers full time in order to help her friends and neighbors. Since 2018, she has managed the Lake of the Pines Facebook group "The Voice," known as the lifeblood of information for her community. At all hours of the day and night, Jan tirelessly keeps thousands of residents apprised of any potential threats to the community in real time, whether from floods, fires, crimes, or other potentially dangerous situations. She stays up long into the night monitoring scanners for danger, usually not going to sleep until the early morning hours around 4 am. Jan spent over a decade serving on the Nevada County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team, specifically working with the ManTracker and Crisis Team sections before transitioning into the Command and Evidence Collection section. To this day, she maintains her first aid certification and emergency first responder training. Her commitment to public safety and community service is admirable, and California's Third Congressional District is fortunate for Jan Cantwell's leadership and involvement. Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to recognize Jan Cantwell for her extraordinary efforts to serve her community in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada.

COMMEMORATING ARMED FORCES
DAY AND THE MEN AND WOMEN
WHO SERVED AND SACRIFICED
FOR OUR FREEDOM

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of our brave men and women for Armed Forces Day, May 20, 2023.

Armed Forces Day is a 73-year tradition to thank all of those who are currently serving, as well as those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom. It is because of their duty, honor, and courage that the United States of America remains free today.

This Saturday, the Western New York Armed Forces Committee will host its 60th "Diamond Jubilee" Military Ball to celebrate the life, sacrifice, and accomplishments of service members and veterans who call our community home. Fourteen service members, across six branches of our Nation's military will be recognized and it is my honor to read their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a tribute to their service, and the service of their brothers and sisters in arms.

The Service Persons of the Year From the U.S. Army:

United States Army: Staff Sergeant Morgan L. Stewart

United States Army Reserve: Staff Sergeant Kyle C. Charsley

Army National Guard: Specialist Manny D. Cruz

The New York Guard: Staff Sergeant Joseph R. Szczygiel

The Service Persons of the Year From the United States Marine Corps:

United States Marine Corps: Sergeant Andres Trevino

United States Marine Corps Reserve: Corporal Alexander A. Karamcelis

The Service Persons of the Year From the United States Navy:

United States Navy: Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Aaron M. Bell

United States Navy Reserve: Hull Maintenance Technician 1st Class Trista L. Dickerson

The New York Naval Militia: Electrician's Mate Chief John Gerard

The Service Persons of the Year From the United States Air Force And Its Components:

United States Air Force: Staff Sergeant Nina A. Robbins

United States Air Force Reserve: Senior Airman Elizabeth A. Livergood

New York Air National Guard: Staff Sergeant Dhruva S. Poluru

The Service Persons of the Year From the United States Coast Guard:

United States Coast Guard: Marine Science Technician 1st Class Anthony R. Urbana

United States Coast Guard Reserve: Machinery Technician 2nd Class Kyle J. Schroeder

Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many proud service members and veterans, and our community has a long and proud tradition of military service. It is my honor to recognize their bravery.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank our law enforcement officials who everyday put their lives on the line for the protection of our communities. I also want to remember those who have been injured or have lost their lives in the line of duty. There are 562 Louisiana law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in service, and just this past week in my district, Cpl. Shawn Kelly was shot and critically wounded in Denham Springs after he responded to a call for help. Cpl. Kelly was not required to respond to the call for help. He was serving as a traffic officer but showed up to help his officers in need because of his strong call to service. Cpl. Kelly is currently in the hospital fighting for his life.

Law enforcement officers aren't in it for the money. Officers are overworked, underpaid, and underappreciated. Every day, when they head into work, they kiss loved ones because it may be the last time they are home. Law enforcement officers risk their lives to serve as the line between chaos and civil order in our community, and for this, we must thank our law enforcement officers and recognize them as the heroes they are.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on May 15, 2023, due to a delay with my flight. If I were present for Roll Call votes, I would have voted Aye for the following votes:

Roll Call No. 213, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3089—NDO Fairness Act; and

Roll Call No. 214, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended, H. Res. 363—Expressing support for recognizing "National Police Week".

