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No. 32

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 10 a.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, You are not only just and holy, but Your mercies endure forever. Because of Your goodness, we receive Your forgiveness and love. Forgive our past mistakes, and give us new hearts that we might serve You with passion.

Today, bless our Senators physically, mentally, and spiritually. Lord, strengthen them so that they will control their thoughts, words, and actions. Give them such providential guidance that all their own decisions will be made for Your glory.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 16, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lester Martinez-Lopez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

CHINA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, so as the Senate closed business last night, we did something that I think would make the American people proud. The Senate spoke in one voice condemning the Chinese Communist Party for brazenly violating American sovereignty with their surveillance balloons earlier this month.

Our resolution—bipartisan—championed by Senators TESTER and COLLINS, sends a clear message that China's belligerence, their near-endless escalating tactics, and their scornful disregard for American sovereignty is unacceptable.

I want to thank Senator TESTER above all. He has been the leader in this whole country on this issue, and I appreciate Senator COLLINS working with him, and I appreciate both of their good work putting this resolution together with strong bipartisan unity.

This resolution condemning China is precisely the kind of bipartisanship Americans expect at a time like this. Instead of each party attacking each other, we are united in this resolution, in condemning China, exactly as we should be.

And last night's resolution is just one step. Senator TESTER is also taking the lead on a bipartisan effort to get to the bottom of why we didn't learn about these balloons sooner. It is a very important question that the American people deserve answers to,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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and I am fully, fully supportive of this effort.

Again, this is the kind of bipartisan-ship the country expects. When China is pushing the boundaries, they don't want Democrats and Republicans pointing fingers at each other. They don't want any premature attacks. They want us to come together to respond to the threats posed by the CCP, and that is just what we did last night.

Now, yesterday's resolution was not the only way the Senate was focused on standing firm against the CCP. We also, yesterday, had a briefing from the Department of Defense on our ongoing competition with China. I want to thank the briefing team for their hard and ongoing work. While all the details are classified, I want to make a few points.

First, the United States is competing with China at every level: economically, militarily, geopolitically, technologically, in terms of our fundamental values, and more. It won't be enough to outcompete China in any single area. We must be ready to compete with them on all of these fronts because that is what China is trying to do.

Second, China's main goal with respect to the United States is to displace us. Their main goal with respect to the United States is to displace us, displace NATO in Europe, and displace our allies as the world leaders on the military and geopolitical side and in driving the innovations of tomorrow, many of which affect our national security: AI, quantum computing, 5G and other advanced communications technologies, bio manufacturing, clean tech, and especially—especially—the next generation of semiconductors.

China wants to be ahead of us on everything because, if they do, they will be the ones writing the rules of the road on these technologies. An autocracy writing these rules, an autocracy that often uses these technologies to oppress its people and spy on them, that would have dangerous consequences for the world's democratic nations. A change in those rules with China in the lead would make the world a safe haven, unfortunately, for autocracy.

And, finally, the Chinese Communist Party is not constraining itself in pursuit of these goals. They are all in. They will do whatever it takes to beat us, and if we do not respond in kind, we won't be able to keep up.

So yesterday's briefing made a couple of things exceedingly clear for the Senate and, frankly, for the House. Most importantly, yesterday's briefing on our competition with China reaffirmed the need for Congress to work together and pass a clean debt limit without brinksmanship, without hostage-taking. Few things would hand the world over to the Chinese Communist Party more than a first-ever default by the United States. Defaulting would send a loud and clear message to the world that America cannot be trusted, that

squabbling democracies are incapable of governing, and that the best days of our country are squarely behind us. To prevent China from overtaking us, we must raise the debt ceiling on a bipartisan basis as soon as we can—no chaos, no brinksmanship, no default.

Yesterday's briefing also made clear that the kind of cuts that MAGA Republicans are pushing would be a disaster for staying ahead on China. China would love to see the kind of cuts that the MAGA wing of the Republican Party is pushing. It would guarantee that they would overtake us across the board—on defense and military preparedness; on innovation; on American manufacturing, science, and workforce; and so much more—so much more.

So let me say it again. China would love nothing more than to see the kinds of cuts across the board that MAGA Republicans are pushing.

The kind of cuts Republicans are talking about are dangerous. Instead, Congress must complete the appropriations process as we have in the last 2 years. China is all in on beating us. They are going to do whatever it takes. And as the Chinese Communist Party drives their country forward, the worst thing we can do is put America in reverse with funding levels from 2 years ago. It would be malpractice given what is at stake.

Now, we have done some good, important work to outcompete China in the last few years under this Democratic-led Senate: infrastructure, CHIPS and Science, the IRA, and last year's omnibus bill. But we shouldn't stop there. We need to ensure all of those bipartisan efforts are funded. We need to redouble our efforts. We need to keep pushing ahead.

There is no doubt that the United States and our allies and partners remain the world leaders militarily, economically, and in innovation.

But if that is to continue, the United States must be all in—all in—on outcompeting China and make it clear to President Xi that his autocratic campaign to dominate the 21st century will not—will not—succeed.

MEDICAID

Mr. President, now, on another important issue, I have a few, I think, very important things to talk about today, including the bill we passed last year and the briefing and its effect on what we should do in terms of debt ceiling and our budget. But here is another one: Medicaid.

Yesterday, I joined with a few of my colleagues to shine light on how radical out-of-touch MAGA Republicans in the House are. In the House budget, they are putting pen to paper on proposals that would devastate American families and slash the programs that millions of people rely on. These are not abstract issues. They would cause immense pain to countless Americans.

Republicans have been scrambling over the past few days to try to convince the American people that they won't touch Medicare or Social Secu-

rity, even though we literally have years' worth of statements and speeches showing that many of them believe just the opposite.

But another critical question remains unanswered and must be addressed. Are Republicans also going to target Medicaid? Medicaid is one of the most important programs in the country. One in four Americans rely on Medicaid to cover their healthcare needs.

Let me say that again. One in four Americans rely on Medicaid to cover healthcare needs.

It is not just low-income Americans that benefit from Medicaid—as important as helping them is, which, of course, it is—it is also middle-class families who have to pay, for instance, to put their parents in nursing homes. A couple in their mid forties, who have parents in nursing homes or assisted living, would have a huge burden placed upon them if Medicaid were slashed. These families work hard. Cutting Medicaid would put a huge economic burden on them as they struggle and work to stay in the middle class.

And Medicaid helps others too: people with disabilities, pregnant women, children, and so many more.

Let me say again: Medicaid is absolutely a middle-class issue in addition to helping low-income Americans. And we, on our side, want to help both.

Are Republicans going to strip away coverage for one in four Americans? We really don't know because Republicans won't show us their plan.

Americans are right to be worried about their Medicaid benefits because these MAGA proposals are coming right at them, at their expense. We must work to protect and strengthen programs like Medicaid, not put them on the chopping block.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Mr. President, finally, ESG. Reports are out that Republicans will introduce a measure targeting a new rule from the Department of Labor that allows—repeat: allows; not requires—allows fiduciaries to consider the impacts of climate change and other ESG issues when making investment decisions.

Across the country, hard-right State legislatures are up in arms trying to stop State investment funds from working with money managers who dare commit the oh-so-heinous offense of looking at the big picture when making investments, including how climate change and other issues can present financial risks.

I just want to point out the obvious: Nothing in this DOL rule imposes any requirement on anyone.

Let me say that again. Nothing in the DOL rule that they seek to repeal imposes any requirement on anyone. In fact, it goes out of its way to make sure decision-making remains solely in the hands of the fiduciary.

Republicans love to talk about small government and letting the private sector do its work. But their obsession with eliminating ESG would do just

the opposite. Many companies realize that as we move to clean energy, their path to profitability depends on adapting to those changes. Hard-right MAGA Republicans—climate deniers, they are—are trying to straitjacket those companies with their ideological obsessions and prevent them from adapting to the future for their own good and for the good of the country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

CRIME

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, a growing share of American citizens across the political spectrum say tackling rampant crime must be a top priority. And it is certainly no mystery why they feel that way. Just take my own hometown. One neighborhood in East Louisville just endured more than 30 burglaries in 30 days.

Last year, Washington, DC, saw 203 homicides. Those victims included 18 children, a huge increase over the prior year.

And 2023 is already off to an even worse start. Homicides and carjackings are already ahead of last year's pace. Last week, the city's crime wave touched Congress directly. A Congresswoman from Minnesota, Representative ANGIE CRAIG, was attacked in the elevator of her own apartment building right here in the District.

It turns out the Congresswoman's attacker had been arrested and convicted no fewer than 12 times before, most recently for assaulting a Metropolitan police officer. But there he was, this career criminal, just out roaming the streets.

As the Congresswoman herself put it afterwards:

We have to get these repeat offenders off the street.

You are darn right we do. Unfortunately, the radical local government here is doing precisely the opposite.

The DC Council has responded to the crime wave—listen to this—with a new bill to make the city even softer on crime. It lowers maximum penalties for violent crimes and creates new ways to shorten the sentences of incarcerated felons.

Well, the good news is the Constitution actually gives the U.S. Congress final say over issues in our Nation's Capital. And when the soft-on-crime local government has become completely incompetent; when Members of Congress can't go about their daily lives without being attacked; when families cannot come to visit our cap-

ital in safety, then it is about time the Federal Government provides some adult supervision.

Senate Republicans, led by our colleague from Tennessee BILL HAGERTY, are leading an effort to use the rightful authority of Congress to address this emergency.

Last week, the Republican House passed their companion bill as well. And things have gotten so undeniably bad that more than 30 House Democrats crossed the aisle to support it.

So I hope the Senate Democratic leader will put partisanship aside and turn to Senator HAGERTY's measure quickly when we reconvene. The safety and security of our citizens simply cannot wait.

FOREIGN POLICY

Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, Putin's brutal war on Ukraine has forced both us Americans and our friends in Europe to take a long, hard look at our country's commitments to military spending and self-defense.

NATO and the West have let important capabilities actually atrophy over time: like defense funding; like military modernization; like looking after our defense industrial base, which creates good American jobs, ensures our own security, and allows us to be the arsenal for our friends and allies.

It serves America's core national interests for us to exercise strong leadership in the world. Our security and Europe's security are interlinked. Our economies are intertwined. But the rest of NATO must do more to follow our lead: increase defense spending, upgrade their capabilities, and put skin in the game.

Tomorrow, I will be taking this message directly to our European friends in person. With a number of our colleagues, I will be traveling to the Munich Security Conference. I will come as a staunch supporter of NATO, but I will also come with homework assignments for our European friends. I will speak as a friend, but I will speak frankly.

Hard power is what kept the peace during the Cold War. Our allies simply have to reinvest in hard power. In the short term, both America and our allies need to serve our own interests by investing in the munitions and weapons systems that will help Ukraine defeat the invasion.

But this chapter of realism and resolve can't end with Ukraine, because the long-term threats and challenges that we face actually go much deeper. A nuclear-armed Russia poses a threat to the United States and to NATO. And China poses an even greater threat still to American interests and those of our allies.

These challenges are multifaceted; they are global; and they are actually only growing. So I look forward to talking to our allies in Munich, both about America's resolve to lead and Europe's responsibility to shoulder more of the load.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on one final matter, yesterday, the Judiciary Committee witnessed another disaster of a performance from one of President Biden's nominees. This time, the President wants a lifetime appointment for a New Hampshire lawyer who represented an ultra-elite private high school against a 15-year-old girl who was suing the school after she had been sexually assaulted on campus.

Lawyers serve unpopular tasks all the time, but while representing the powerful prep school, Michael Delaney subjected the teenage victim and her family to unusually aggressive hardball tactics. They were, frankly, shocking.

The young lady and her family had hoped to file a lawsuit anonymously as Jane Doe and persuade the school to change its ways. That was the path to accountability. But Mr. Delaney fought the girl's desire for privacy and anonymity to use as a weapon against her. He said he would only let the girl remain anonymous if she was subjected to a gag order about the incident. And he threatened that if the family refused to settle on terms favorable to the school and went to trial, he would ask the court to reveal her name. In other words, Delaney tried to turn a teenage victim's privacy into a hostage to help a prep school avoid accountability. The girl's father saw Delaney's behavior for what it was. He called it a "threat."

The victim says she spoke to the Biden Department of Justice while they were vetting Mr. Delaney. Apparently, the administration ignored her. So, apparently, did her two Senators. According to the Boston Globe, the victim's parents pleaded their case against Delaney to both our colleagues from New Hampshire. But instead of taking the family's pain to heart, both of their Senators returned blue slips anyway. They even personally introduced Delaney at his hearing.

Democrats have long claimed they want empathy in their judges. I prefer, frankly, neutrality and faithfulness to the Constitution, myself, but empathy is what liberals say they want. I defy anyone to watch yesterday's hearing and find one ounce of empathy in Delaney for this child victim.

My colleagues across the aisle will have to catch a rerun because almost none—listen to this—almost none of the Judiciary Committee Democrats could even bring themselves to show up for yesterday's hearing. They avoided the hearing. They didn't want to hear it.

But guess who did attend. The brave young woman's family was there. They wanted Delaney to know they will never forget how he treated their daughter.

So I would urge the President to reconsider this nomination and urge my colleagues to reject it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ENERGY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it was good to hear President Biden acknowledge in his State of the Union speech last week that we still need oil. He is right.

And while I am a big supporter of clean energy, and I am proud to come from a State that gets the majority of our electricity generation from renewables, the fact of the matter is that even in States like mine, conventional energy sources like oil and natural gas are essential to maintaining an affordable, stable, and reliable energy supply.

Renewable technologies have come a long way, but they still have a ways to go. And we, literally, wouldn't be able to keep the lights on in this country without conventional energy sources like natural gas and coal.

So it was good to hear the President acknowledge that we still depend on affordable and reliable legacy sources of energy like oil. But it would be even better if he pursued an agenda that acknowledged it, instead of an agenda that is actively hostile to conventional energy production.

From canceling the Keystone XL Pipeline on day 1 to hiking taxes on oil and gas companies and making it more challenging for companies to make more oil and gas, the President's agenda seems designed to do everything it can to discourage production of the oil the President says that we need.

And then there is ESG. The Biden administration has been attempting to use the long arm of regulation to implement ESG policies—environmental, social, and governance policies—to advance its anti-conventional energy climate agenda. The President's ESG regulations are designed to choke off investment into the oil and gas industries and even to other essential industries like farming and ranching due to their natural methane emissions.

Take, for example, the Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed climate disclosure rule. This would require publicly traded companies to disclose information, not only about their own greenhouse gas emissions but, in many cases, about those of their suppliers and even their customers. It would also require companies to determine the effects of climate-related risks on each line item of their consolidated financial statements.

There are multiple problems with this rule, one notable problem being the fact that it is a totally unworkable regulation. Companies have zero control over the emissions of their suppliers and customers and little to no ability to accurately gauge those emissions.

But leaving aside the unworkability factor, the major problem with this

proposed rule is that it is clearly designed to coerce companies to sever or reconsider their ties with certain industries, notably, of course, the conventional energy industry but also with other industries like agriculture.

Private companies, of course, have the right to consider whatever factors they want when determining what companies they would do business with and what they will invest in. But the Federal Government should not be putting its thumb on the scale. And the SEC rule is just one of the regulations the Biden administration has put forward designed to encourage investment in industries that aren't part of Democrat's Green New Deal vision.

There is the Biden administration's proposed Federal contractor rule, which, like the SEC rule, would require companies applying for certain Federal contracts to disclose not only their own direct and indirect emissions but also, in some cases, related emissions over which the contractor has no control.

The Federal Reserve—they are getting in on the act, too—has stepped outside its statutory role and established a pilot program to analyze climate-related financial risks for the Nation's largest banks. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Fed have all put forward principles for large banks on "climate-related financial risk management." And the list goes on.

Then there is the Department of Labor. In November, the Department of Labor issued a new rule that would allow pension plan fiduciaries—these are individuals who manage Americans' retirement accounts—to consider ESG; in other words, environmental, social, governance factors and not just the rate of return when investing their customers' money.

In other words, the individuals—think about this—the individuals who manage \$11.7 trillion of Americans' retirement will no longer be required to make investment decisions based solely on maximizing return. Instead, they will now be allowed to opt for a less valuable investment if they prefer its environmental profile.

I want you to just let that sink in for a minute. The Biden administration has essentially announced that its top goal is not giving Americans a secure retirement; it is giving them a retirement that supports the Biden administration's environmental agenda. The Biden administration is apparently happy to let your retirement money suffer as long as the investments are advancing its Green New Deal goals.

The very idea that the government is encouraging fiduciaries to consider anything but maximizing a return on Americans' retirement investments is outrageous.

I am very pleased to join all of my Republican colleagues on Senator BRAUN's resolution to overturn this rule.

I also reintroduced legislation earlier this week that would require Federal financial regulators, like the Securities and Exchange Commission, to estimate the impact their rules would have on gas, food, and energy prices, and prevent them from imposing any rule that would drive up these prices when the economy is struggling with high inflation, which gets to the heart of the matter here, and that is the impact the President's ESG rules are going to have on hard-working Americans.