CONGRATULATING DR. C.R. RAO
FOR RECEIVING THE INTER-
NATIONAL PRIZE IN STATISTICS

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Dr. Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, or C.R. Rao, for receiving the International Prize in Statistics on April 1, 2023. Often referred to as the Nobel Prize for statistics, this award recognizes his seminal 1945 work, Information and the Accuracy Attainable in the Estimation of Statistical Parameters, as fundamental to the modern field of statistics. This 2023 award comes after more than 80 years of profound contributions to sta-

tistics that continue to influence disciplines as diverse as medicine, computer science, genetics, and the social sciences. Dr. Rao has not only produced groundbreaking research; he has also supported and educated multiple generations of aspiring mathematicians and scientists.

Dr. C.R. Rao was born as the 8th of 10 children to Telugu speaking parents in the southern Indian state of present-day Karnataka. He demonstrated an impressive comprehension of mathematics from an early age and received a master's degree in mathematics at just 19 from Andhra University. With a desire to pursue a research career, Dr. Rao would go on to positions at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in Kolkata; Kings College at the University of Cambridge; University of Illinois, Urbana; University of Buffalo; University of Pittsburgh; and Pennsylvania State University. Over his, long career, Dr. Rao has published more than 400 research papers; authored 14 books, and become among the most prominent statisticians in the world. In addition to the International Prize in Statistics, Dr. Rao is also a recipient of the National Medal of Science, presented to him by President George W. Bush, and the Padma Vibhushan, awarded to him by Indian President K.R. Narayanan.

Throughout Dr. Rao's career, he has remained dedicated to supporting the next generation of statisticians and mathematicians. After completing his Ph.D. at Cambridge University under the guidance of the renowned statistician Sir Ronald Fisher, Dr. Rao returned to ISI so he could help develop the field of statistics in a newly independent India. In over 40 years at ISI, he developed a rich community of scholars. Dr. Rao's successful leadership inspired curiosity from colleagues around the world. He regularly welcomed visitors to Kolkata who wished to see firsthand his ability to spot talent and inspire young scholars to advance the fields of pure and applied mathematics, biology, genetics, economics, and other social sciences.

At age 60, Dr. Rao moved to the United States to help establish at research center at the University of Pittsburgh and to continue his love of scholarship and teaching. But Dr. Rao never lost his commitment to Indian scholarship. He later founded the C.R. Rao Advanced Institute of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science at the University of Hyderabad, to further ensure that aspiring statisticians and mathematicians could receive a world-class education in India. In both the United States and India, Dr. Rao has advised the research of over 50 Ph.D. candidates and many former students have carried Dr. Rao's influence into prominent roles in academia and government.

While pursuing his impressive work, Dr. Rao remained a devoted husband and father throughout his life. His beloved wife, C. Bhargavi, remained with him for 69 years of marriage before her passing in 2017. She provided a constant source of support. Dr. Rao is now 102 years old and lives with his daughter in Amherst, NY. With the support of his daughter, Dr. Rao remains involved in the research community to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest congratulations to Dr. Rao for being awarded the prestigious International Prize in Statistics. His dedication to advancing our understanding of mathematics is equal to none, both in his own work and through the countless former students who carry on his legacy.

COMMEMORATING THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF PIHRL AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY ROBERT H. MCKINNEY SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 26th anniversary of the Program in International Human Rights Law (PIHRL) at Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, founded by Professor George Edwards in 1997.

PIHRL is the first U.S. law school program of its kind to which the United Nations granted "Special Consultative Status" which underscores the PIHRL's remarkable commitment to and contributions to the United Nations' efforts of global promotion and protection of human rights.

PIHRL has embarked on an extraordinary range of global activities, including facilitating over 250 law student intern placements and consultancies in over 75 countries on 6 continents, working with human rights organizations, U.S. and foreign governmental bodies, academic institutions, and inter-governmental organization such as the UN.

I commend the PIHRL, Professor George E. Edwards and all current and former students and affiliates for their tireless work and significant contributions to legal scholarship in international human rights law.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF POLICE CHIEF FRANK KAMINSKI

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and long career of Park Ridge Police Chief Frank Kaminski. Today is Chief Kaminski's last day on duty.

I have had the opportunity to work with Chief Kaminski on numerous occasions, and I have always found him to be a dedicated and capable public servant. He has served as the Chief of Police for the City of Park Ridge since 2009, where he was brought out of retirement to serve the community in which he lived and revitalize that local Police Department. He succeeded, creating a Chief's Advisory Board (an initiative he also brought to Evanston, Illinois) and re-envisioned the City's department-wide philosophy behind the concept of community policing.

Prior to his service in Park Ridge, Chief Kaminski spent thirty-three years with the Evanston Police Department. He led the department for two decades before retiring in 2006. During his tenure, he presided over a dramatic 55 percent reduction in the index crime rate, and just like in Park Ridge, Chief Kaminski was a constant advocate behind the concept of community policing. He championed a host of local initiatives in this capacity, including the Citizens Police Academy, the Chief's Advisory Board, and a Police-Chaplain-Clergy Team to further deepen interactions between the Police Department and the public.

In a development that would characterize much of his career, the Chief originated and implemented a philosophy of policing that he called "The Partnership, Police and Community Working Together."

I am grateful that Chief Kaminski spent his working years in the service of two communities within the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. I have no doubt that the residents of these communities are better off thanks to his philosophy and his efforts to further interactions between the police and the public. We will all feel the loss in the absence of his continued leadership on these issues.

On behalf of the residents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, I thank Chief Kaminski for his service. He leaves shoes that will be very hard to fill, and I hope that Park Ridge is able to find someone who can lead the Department with the same skill and compassion that he did. I wish him nothing but the best in future endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ALAN SMITH

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedicated service of Alan Smith as he retires from the Contra Costa Library Commission.

Throughout his career, Alan has faithfully served his community and has played a key role in supporting Contra Costa County's library system. When I was serving as a Contra Costa County Supervisor, I was proud to appoint Alan to the Library Commission and I am immensely proud of the work he has done to serve our community during his tenure. His career with the Library Commission began in May 1997 and he served as chair from 1998 to 2001, 2003 to 2005, and once again from 2015 to 2017. He has worked throughout the State of California conducting training sessions to various library boards and commissions. Additionally, he served as President of the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC) and represented Contra Costa County on the Bay Area Library Information System's (BALIS) Advisory Board. In 2006, Alan was awarded the California Library Association's President's Award in recognition of his leadership.

As part of his service, Alan has been a fierce advocate for legislative action to strengthen our nation's public libraries. He chaired the 2006 Proposition 81 library bond measure campaign in Contra Costa County, presenting critical information on this subject and obtaining over fifty endorsements for the proposition. Alan also served as a key advisor to other State and local campaigns.

Please join me in congratulating Alan Smith on his well-deserved retirement after 26 years of service with the Contra Costa Library Commission.

CONGRATULATING DR. PAMELA GUNTER-SMITH ON HER RETIREMENT FROM YORK COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Pamela Gunter-Smith on her retirement as President of York College of Pennsylvania (YCP).

Over the course of her ten years of service, Dr. Gunter-Smith has impacted the lives of thousands of YCP students, parents, and alumni by modernizing YCP's curriculum and expanding opportunities for students of all backgrounds to pursue higher education.

Dr. Gunter-Smith's influence has also been felt off YCP's campus. During her time as President, she consistently took steps to expand YCP's role in the greater York community. This impact is best highlighted through numerous redevelopment and community engagement projects, including the soon-to-be completed Knowledge Park, as well as her service on boards such as the York County Industrial Development Authority, WellSpan Health, and Better York.

Mr. Speaker, the tireless work of Dr. Gunter-Smith has helped to establish YCP as one of America's best northeast colleges and will positively impact YCP students and York County residents for generations to come. I thank her for her steadfast dedication to improving the lives of students, her community, and wish her well in all future endeavors.

HONORING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF BRANDON BYLO, CORNELIUS RODGERS, AND ANONYMOUS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three exceptional residents of Connecticut's Second Congressional District: Brandon Bylo of Groton, off duty Police Lieutenant Cornelius Rodgers of the New London police department, and a third, an anonymous Good Samaritan. Each of these individuals acted swiftly and decisively to save the lives of two strangers in dire distress.

On the morning of April 21, 2023, a horrific collision occurred when an oil tanker collided with a stranded car, causing both to be engulfed in flames on the southbound lane of the State of Connecticut's largest bridge, the Gold Star Memorial Bridge. This bridge, which was built in the 1940's spans the Thames River between the City of New London and the City of Groton and accommodates thousands of trucks and cars every day. In the moments following the collision, three commuters traveling from behind the impacted vehicles, Mr. Brandon Bylo, Lt. Cornelius Rodgers, and the anonymous individual saw an inferno unfolding before their eyes and instinctually sprang into action. They sprinted over to the collapsed car, supported one passenger fleeing the scene before dragging and carrying the driver out from their seat—all as the flames from the

tanker careened toward the car. Moments after the extraction, the car in question was overtaken by the flames of the crash.