Leaving aside the question of whether or not the government has any business using financial regulation to advance its environmental agenda, the fact of the matter is that choking off investment to the oil and gas industries could seriously impair our oil and gas supply. And that would mean two things: higher prices for Americans and a less reliable supply of energy. And that is a big problem.

Americans have had a tough 2 years in the Biden economy. The last thing they need is higher energy bills for the long term, and the last thing our country needs is a less reliable energy supply that forces us to rely on foreign energy sources or forces Americans to deal with regular blackouts and other supply problems.

President Biden talks about building an economy that works for working families. Unfortunately, so far, his policies have pretty much succeeded in doing just the opposite. And if the President continues to pursue his radical ESG agenda, working families, once again, will be the ones who pay the price.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Kansas.

CONGRATULATING THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS ON THEIR VICTORY IN SUPER BOWL LVII

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, for the second time in four seasons, the Kansas City Chiefs are the Super Bowl champions. Head Coach Andy Reid, Patrick Mahomes, and Travis Kelce cemented their Hall of Fame careers with another incredible season and Super Bowl LVII victory.

I want to acknowledge Chiefs owner Clark Hunt and Chiefs president Mark Donovan for running an exceptional organization and building the foundation for this remarkable team.

Chiefs Kingdom, ranging from Kansas to Missouri—and sometimes it is one of the few things that Kansans and Missourians agree on, or at least we pretend to agree on or disagree on other things. Chiefs Kingdom, ranging from

Kansas to Missouri and all across the Midwest, has the best fans in the NFL, and I look forward to the fan base growing even bigger as the Chiefs continue their dynasty for many years to come.

I congratulate Kathy Nelson with the Kansas City Sports Commission and Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas on a successful Super Bowl Parade that had an estimated 1 million people from Kansas and Missouri in attendance.

Congratulations also to the training and medical staff from the University of Kansas Health System for getting the Chiefs players healthy and ready to win Super Bowl LVII.

Kansas City will, again, be in the spotlight soon as we host the NFL draft this April.

I look forward to showcasing what Kansas and Kansas City has to offer as we continue to grow our region.

Congratulations to the entire Kansas City Chiefs organization.

I yield to my colleague and friend, the senior Senator from Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I thank Senator MORAN for the opportunity to say a few words and congratulations to the Kansas City Chiefs and all of Chiefs Kingdom. I just want to add my words of congratulations to the Hunt family. To Clark and Tavia and all of their kids, thank you for your friendship, thank you for your tremendous leadership.

I want to say congratulations to the president of the Chiefs, Mark Donovan, to Andy Reid, and I particularly want to add a word of congratulations to my friend Harrison Butker, who delivered the game-winning kick, both in the AFC Championship and also in the Super Bowl. He had a tremendous, tremendous season. Of course, the entire team had a tremendous season. But, just on a personal note to Harrison, well done, man—as you would say, to the heights.

So congratulations to all of the team, and I look forward to seeing this resolution and the memorialization of this victory entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

With that, I yield back to the Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. I thank my colleague from Missouri.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 71, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 71) congratulating the Kansas City Chiefs on their victory in Super Bowl LVII.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, 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. 71) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the scheduled vote right now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Daniel J. Calabretta, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

VOTE ON CALABRETTA NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Calabretta nomination?

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 22 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Sinema
Collins	Manchin	Smith
Coons	Markey	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Tester
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murray	Warren
Graham	Ossoff	Welch
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Braun	Capito
Blackburn	Britt	Cassidy
Boozman	Budd	Cornyn

Cotton	Johnson	Romney
Cramer	Kennedy	Rounds
Crapo	Lankford	Rubio
Cruz	Lee	Schmitt
Daines	Lummis	Scott (FL)
Ernst	Marshall	Scott (SC)
Fischer	McConnell	Sullivan
Grassley	Moran	Thune
Hagerty	Mullin	Tillis
Hawley	Paul	Tuberville
Hoeven	Ricketts	Wicker
Hyde-Smith	Risch	Young

NOT VOTING—4

Brown	Fetterman
Casey	Vance

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

VOTE ON MARTINEZ-LOPEZ NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Martinez-Lopez nomination?

Mr. CARDIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 23 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Baldwin	Kaine	Sanders
Bennet	Kelly	Schatz
Blumenthal	King	Schumer
Booker	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Lujan	Sinema
Capito	Manchin	Smith
Cardin	Markey	Stabenow
Carper	McConnell	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Thune
Coons	Merkley	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Moran	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Graham	Padilla	Whitehouse
Grassley	Peters	Wicker
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Romney	Young
Hickenlooper	Rosen	
Hirono	Rounds	

NAYS—34

Barrasso	Ernst	Mullin
Blackburn	Fischer	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Ricketts
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hoeven	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Crapo	Lee	Tuberville
Cruz	Lummis	
Daines	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—5

Brown Cramer Vance
Casey Fetterman

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). 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 majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 16.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Jamar K. Walker, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 16, Jamar K. Walker, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 17.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Jamal N. Whitehead, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 17, Jamal N. Whitehead, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 14.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Araceli Martinez-Olguin, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 14, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Mark

Kelly, Patty Murray, Tim Kaine, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Baldwin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, John W. Hickenlooper, Christopher Murphy, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Alex Padilla.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 13.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Margaret R. Guzman, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close the debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 13, Margaret R. Guzman, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Mark Kelly, Patty Murray, Tim Kaine, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Baldwin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, John W. Hickenlooper, Christopher Murphy, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Alex Padilla.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, February 16, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ABORTION

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, on the first floor of the Federal building in

Amarillo, across the street from a grassy park and a few blocks away from the local minor league baseball stadium, is a U.S. District Courtroom for the Northern District of Texas.

Presiding over that courtroom is a lifelong rightwing activist, a partisan, an ideologue, an anti-abortion zealot who was handpicked by Donald Trump and the Federalist Society to pretend to be impartial on the bench. Instead, what he is doing is delivering favorable rulings on the cases his fellow rightwing ideologues funnel his way.

His name is Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk. He was confirmed in 2019 on a party-line vote. In a matter of days, he is going to issue a ruling on a case so absurd and so meritless that it doesn't deserve a single breath of argument in his courtroom. The case is the so-called Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine vs. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. If we allow it, Kacsmaryk's ruling could deal the next devastating blow to the right to privacy in America and the right of all women across the country to control their own bodies, not just in Texas, but all 50 States—every single one.

So this afternoon, I am going to describe this dangerous new political scheme playing out in the courtroom, and I call this scheme "courtwashing." I am going to talk about what the President and the Food and Drug Administration must do when this judge's ruling comes down.

The lawsuit in Texas aims to undo the Food and Drug Administration's 2000 approval of a medication called mifepristone, one of two drugs that is used in a medication abortion. The drug has a record of being very safe and effective. It is used in more than 50 percent of abortions nationwide. It has been on the market and used for this important treatment for three decades. Anyone who calls its safety into question is just ignoring the factual record.

I have a long history of working on policy relating to mifepristone. I was one of the first elected officials to advocate for its use in our country. In 1990, I chaired the first-ever congressional hearing on mifepristone before the House Small Business Committee.

But then, like today, rightwing extremists pulled out all the stops to keep the drug from being approved. They campaigned on the politics of fear, threatened lives, and just lied about the drug's safety. They even once deployed a small bomb at a conference where the chemist behind this medicine was scheduled to speak.

Their efforts worked at first. The Food and Drug Administration imposed an import alert on the drug that hindered research on its uses outside of abortion. I fought that import alert and introduced a bill to remove the restriction. The Food and Drug Administration finally approved the drug in 2000. My advocacy around this issue and this drug has never been based on some political agenda but just science and fact.

So let's look at the facts, not the fiction you hear from the plaintiffs in this case.

It is a fact that this medication is key to ensuring fundamental rights, including the right to privacy and the right to make your own reproductive choices. Medication abortions allow for women to end a pregnancy at home in a way that is safe.

It is a fact that mifepristone has fewer complications than Tylenol. A wealth of evidence demonstrates the drug's safety and effectiveness.

It is a fact that Republicans on the Supreme Court have said the issue of abortion should be returned to the States, that the country shouldn't have a one-size-fits-all policy on this issue.

So the question to ask is: How did it become possible for one single judge in Texas to be on the verge of blocking access to a drug that a duly-authorized Federal Agency has said is safe for over 20 years, and yet that judge could very soon block access to the drug nationwide?