This was a shocking incident in the region that received national news coverage. The selfless behavior displayed by these three individuals reduced the sense of tragedy Connecticut residents continue to feel. These three constituents truly embody the spirit of heroism, risking life and limb in perilous circumstances to save another life without hesitation. It was Mr. Bylo's unwavering conviction to live out his life as "your brother's keeper" which prompted his actions that fateful day. Lt. Rodgers similarly went above and beyond, rushing into action despite being off-duty at the time of the collision. Each had their own reasons to put themselves first that day—Mr. Bylo was on an errand with his two-year-old daughter—and yet, clearly, their unyielding sense of compassion and duty took over.

Mr. Speaker, we must also observe the tragic loss of Mr. Wallace "Wally" Fauquet III, the oil tanker driver, who lost his life in the crash. He leaves behind a loving family and many friends and coworkers who viewed him as a hardworking, friendly person who was diligently doing his job on the day of this tragic conflagration. We mourn the void that is left in his wake. We also find solace through the selfless actions of those in the eastern Connecticut community. These three individuals, who have sought no praise in their lifesaving response, are a continuing example of the good-natured people that uplift the Second District of Connecticut. They were honored by the New London Police Department on May 8 at a well-attended community event at the New London Garde Theater, and it is most appropriate that we extend this recognition. To that end, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Brandon Bylo, Lt. Cornelius Rodgers, and their Good Samaritan cohort, committing their deeds into our national memory.

HONORING THE 60TH
ANNIVERSARY OF GREG'S PIZZA

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Greg's Pizza on its 60th anniversary in business. This family-owned pizzeria, nestled in the heart of Johnson City, Tennessee, has been a culinary landmark in our community for the past 60 years.

Since its establishment in 1963, Greg's Pizza has been a bastion of quality, service, and culinary excellence. Through dedication and passion, they have built a legacy that spans generations, with their mouthwatering pizzas and warm, inviting atmosphere that brings the community together. Over the years, they have provided thousands of jobs in the community with many of them being first-time jobs for young people.

Their commitment to using only the finest ingredients and their traditional, time-tested recipes have earned them the well-deserved title of the best pizza in the Tri-Cities. Greg's Pizza has been more than just a place to enjoy delicious pizza; it has also been a Washington County gathering spot where families, friends,

and neighbors come together to celebrate milestones, share stories, and create lasting memories.

The success of Greg's Pizza is a testament to the hard work and perseverance of its owners, Eddy and Cindy Zayas-Bazan, their dedicated staff, and the local community that has supported them for six decades. Their achievements stand as a shining example of the American dream in action, showcasing how a small, family-owned business can thrive and have a lasting impact on the community it serves.

I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Greg's Pizza and its owners Eddy and Cindy on their 60th anniversary. May their continued success be an inspiration to small businesses across our great Nation, and may they serve as a reminder of the power of community, hard work, and dedication to quality.

HONORING WORK SKILLS CORPORATION FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 50th anniversary and the life-changing work of Work Skills Corporation in Brighton, Michigan. For the past half-century, this non-profit has empowered and enriched the lives of people with disabilities and other barriers by providing meaningful employment and both educational and artistic opportunities.

It's been said that necessity is the mother of invention, but in the case of Work Skills, its creation was the work of both mothers and fathers, motivated by both necessity and love. In the early 1970s, a group of parents of children with disabilities saw very few options after high school to support their children, so they created the opportunities we celebrate today.

In 1973, they officially founded Work Skills Corporation, with the goal of creating innovative training and vocational programs to allow participants to identify skills and perform real work for competitive pay. In so doing, the programs offered benefits to participants, employers, and the community at large.

In 1978, Work Skills Corporation moved to a larger location on Weber Street to expand services, as the organization's person-centered approach to vocational assessment, training, and job placement programs flourished and evolved. Soon after, Work Skills Corporation established its first account with General Motors, a relationship that continues today. It was also at the Weber Street building where Work Skills Corporation first received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, a demonstration of commitment to continuous improvement Work Skills has maintained to this day.