To answer that, it is appropriate to tell a little history. Congress long ago empowered the Food and Drug Administration made up of scientists to approve or disapprove the use of new drugs—not the States and certainly not activist judges. The Food and Drug Administration approved mifepristone 23 years ago. For those looking to challenge that approval, it is a little late. The statute of limitations allows challenges to food and drug procedures for 6 years.

If that wasn't clear enough, Congress cemented its approval again in 2007 as part of an amendment to the Food and Drug Act. Any drug—any drug—previously approved by the Agency was deemed to be in compliance with new rules governing the Food and Drug Administration. Mifepristone is covered by that amendment made by the legislative branch. There is no reasonable argument to the contrary.

Nevertheless, the plaintiffs in this case want Judge Kacsmaryk to reach back through time, bust through the statute of limitations and congressional intent, and toss out the FDA's legal approval.

Furthermore, the plaintiffs in the case have no standing to bring this suit. To establish standing, the plaintiff has to show actual harm or injury to demonstrate a direct impact by the actions of the defendant. The plaintiffs are extreme anti-abortion groups and their doctors.

Here is the absurd claim they are putting forward. They argue—defying science and fact—that some unknown future patient may take mifepristone, experience a highly unlikely side effect, and then somehow find their way into one of their exam rooms for treatment.

If a standing claim that ridiculous and overly broad passes muster, than I just think it is time to rip up the legal textbooks in America and start over. That would mean that anybody could

wander into Federal court and seek relief against anybody based on wild, dreamed-up scenarios, hypothesizing that somehow, someday, somebody might be injured in the future.

Legal logic be damned, the plaintiffs know that Judge Kacsmaryk is sure not going to let pesky obstacles like precedent or science or standing get in the way of the agenda that they share. That is because Donald Trump and conservative activists planted him to be on that bench in the Amarillo courtroom right now. They know he has spent his whole career fighting shoulder to shoulder with them against LGBTQ equality, abortion, and contraception.

He is there for one reason, and I call it "courtwashing." In the "courtwashing" scheme, the judge has the role of giving the appearance of judicial legitimacy—judicial legitimacy—to the outcomes that the rightwing activists know they are going to get as soon as their cases show up on his docket.

In the few years that Judge Kacsmaryk has been on the Federal District Court, he has earned the title of the most lawless judge in America. It is tough to earn that kind of infamy in such a short time, but his rulings have justified it. He has issued constitutionally dubious and extraordinarily contentious opinions. He has defied precedent in protecting LGBTQ employees and attacked the right to contraception by restricting minors' access to it.

Now he has got a case on access to abortion medication that is directly intertwined with the rights of privacy and choice.

The plaintiffs who have no legitimate standing have handpicked him to hear this case that has no merit because they know what they are going to get with Judge Kacsmaryk.

They have gone to him for "courtwashing."

The plaintiffs want mifepristone outlawed in every single State in America, and with this judge, they found a way to make it happen. Because of how judges in this Federal district in Texas are assigned, the plaintiffs could use a procedural loophole and hot-wire the judicial branch. They could ensure Kacsmaryk was the only judge who would get the case—no shot of it getting assigned to anybody else.

To make this more frightening, if and when Kacsmaryk tosses out FDA approval, Americans cannot count on the appellate courts to step in and do what is right, do what is constitutional.

The appeal would land at the activist Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. This is the same court that allowed Texas bill SB 8—effectively an abortion ban—to go into effect before the Supreme Court ruled on Dobbs.

From there, any appeal would presumably head to the very same Republican majority on the Supreme Court that overturned Roe. The Roberts

Court doesn't even wince at revoking constitutional rights and upending decades of precedent on legal grounds that are flimsy.

By the way, at this point, I want to note it is a fairly recent phenomenon that a single judge even had the authority to issue a nationwide injunction. Until 1976, three-judge courts were required to enjoin Federal and State laws. Even after that, it was no longer required, it was relatively uncommon until about a decade ago to see Federal laws and policies blocked in their entirety by the ruling of one district court judge.

Now, it is true that these types of injunctions have been used against both Democratic and Republican administrations. The difference here is that the appellate courts, and particularly the Supreme Court, are aiding these polarization efforts, but only for one side.

So, some numbers. On 41 occasions, the Trump administration asked the Supreme Court to put on hold an adverse lower court ruling for the duration of the Government's appeal. In 28 of those cases, the Supreme Court granted the Trump administration relief. In comparison, the Biden administration has sought emergency relief from the Supreme Court nine times. The Supreme Court granted it on only two occasions. And, incredibly, the Court has granted emergency relief against the Biden administration four times, something that didn't happen during the lawless days of the Trump administration.

So what does that mean for the case in Texas? Well, if and when Judge Kacsmaryk issues a ruling that he was handpicked to deliver, the "courtwashing" is on.

The Fifth Circuit, which has little respect for precedent, will almost certainly uphold his ruling. Then the Roberts Court will almost certainly leave the ruling in place through the long and arduous appellate process.

All the while, millions of women will suffer grave danger. The harm that will result from this decision can't be overstated. Cut off from care they need, women will die. While this wouldn't be the first time a judicial decision has caused irreparable harm, this case is particularly offensive. It will come from a lawless judge picked by the litigants with no standing to bring a case that should be barred by the statute of limitations and has absolutely no merit.

So I am here to sum it all up.

Americans and their leaders must look at circumstances like this and say, "Enough," not "We will see what Congress might do" or "how the appeals process is going to play out." What is needed now is to just say, "Enough."

The power of the judiciary begins and ends with its legitimacy in the eyes of the public. It doesn't have the military backing of the executive branch or Congress's powers of the purse. A

judge's ruling stands because elected leaders and citizens have agreed that abiding by them is right and necessary to uphold the rule of law. It is part of our social contract, but the judiciary must uphold its end of the social contract too. It has got to follow the rule of law and earn the confidence of the American people every single day.

Recently, that confidence has eroded—no secret why. Look at the Dobbs decision in overturning Roe. Look at what is happening in Texas now. Parts of the judiciary seem to have morphed into a mob of MAGA extremists, conspiring with and willing to do the bidding of every rightwing group or former President that appears before it, no matter the cost to life and liberty.

The awful reality is, from the moment this case landed in front of Judge Kacsmaryk, it has been a rigged game, illegitimate. The case is an affront to the Constitution and to the rule of law in our country.

So here is what must happen if and when Judge Kacsmaryk issues his nationwide injunction—nationwide. As to all of this business that the States have rights, uh-uh. This has nationwide implications to halt access to mifepristone. My view is that President Biden and the Food and Drug Administration must ignore a nationwide injunction from Judge Kacsmaryk. Don't give in to the "courtwashing." Protect the fundamental rights and well-being of all women in America.

The Food and Drug Administration ought to go on just as it has for the last 23 years since it first approved mifepristone. The Food and Drug Administration needs to keep this medication on the market, without interruption, regardless of what this ruling says.

Doctors and pharmacies should go about their jobs like nothing has changed.

American leaders who care about the right to privacy and the lives of women in this country must not let an illegitimate ruling in this case stand.

It is just not possible to hide from this fight any longer. Let the rightwing extremists stand up and explain why they lied—why they lied—to the people of this country when they said the Dobbs case was just going to be about returning abortion law to the States.

In the face of a "courtwashing" strategy, whose outcome is almost certainly predetermined, we can't possibly say we are just going to wait around and see what happens with Congress and the appeals process. Too much is at stake, and this case will not be in the hands of public servants who are staying true to their oaths of office.

Women in America need to know that they are not going to be cut off from their privacy rights and the care that they seek and that they have a legal right to obtain—not for a year, not for a month, not for a day. If that is what the ruling would do, the answer

is to ignore it, at least until there is a final ruling on the underlying matter by the Supreme Court.

I do not say this lightly, and I have never said anything quite like this before. I believe in the three branches of government and respect the role of the judicial branch. I have had the honor to represent Oregon in the U.S. Congress for more than 40 years—first in the House and, for the last 27 years, in the Senate. I have raised my hand and taken an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States. I do not intend to dishonor that oath, which is why I am standing here this afternoon.

This judge is not upholding the oath he took. He is not adhering to the Constitution. He is stomping all over the privacy rights of millions of women in this country and ignoring the rule of law, and something needs to be done about it.

Let me close by saying this wouldn't be the first time a political leader or an elected official has called on others to ignore a court ruling. Abraham Lincoln did it after the Supreme Court issued the historically egregious Dred Scott ruling, which held that Black people could never be citizens of the United States. Lincoln called the decision erroneous, an abomination. He pointed to the partisan bias in the opinion in that it was based on assumed historical facts which weren't true and that it was one opinion that couldn't be considered precedent.

Sound kind of familiar?

Lincoln's directive in response to the case was that it is the constitutional duty of elected officials to resist unconstitutional decisions of the courts, even the Supreme Court, if the rulings will harm the Nation and its people.

Now, these cases are, obviously, different, with very different circumstances, and nothing—nothing—compares to the horrors of slavery. Nevertheless, these cases do have something in common. It is a question of the advancement of rights versus the deprivation of rights. The advancement of individual rights is at the core of our national character and history.

This case before Judge Kacsmaryk rejects that. It is clearly part of an effort to backtrack on a century of progress for American women and to deprive them of fundamental rights—the right to privacy, the right to control their own bodies, and, stemming from that, the right to live and work and participate in American life fully and equally.

That will be the outcome if the "courtwashing" strategy succeeds. If Judge Kacsmaryk can violate his oath to deliver the outcome his fellow rightwing activists are after and if the Fifth Circuit and the Supreme Court bless such a ruling as legitimate, we are going to see an affront to the Constitution.

As Lincoln told his fellow Americans, the Supreme Court is not the Constitution—neither is Judge Kacsmaryk. The Constitution and the rights it affords

American women are what this country must defend. I am here to say, "Enough," and to defend it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 6, Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Brian Schatz, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Tim Kaine, Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Christopher A. Coons, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) would have voted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 24 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Durbin	Klobuchar
Bennet	Feinstein	Lujan
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Manchin
Booker	Graham	Markey
Cantwell	Hassan	Menendez
Cardin	Heinrich	Merkley
Carper	Hickenlooper	Murkowski
Collins	Hirono	Murphy
Coons	Kaine	Murray
Cortez Masto	Kelly	Osoff
Duckworth	King	Padilla

Peters
Reed
Rosen
Schatz
Schumer
Shaheen

Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Tester
Van Hollen
Warner

Warnock
Warren
Welch
Whitehouse
Wyden

NAYS—44

Barrasso
Blackburn
Boozman
Braun
Britt
Budd
Capito
Cassidy
Cornyn
Cotton
Cramer
Crapo
Cruz
Daines
Ernst

Fischer
Grassley
Hagerty
Hawley
Hoeven
Hyde-Smith
Johnson
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Lummis
Marshall
McConnell
Mullin
Paul

Ricketts
Risch
Romney
Rounds
Rubio
Schmitt
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Tuberville
Wicker
Young

NOT VOTING—6

Brown
Casey

Fetterman
Moran
Sanders
Vance

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

SOUTHERN BORDER

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, in April, Border Patrol agents encountered an unaccompanied 2-year-old boy at the southern border of Texas. Let me read you part of what the Customs and Border Protection released:

The boy, a Honduran national, who had lost his shoe in the mud while crossing, was traveling within a group of 38 individuals. Agents questioned the group to obtain any information on the boy—however, no one claimed to know the child.

In 2022, CBP arrested at least six dozen convicted violent sex offenders—many of them child sex abusers—according to media releases. Vulnerable, unaccompanied children, as well as young women traveling alone, draw criminals like these to our country. They want to take advantage of the chaos overwhelming our border.

Our border has become a hotbed of criminal activity, especially of trafficking helpless women and children.

Last month, I came before you to address the deadly effects of drug trafficking across our border on American citizens. But the out-of-control situation at our border puts migrants in danger too. The effect of these numbers on children is just heartbreaking.

And 2022 beat the record for the number of unaccompanied migrant children encountered by Border Patrol, an overwhelming 152,057. The State Department reported this year that child sex tourism is expanding in the border cities of Mexico.

The Biden administration claims that its laissez-faire border policies

stem from valuing immigrants, but the choices it has made have worsened conditions for those trying to migrate to the United States.

On his first day in office, President Biden ended the national emergency declaration at the border, halted construction on the border wall, and scaled back ICE enforcement. The very next month, the President canceled the Trump administration's asylum procedures, a move that aggravated the rush at the border. President Biden reinstated wide-scale catch-and-release practices, requiring border officials to release unprocessed migrants into our country while they await court hearings.

Since President Biden's inauguration, 4.5 million people have arrived at our border. Last week, the President of the National Border Patrol Council told me he estimates that 7 million more migrants will arrive by the time Biden's term ends.

Folks, that would mean a total of 11 million migrant encounters during the Biden administration. That number is larger than the population of 43 of the States in our Union.

Despite the damage that the President has done at the border, he dedicated a total of 1 minute out of last week's 75-minute State of the Union Address to discussing immigration—1 minute. President Biden didn't even present any substantive solutions to our border problems.

This administration is unable to manage the surges of immigrants it has welcomed to our border, so the President has cut corners left and right. Biden officials have weakened vital safety measures, including waiving certain background check requirements for the adult sponsors of unaccompanied migrant children. People entrusted with the care of unaccompanied children no longer have to undergo public record and sex offender registry checks, all in the interest of moving migrants into our country and out of Federal custody more quickly. The Department of Health and Human Services also has no way to track these children or ensure their well-being after they are placed with sponsors. The President's indifference to border safety and security means that abusers and traffickers have easy access to helpless kids.

From the very beginning, President Biden's campaign promises to loosen border security rallied waves of migrants to make that treacherous trip north. Biden promised hope, but let's be clear—the reality is that this journey is one of suffering, whether it is forced labor, sex trafficking, or death. It has encouraged more criminals to take advantage of that frenzy.

The Biden administration has yet to resecure the border, and it has yet to form a serious plan to remedy the problems it has created. It has taken 2 full years for the administration to produce what I think is a silly smartphone app, funded by your taxpayer dollars, to

help migrants schedule their crossing times—schedule their crossing times. That is barely a bandaid for the massive gash that is our southern border.

But while the President ignores this humanitarian crisis, my colleagues and I want to fix it. We can address the disaster at the border by providing our dedicated Border Patrol agents with more resources and more time to process migrants, equipping them to do their jobs thoroughly. We need to put up barriers against sex trafficking and drug trafficking by ending catch-and-release and imposing penalties on those who skip out on their immigration hearings.

President Biden called on us as a nation last week to embrace civility over chaos. He should take his own advice and help us to stabilize the chaos at the border. The administration must finally open its eyes to this border crisis, and the Senate must implement real, lasting solutions for the sake of migrants, for the sake of legal immigrants, and for the sake of American citizens.

As I have said before, we are a nation of immigrants, but we are also a nation of laws. Failure to enforce them doesn't help anyone. Well, it doesn't help anyone except predators looking for a chance to manipulate the chaos. Security will benefit those on both sides of our border.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

REMEMBERING SERVICE DOG KAYA

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, as some of my colleagues may know, we recently lost Kaya, a very special service dog that was a frequent visitor to the Senate.

Kaya's life was devoted to helping veterans with PTSD, and she quickly became an ambassador for veterans and service dogs everywhere.

A few years ago, I ran into Kaya and her owner, Cole. Actually, I was walking down the street and at a street corner when we first met each other. As a dog lover myself, I stopped to say hello. After I learned about Cole's service history, I invited Cole and Kaya to a meeting in my office. At that meeting, I learned something very important—that the Department of Veterans Affairs does not cover the cost of service animals for veterans with post-traumatic stress, which can cost upwards of tens of thousands of dollars.

From the moment I met Kaya, I knew she was special. She was not just a service dog; she was the model of a service dog. She had a gentle nature, kind eyes, and a wagging tail. But I could say that about my two dogs, Mitch and Theo. I could even say that I am proud of the obedience training I have given them. But Kaya is different. She knew all the commands my dogs know, but she also knew how to be there for Cole without even a single command. And like so many other veterans—service dogs are not just taught to sit and stay and fetch; they are

taught to actually see what the veteran is experiencing. They know when to go by that veteran's side just to give them a source of calmness. They actually know how to wake up a veteran who may be in the middle of a nightmare. They know when a veteran or a servicemember who is disabled needs something—they can point to it, and they will retrieve it. These are extraordinary dogs, so you can understand why it may be expensive to get them up to that level.

So few dogs are like Kaya. She was a special one.

Cole and I, when we met, discussed approaches we could use to try to get funding for service dogs in the VA. It is one of the reasons why it culminated in what we call the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act. I later introduced that bill in the Senate. The legislation established a pilot program to provide canine training to eligible veterans diagnosed with PTSD.

In addition to Kaya's unwavering devotion that brought comfort and support—and dogs like her—to countless veterans, she also educated Congress and this country about the role dogs can play in helping veterans who are struggling with the invisible wounds of war.