By 1981, Work Skills Corporation had outgrown its space again and moved to its current location on Summit Street to accommodate a larger portfolio of community and business opportunities and increased demand for services. Work Skills Corporation partnered with Brighton Area Schools to offer on-site adult education classes, developed a custodial training program and was awarded contracts with the Michigan Department of Transpor-

tation, and provided mailroom services for Detroit Diesel Corporation.

Today, Work Skills Corporation has evolved to operate nine distinct service lines, and has enriched the lives of more than 50,000 participants who have collectively earned more than \$25 million through meaningful work opportunities and artistic commissions.

For 50 years, Work Skills Corporation has helped people with disabilities create a pathway to economic opportunity, equity, and advancement. As a result, we are a more vibrant, inclusive, and supportive community, and I express my profound gratitude and best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASADENA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Pasadena Strawberry Festival located in Pasadena, Texas.

When the 1900 Galveston hurricane decimated the island, it flooded much of Pasadena's cropland. Afterward, Clara Barton—founder of the American Red Cross—was rendering aid to residents in the area when she realized the surrounding farmers were now in desperate need of a new cash crop. Acting swiftly, she arranged to have strawberry plants shipped to the city. The plants flourished, and strawberries quickly became the town's most popular commodity. Pasadena's strawberries, famous for their unique size and sweetness, earned the city the title of "Strawberry Capital of the South." Trains carried freight cars full of the bright red berries as far north as Chicago.

By the late 1930s—and the rise of Texas's oil and gas industry—refineries soon stood in place of the strawberry fields that once drove the town's economy. However, the historical impact on the community was not forgotten. In 1974, the city held its first Strawberry Festival to celebrate the opening of the Pasadena Historical Museum; the festival continues to this day.

Each May, Pasadena citizens gather to remember their town's heritage as the Strawberry Capital of the South. In fact, the festival is one of the largest and most beloved events in the area, drawing in visitors from across the state. In addition to the various attractions and entertainment offered, attendees can view the "World's Largest Strawberry Shortcake," barbecue cookoffs, and beauty pageants. The festival also awards scholarships to local students.

Mr. Speaker, the Pasadena Strawberry Festival is a testament to the fortitude and ingenuity of Pasadena's citizens, and it is an honor to recognize this milestone. Congratulations to those involved in the festival's continued growth and success. May the next 50 years prove even more fruitful.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1715–S1756

Measures Introduced: Eighty-four bills and ten resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1670–1753, S. Res. 218–226, and S. Con. Res. 10.

Pages S1742–46

Measures Passed:

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 209, recognizing the significance of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S1727–29

Hirono Amendment No. 90, to amend the preamble.

Pages S1728–29

National Minority Health Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 221, promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2023, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

Pages S1754–55

50th Anniversary of the Homecoming of Vietnam Prisoners of War: Senate agreed to S. Res. 222, expressing the approval of Congress for the 50th anniversary celebration of the homecoming of United States prisoners of war from Vietnam and in recognition of the extraordinary service and sacrifices of such prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

Page S1755

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next

pro forma session: Friday, May 19, 2023, at 9:45 a.m.; Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 12 noon; Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.; and Friday, May 26, 2023, at 9 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, May 26, 2023, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

Page S1755

Papillion Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Darrel James Papillion, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana; and that the confirmation vote on the nomination occur at 5:30 p.m.

Page S1755

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 49 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 132), Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Pages S1715–27, S1729–37

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy.

Pages S1737–38

Messages from the House:

Page S1741

Measures Referred:

Page S1741

Executive Communications:

Pages S1741–42

Petitions and Memorials:

Page S1742

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S1746–47

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S1747–53

Additional Statements:

Pages S1739–41

Amendments Submitted:

Page S1754

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S1754

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S1754

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—132)

Page S1735

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:52 p.m., until 9:45 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1755.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FINANCIAL REGULATORS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine financial regulators, focusing on financial stability, supervision, and consumer protection in the wake of recent bank failures, after receiving testimony from Michael S. Barr, Vice Chair for Supervision, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Martin J. Gruenberg, Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Todd M. Harper, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; Michael J. Hsu, Acting Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; Adrienne A. Harris, New York State Department of Financial Services Superintendent, New York; and Clothilde V. Hewlett, California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation Commissioner, Sacramento.