Because of Kaya's effort—and I guess a little bit from Cole—we were able to pass the PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act, and it was signed into law in 2021. Now, thanks to Kaya, Cole, and organizations like K9s for Warriors, veterans across the country are beginning to benefit from service dog programs that have a track record of reducing symptoms associated with PTSD.

But I also have to say we have a lot of work to do. The PAWS Act was only the beginning of several steps we need to take to make these incredible animals available to more veterans because for every one who is being served today, there are dozens who are not. The nearly 17 veteran suicides this country experiences each and every day makes clear that the PAWS Act is only the beginning, it is not the end, and this is a step on a very long journey.

We must work to ensure the Department of Veterans Affairs is implementing the PAWS Act as we intended by partnering with service dog organizations to connect as many veterans as possible with canine training to improve well-being and help veterans thrive. I have made it a top priority to do everything possible to combat veteran suicide.

This legislation is another tool in the toolbox for our men and women who have served.

The passing of Kaya is a true loss. She was sick, and Cole had to make the appropriate but heartbreaking decision to release her from her misery.

Cole, thank you for sharing Kaya with us.

Kaya, thank you for bringing comfort, hope, and healing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have two separate statements here. The first I would like to put on the record, just over a week ago, a devastating earthquake rocked southern Turkey and parts of Syria. The devastation and loss have been heartbreaking.

I am glad that the Biden administration immediately offered American assistance and our help to rescue and discover the victims and survivors. That is what powerful and confident nations do in times of need.

Turkish people are resilient, and we will help them rebuild from this tragedy.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, on February 25, 1 year ago, award-winning Chicago Chef Tony Priolo woke up early to work out on his elliptical machine. He turned on his TV, and he couldn't believe what he was seeing: bombs, gunfire, convoys of armored vehicles. Russia's war on Ukraine had begun.

Chef Priolo thought of a young Ukrainian woman who had worked for a summer in one of his restaurants and wondered whether she and her family were safe. He asked himself: What can I do? And then he had an idea.

He contacted the Illinois Restaurant Association and 30 of his closest chef friends in the area and said: Let's use our talents to feed people and to feed the people of Ukraine who have been forced from their homes by this terrible war.

Less than 3 weeks later, chefs representing 70 restaurants around Chicago dished out meals to a crowd of 2,000 people at an event called Chicago Chefs Cook for Ukraine. They sold out a rather large venue known as Navy Pier in Chicago.

They raised \$650,000 in that one night and another \$200,000 after. They donated all of it to the World Central Kitchen, the nonprofit organization founded by Chef and noted humanitarian Jose Andres. I had a chance to meet Chef Andres just a few weeks before the start of the war in Ukraine.

I love that man. He is always so full of ideas and hope and determination. The chef came to America from Spain when he was 21 years old, with nothing but a set of knives and 50 bucks. He is now an American citizen with an empire of award-winning restaurants.

Through his work with World Central Kitchen, which he founded in 2010, Jose Andres also has earned a reputation as the world's leading "first responder for food."

Wherever disaster strikes, it seems the World Central Kitchen is there to feed hungry and displaced people, usually within 24 hours. For Chef Tony Priolo in Chicago, it wasn't enough, though, simply to raise money for the World Central Kitchen, as noble as that effort is.

After the success of Chicago Cooks for Ukraine, Tony tracked down his former employee on Instagram and asked: Are you OK? She replied: Not

really. My mom and dog and I are hiding in the subway in Ukraine.

So Tony decided he had to go to Ukraine himself personally and help. Two other starter chefs from Chicago, Giuseppe Tentori and Paul Kahan, decided to join him.

When one of Tony's regular customers heard that the chefs were paying for the trip to Poland and Ukraine out of their own pockets, he said: I have 5 million frequent flier miles. I will buy your tickets.

They volunteered for a week last April, cooking from early morning to late at night, feeding hot meals to as many as 30,000 people a day at a Polish refugee camp just six miles from the border.

Helping others was not new to Tony. He is known for his support of charities, including Meals on Wheels Chicago, St. Jude's Hospital, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

But what Tony saw in that refugee camp near the Polish-Ukrainian border broke his heart: an elderly couple who appeared to have left everything they owned behind, now dependent on the kindness of strangers for even a simple glass of water or a meal; terrified women and children who had been forced to flee their homes, carrying only what they could fit into suitcases and shopping bags.

"Often," Tony said, "I had to look away to hide the tears." For his humanitarian work to aid Ukrainians displaced by war and his many other charitable endeavors, Chef Priolo was recently honored by Chicago magazine as a "Chicagoan of the Year," a well-deserved tribute.

Around the same time that Chef Priolo was watching the horrors unfold last year, Senator CHRIS COONS of Delaware and I sat in a dark, nearly empty departure lounge in Vilnius, Lithuania early one morning.

We were there to express support for Lithuania, that small NATO member on the front line of democracy, who has a long history of Russian tyranny.

And then while we sat, the unthinkable occurred in modern Europe. News broke that Russian dictator Vladimir Putin had launched a massive military invasion of Ukraine. It was an ill-fated throwback to an era when aggressor nations tried to seize their neighbor's territory by force, all in the blind pursuit of some warped Soviet nostalgia trip.

Putin was willing to sacrifice the lives of thousands of Ukrainians and even Russians, the reputation of his country, and the international order established after the horror of World War II.

Perhaps having listened to too many years of his own country's brainwashing propaganda, Putin also thought Ukraine would fall into his lap in a matter of days or hours. He thought the transatlantic alliance in the community of democracies was a thing of the past and wouldn't dare to respond. Well, he was wrong on every single front.

The Ukrainian people repelled Putin's invasion. They heroically clawed back seized territory. They withstood brutal, deliberate attacks on civilian targets and critical infrastructure—war crimes by any standard of human conduct.

They are united in their resistance to Russia and their desire to be free to choose their own path in the future. The United States and its allies around the world have stood together in support of Ukraine and against Russia, and NATO is on the cusp of adding two new formidable members—Finland and Sweden.

President Biden deserves great praise for leading this global effort, and praise too to the American people for recognizing a courageous effort against tyranny and standing on the right side of history.

But we should not lose sight of the crimes committed by Putin in the war, crimes for which he and his enablers must and will be held accountable. Entire villages have been destroyed. From Bucha to Izyum to Kherson, there is evidence of horrific mass killing, torture, and sexual violence against innocent people.

Dead and mutilated bodies litter the street. Babies have been found in mass graves. Thousands have been abducted. These are the acts of a war criminal.

That is why Congress recently strengthened our Nation's tools for cooperation with the International Criminal Court when it comes to Ukraine and why we recently enacted a bill I introduced entitled Justice for Victims of War Crimes. And it is why Congress provided \$45 billion in aid to Ukraine in the most recent spending bill, a measure, thank goodness, with broad bipartisan support.

Just like the Nuremberg trials after World War II, and, more recently, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the world will hold Putin and the Russians accountable for unleashing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Ukraine.

As President Biden said in his State of the Union Address, the fight against tyranny in Ukraine is "a test for the ages. A test for America. [And] a test for the world." We cannot fail.

I agree with the President. We must continue to stand loyally by Ukraine.

I will close with a memory I will never forget. It was the year 2014—9 years ago. I was walking through Kyiv's Maidan Square with my friend, the late Senator John McCain. It was a trip we made to the area, and he was a celebrity. John McCain stood by their side when others wouldn't, and they loved him for it.

And we started to walk into Maidan Square together. All around us were makeshift shrines dedicated to the victims killed during peaceful protests simply asking for the opportunity to have a democracy. It was evident then and reflective of what we have seen during the last year in Ukraine, the unshakable determination of the

Ukrainian people to be free, to be able to democratically choose their own future, just as we do in the United States.

Senator McCain understood it, and I stood by his side. It is long overdue that President Putin understands it as well. Until then, we will stand together with the Ukrainian people in that journey toward democracy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO R.C. ROBERTS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, thank you for that enthusiastic introduction.

I am here. Once again, it is the end of the week. At least in the Senate, it is the end of the week, not for the rest of America. But when we end up here with our work, on Thursday afternoon, I usually try and do a story about what I refer to as "The Alaskan of the Week."

Hopefully, everybody can see this photo. We have included our Alaskans of the Week's pictures here. This is a really good one, if you are watching anywhere in Alaska, I hope, and across America.

Now, the reporters usually like this speech because it signals the end of their week. Normally, we have a crowd of press in the Gallery, maybe not so much today.

But it is about somebody who has done something good for their community or the State or maybe for their country. This Alaskan of the Week is actually someone who did something for the world—the world. Saved the world. Stay tuned. No exaggeration.

Now, I always like to give an update on what is happening back home. We are getting covered in snow—tons and tons of snow. The Sun is starting to come back. It is a very cold and snowy winter. The Iditarod is right around the corner—the last great race. Senator MURKOWSKI and I will talk about that soon. It is a beautiful time of year if you love the outdoors—skiing, snow-machining.

So come visit Alaska. That is what I always do—make the pitch.

And people don't know this, but Alaska is also an incredibly diverse State. In fact, Anchorage, my hometown, the State's largest city, is home to the country's three most diverse census tracks—racially, in terms of nationalities. By the way, the fourth most diverse is Queens, NY. So more diverse than Queens, NY, in terms of race, ethnicities, and nationalities. We are very proud of our diversity. More than 100 languages are spoken in our schools—Native languages, other languages, foreign languages. We are diverse.

We are very patriotic. In fact, Alaska is home to more veterans per capita than any State in the country. White, Black, Asian American, Alaska Native, all different races make up that key part of Alaska's heritage, military service.

By the way, if you are watching the news, you know there is a lot going on over Alaska right now. But I just want to say a word about our military, Active-Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Forces. Think about what our guys and women have done the last 2 weeks: tracked and intercepted this big Russian spy balloon, tracked and intercepted at least two of these smaller unidentified objects and shot two of them down—the one over Alaska. The one in Canada, those were shot down by Alaskan forces in Canada. Then, in the last 4 nights, these same forces have gone and intercepted two different Russian “Bear” bombers and fighters—Russian fighters who were trying to get into our airspace. This is in 2 weeks. These are not easy missions. They are very difficult, challenging, missions.

Do you know what else wasn't an easy mission? Storming the beaches of Normandy. Storming the beaches of Normandy.

I have a little picture here. That is why I want to get to our Alaskan of the Week, a very special, very patriotic Alaskan, a World War II veteran, Mr. R.C. Roberts.

I can think of no better way to cap off Black History Month than to recognize Mr. Roberts, his service to our country, and help him and his family celebrate his 100th birthday.

How about a round of applause, America, for Mr. Roberts' 100th birthday, a Normandy, D-Day, Omaha Beach veteran. He celebrated that on Tuesday, Valentine's Day, 100 years old.

So who is Mr. Roberts?

Let's hear a little bit about the life that he has lived in full. Like I said, that is him. That is him, our Alaskan of the Week, on the poster board. He was a handsome young man, saving the world, literally.

He was originally born in Garrison, TX, in 1923. Imagine that, 100 years ago. According to letters written by friends, he worked on a family farm, left school early in life, and joined the Army when he was just 18, shortly at the start of World War II. He wanted to go fight for his country, and he did fight.

Many Americans have seen movies about D-Day. Again, here is a photo—our brave soldiers, hitting the beaches at Normandy, facing unbelievable heavy fire, having to navigate mined obstacles on the beach, mines on the bluffs, Germans dug in with machine-guns.

You have seen in the beginning—I am sure many of you have—“Saving Private Ryan,” the seawalls to climb. That is what he did. That is what he did for America, for freedom. It was the largest, most complex combined airborne-amphibious military invasion in world history. Mr. Roberts, our Alaskan of the Week, was there on Omaha Beach in 1944.

He eventually marched all the way into Germany with the U.S. Army, all the way across Europe. He was part of the heroic mission that saved the world. That is not an exaggeration.

Mr. Roberts served 3 years. He was awarded the European Campaign Medal with three Bronze Stars, representing three difficult battles across Europe that he fought in. And here is the thing, you have to remember this. It was 1944. Our military was fully segregated, and Black soldiers were discriminated against. In fact, it took until 1948 for President Harry Truman to order the Armed Forces to be integrated, 16 years before the passage of the Civil Rights Act. But this patriot, despite the discrimination, was fighting for America.

How did Mr. Roberts make it through these ordeals—incredible ordeals—of fire?

Prayer, he said. He said:

Every day, I prayed, and [when I got home] I was so grateful to be back in the United States.

When he got out of the military and made his way back to Texas and then to California, he had a friend who was in Alaska who told him that his skills were needed up in the great State of Alaska.

It was 1964. Our State had just been devastated by the largest earthquake ever recorded in North America. It was the second-largest earthquake ever recorded in the history of the world—9.2 on the Richter scale—our Good Friday earthquake in 1964. Tsunamis crushed buildings, and of course it killed a lot of people. There was a lot of rebuilding being done. So Mr. Roberts, who at this point was a cement mason, made his way north—north to Alaska, north to the future.

He worked all across the State helping rebuild it: Fairbanks, Kenai, Valdez, the Aleutian Islands Chain. He literally helped lay pavement for the construction of what is now Ted Stevens International Airport in Anchorage.

He bought a house in Chugiak, AK, outside of Anchorage. He met and married the love of his life, Joan, in 1970, in Anchorage. They joined the Eagle River Missionary Baptist Church, where they remained, and he remains an active member at the tender age of 100. Together for more than 40 years, before Joan passed, they raised four generations of children and had a wonderful life together.

Like I said, Tuesday, Valentine's Day, February 14, was Mr. Roberts' 100th birthday. I had the honor of calling him, wishing him a happy birthday, talking to him a little bit about his heroic service, thanking him for his heroic service.

The day after his birthday, he caught up with his friend Darrell Little. Mr. Roberts and Mr. Little have been friends—best friends—for more than 40 years. Darrell was visiting Mr. Roberts, making him his favorite meal for his birthday, a beef tongue sandwich. Sounds pretty good.

Darrell described Mr. Roberts as a loyal citizen who served his country bravely with honor and distinction. That is what being Alaskan of the Week is all about.

Darrell asked Mr. Roberts what he wanted to say about his extraordinary life, and here is what Mr. Roberts said just 2 days ago. He loves Alaska. He wouldn't trade his time in the State for anything else in the world, even with all the snow we are having this winter. He also said it was such a great honor to serve his country, and he thanked God for blessing him.

He sounds like an amazing guy. He is an amazing guy. I just spoke to him.

Mr. Roberts, thank you for your service. Thank you for helping rebuild Alaska. Thank you for living and leading such an exemplary life for 100 years. Thank you, as we move into Black History Month, for showing an example of a young man, patriotic, despite systemic discrimination against him, who fought the evil Nazi regime heroically and valiantly, part of the “greatest generation” that literally saved the world.

So, Mr. Roberts, happy birthday. I know you are also happy about one of the most prestigious awards you can ever get, Alaskan of the Week. We wish you well, sir.

WILLOW PROJECT

Mr. President, you have seen this speech a couple times, and I am going to keep talking about it. Senator MURKOWSKI is going to keep talking about it. Congresswoman PELTOLA, over on the House side, is going to keep talking about it.

This is the bipartisan priority we have for Alaska and America. It is called the Willow Project. The Willow Project. People across Alaska are speaking, unified in one voice, about the importance of this very big, very environmentally safe energy project in our State. Republicans, Democrats, and Independents in our State legislature, I believe, are getting ready to pass a resolution to the Biden White House and the Biden Department of the Interior, saying: Finally, make this happen.

What is this? It is a very large project, a \$9 billion investment, with 2,500 construction jobs, 75 percent of which will be the building trades, unions; peak production of 200,000 barrels a day into the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, not much infrastructure needed; highest environmental standards in the world and lowest greenhouse gas emissions of any major project this size. It has enormous support from unions, building trades, Alaska Natives.

I have been on the floor talking about this a lot. Last week, we were frustrated. I made the point that our friends in the national media never talk about who actually really supports the project. They quote lower-48 radical environmental groups—who don't live in Alaska, by the way—who are all opposed, we know that. They don't want anything built in America. Heck, you can't build a bridge here without groups like this opposing it.

But what I said is listen to the Native people, listen to the indigenous people of Alaska. They want this. I

have gone through all these groups. Every major Alaska Native group, every major union, and every major economic group in our State and across the country supports it.

So I do want to thank some of the reporters who joined me and Senator MURKOWSKI and so many of our Alaska Native leaders in a press conference a couple of days ago, and guess what. They did start reporting on the broader support in the indigenous community in my State because prior to that they were canceling the indigenous voices. The Native people—the vast majority want this project.

I want to spend a few minutes on process. The process for this project is what we are in right now. All big projects on Federal lands go through this. It is what you get when you have the Federal Agencies review a project. It is called an environmental impact statement, an EIS. After the EIS is issued, there is something called a RECORD of Decision, usually 30 days after that. So when that process goes smoothly, you get permission to start working on it. We are in the final throes of that process.