TAX INCENTIVES

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine tax incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act, focusing on jobs and investment in energy communities, after receiving testimony from Katie Harris, BlueGreen Alliance, and Philip Rossetti, R Street Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; Daniel R. Simmons, Simmons Energy and Environmental Strategies, Falls Church, Virginia; and Patty Horvath, Pittsburgh Regional Alliance, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

WESTERN BALKANS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States policy towards the Western Balkans, after receiving testimony from Derek H. Chollet, Counselor, and Gabriel Escobar,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of State.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

S. 546, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize law enforcement agencies to use COPS grants for recruitment activities;

S. 1387, to reauthorize the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1530, to permit COPS grants to be used for the purpose of increasing the compensation and hiring of law enforcement officers; and

S. 994, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

NURSING HOME INSPECTION SYSTEM

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the strained nursing home inspection system and the need to improve oversight, transparency, and accountability, after receiving testimony from Erin Bliss, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; Shelly Williamson, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Jefferson City, on behalf of the Association of Health Facility Survey Agencies; Leah McMahon, Colorado State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Denver; and Susan Feng Lu, Purdue University Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. School of Business and Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering, West Lafayette, Indiana.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 98 public bills, H.R. 3457–3554; and 11 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 45–46; and H. Res. 420–428, were introduced.

Pages H2452–56

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2460–61

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1345, to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–70); and

H.J. Res. 45, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of

Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans” (H. Rept. 118–71).

Page H2452

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Craig Pridgen, True Bethel Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, New York.

Page H2431

Expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 40, expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies, by a recorded vote of 301 yeas to 119 nays with 3 answering “present”, Roll No. 227.

Pages H2433–41

Agreed to:

D’Esposito amendment (No. 1 printed in part C of H. Rept. 118–59) that recognizes the important work that local law enforcement personnel do every day and states that officers should have certain rights during investigations into alleged misconduct such as legal resources and counsel; encourages states across the nation to adopt their own Bill of Rights to protect our local law enforcement and denounces calls to defund the police (by a yeas-and-nays vote of 268 yeas to 156 nays, Roll No. 226).

Page H2440

H. Res. 398, providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2494) and (H.R. 3091) and the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 40) was agreed to Tuesday, May 16th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 p.m. on Monday, May 22nd for Morning Hour debate.

Page H2451

Permission to File Report: Agreed by unanimous consent that the Committee on Education and the Workforce be permitted to file its report to accompany House Joint Resolution 45 at any time today, May 18, 2023.

Page H2451

Quorum Calls Votes: One yeas-and-nays vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2440 and H2441.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Admin-

istration, and Related Agencies held a markup on the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill. The Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a markup on the Subcommittee on Homeland Security FY 2024 Appropriations Bill. The Subcommittee on Homeland Security FY 2024 Appropriations Bill was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

PUTTING THE ‘STABLE’ IN ‘STABLECOINS’: HOW LEGISLATION WILL HELP STABLECOINS ACHIEVE THEIR PROMISE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Digital Assets, Financial Technology, and Inclusion held a hearing entitled “Putting the ‘Stable’ in ‘Stablecoins’: How Legislation Will Help Stablecoins Achieve Their Promise”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

STANDING UNITED AGAINST THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA’S ECONOMIC AGGRESSION AND PREDATORY PRACTICES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific held a hearing entitled “Standing United Against the People’s Republic of China’s Economic Aggression and Predatory Practices”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:45 a.m., Friday, May 19

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, May 22

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Babin, Brian, Tex., E463, E469
 Blumenauer, Earl, Ore., E464, E466
 Carson, André, Ind., E464, E468
 Courtney, Joe, Conn., E468
 Davis, Danny K., Ill., E463, E467
 DeSaulnier, Mark, Calif., E468

Edwards, Chuck, N.C., E465
 Gosar, Paul A., Ariz., E465
 Graves, Garret, La., E467
 Harshbarger, Diana, Tenn., E463, E469
 Hudson, Richard, N.C., E464
 Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E461
 Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E466
 Kiley, Kevin, Calif., E466

Krishnamoorthi, Raja, Ill., E467
 Langworthy, Nicholas A., N.Y., E462, E467
 Latta, Robert E., Ohio, E466
 Malloakis, Nicole, N.Y., E465
 Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E462, E468
 Slotkin, Elissa, Mich., E463, E469
 Smucker, Lloyd, Pa., E462, E464, E465, E468
 Wenstrup, Brad R., Ohio, E465



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