Now, it sounds a little bit boring, but what I want to do is explain what has happened because it is really important to know. This project has been reviewed by different administrations, starting with the Obama administration, then the Trump administration, and now the Biden administration. And every single time the career scientists in our Federal Agencies, the career professionals in the Department of the Interior, the Corps of Engineers, and the EPA—every time they have done this study on the environmental impacts to review this project, they have passed it with flying colors. That has happened here with the Willow Project.

Let me just give you a little bit of background. First of all, this is in the area of Alaska called the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska.

It was set aside by Congress over 70 years ago. For what? Think about it. It is the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska. It was for oil and gas development. It used to be called the Naval Petroleum Reserve of Alaska. So it is not controversial. It is not like ANWR or other places in Alaska. This is set aside. It makes sense, as this is where our oil is, and our country needs oil.

The leases in this area were first acquired, believe it or not, during the Clinton administration. In 1999, the company ConocoPhillips all in paid a total of about \$120 million with rental requirements. So the company is paying the Feds. That is a contract. The Feds say: We will take your money, and we are going to help you develop it.

That is the deal. A lot of people forget that. That is the deal, all right?

So preliminary work went in. The producer filed for Federal permits to produce in 2018 and received final approval. This was after many years of exploration. It then went into the envi-

ronmental impact statement process and reached a RECORD of Decision at the end of the Trump administration. OK. That sounds good. Those were the professional scientists who said: You can do this in an environmentally sensitive way.

Unfortunately, all things get litigated in the great State of Alaska. The Department of the Interior, after some litigation, said: Well, we are going to do another environmental analysis.

So the Biden administration did another environmental analysis—2 more years—and we finally got the final environmental impact statement 2 weeks ago. There are over 500 additional pages.

Here is what this environmental impact statement from the professional staff of the Biden administration said, which was similar to what the Trump administration's professional staff said: After the environmental analysis, the Biden administration's EIS found that this project would not have a detrimental impact on climate, wildlife, people, places, things.

Like I said before, it passed the environmental review.

Here is a quote on the impact on climate: "In the absence of production from [Willow], energy produced from the Project's oil would be replaced by other [places]," like Venezuela, where they are much dirtier in terms of their processes and greenhouse gas emissions. The environmental impact statement even acknowledges this. These are the career scientists from our Federal Government who wrote this EIS. They are not political appointees; they are career.

So, 2 weeks ago, that is what you would think, that we are going to get approval. Not so fast. There are 30 days left—30 days left—and guess what. Every radical environmental group in America is coming out, knocking on the door of Joe Biden's White House and knocking on the door of John Podesta's office, saying: Stop this. We don't care about the science. Just kill it.

Wait. I thought the Democratic Party was the party of science. The science is in. The project is good to go.

You can tell we are worried. Senator MURKOWSKI and I are giving a lot of speeches on this. If they kill this, it won't be based on science; it will be based on raw political power. Let me repeat that. If the Biden administration in the next 30 days decides to kill this project, it won't be based on science, because their scientists have already spoken. Their scientists have said: Good to go.

By the way, the Trump administration's scientists said: Good to go. By the way, we know they are the same scientists, right? They are career Federal employees. They are doing a good job of it.

So everybody is saying it is good to go. If it gets killed, we are watching. The enviros are knocking on the door. They are the only group, by the way, in

the whole country who doesn't think we need an additional 200,000 barrels a day for America and 2,500 jobs.

So keep a close eye on this, America. If the Biden administration kills it, it will be the result of radical environmental muscle going to the White House and saying: Kill it. Let's not let that happen.

If you are watching and if you care about American energy security, write blm.gov. Tell them to approve the Willow Project.

Come on. Don't politicize this. You guys are supposed to be the party of science. That is what you say. Well, the science is in. Prove it.

I want to make one final point here. You know, it might concern some people, but I am going to make it anyway. The Department approved this, and then the Department of the Interior, without any, really, acknowledgment of who said it, said that the Department still has substantial concerns about the Willow Project, including direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions—I am not sure what that even means—and impacts to the wildlife and Alaska Native subsistence.

Hmm. Now, that is not what the career scientists said. Go read the EIS. Why would the Department of the Interior put that out—Deb Haaland of the Department of the Interior? Why would they put that out? They know that their scientists said this was good to go. What are they trying to do here? Well, some of us are nervous that they are trying to set up the killing of the project.

But do you know what is really frustrating? I mentioned this before. They mentioned that they are worried about Native subsistence. Last week, we had all of the leaders and the biggest experts in Alaska here who live on the North Slope, who know about Native subsistence rights and hunting better than any group in the world—better than any group in the world.

What is really maddening is, if the Secretary of the Interior wants to know about Native subsistence rights, which her Department says she does, why wouldn't she meet with these great Alaskans? As a matter of fact, five different times, this group has flown from the top of the world—Barrow, AK, and Utqiagvik, AK—to come and meet with her, and she won't meet with them—five different times, dozens of my constituents. They are the experts in the world on Native subsistence, but she won't meet with them. Well, that is because they support the project, and they are experts on the issues that Interior is raising. So I find that interesting, and I find that disappointing.

Let me just make one other comment. Do you know what? Some of my colleagues say, "Hey, don't say this, Dan. You know, you are going to rile up the Secretary," but I am going to say it anyway.

Here is something else that is frustrating, in my view, even scandalous—

even scandalous. Our media won't ever report on this, but I am going to try again.

The Secretary of the Interior is from New Mexico. OK. That is interesting. Guess which State—my State can't get barely a lease. We beg. We make speeches. We fly dozens of people into DC to get leases on the Federal lands in my State to move forward. Guess which State has gotten, in the first 2 years of the Biden administration, more than half of all Federal permits to drill on Federal lands? Do you think it is Alaska? No. Is it Texas? My friend from Texas is here. It is not Texas. It is not North Dakota. It is not any of those places. Guess which it is. Oh, my goodness. It is New Mexico—New Mexico. Isn't that an interesting story for somebody? The Secretary of the Interior is from New Mexico. The senior Senator from New Mexico is from New Mexico, obviously, and they are getting all of the leases. They are getting all of the leases.

Here is the thing. New Mexico is on a tear in terms of producing oil. Now, look, I have nothing against that. The country needs it. The country needs it. But look at these numbers. These are millions of barrels. Red is New Mexico. Gray is Alaska. We are kind of steady. We need more oil. New Mexico is in red. Look at that. Holy cow. It is through the roof—through the roof. And guess what is coming with all of that production. Greenhouse gas emissions through the roof in New Mexico. Where is the reporting on that topic?

You know, sometimes the media likes to talk about “climate bombs” in the country. I don't really like the phrase. I think it is silly. But if there is a climate bomb from the production of oil in America, it is right there. It is right there.

Again, I think it is fine that this State is doing well. It is good for the country, and it is good for the workers in New Mexico. But what I don't like is the rank hypocrisy. The media is always focusing on Alaska, on our production. Yet look at this: There were 9,366 applications for permits to drill, which were approved during the first 2 years of the Biden administration, in New Mexico. Yes, that is right—over 9,000—while my State can barely get 1. And 52 percent of all permits to drill in the country are in New Mexico.

The Secretary is from New Mexico. Where is that story? Where is that story? The Secretary of the Interior has been shutting down Alaska energy production while approving massive drilling activity in her own State, and the media won't touch that story with a 10,000-foot pole.

New Mexico has increased production by 700,000 barrels a day since 2019. They are at 1.7 million barrels a day. My State is at about 500,000, and we are trying to increase. Where is that story?

You know, the senior Senator from New Mexico is always trying to shut down any oil development in Alaska. I have talked about it on the floor. I am

not going to go into it a lot here, but he has gone to extreme measures, like writing banks and insurance companies and saying: Don't invest in Alaska. But it is “drill, baby, drill” in New Mexico. No one writes that story, and I think it is hypocritical, too, because the greenhouse gas emissions in that State are going through the roof.

So there is a lot of hypocrisy going on. In my State, my constituents—the Native people, the working people—just want the most environmentally sensitive project in the world, which is the Willow Project, to keep our economy going and to help our country. That is all we want.

I think, given what the Secretary of the Interior is doing for her own State—like I said, “drill, baby, drill,” with a climate bomb in New Mexico—it is time to finalize the Willow Project according to the scientists and the final EIS that was granted by the Biden administration 2 weeks ago and not use political muscle and political power to kill a project in my State when this blue State is drilling like crazy and producing like crazy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Texas.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, in January, monthly border crossings dropped below 200,000 for the first time since last March. Last month, U.S. Customs and Border Protection logged more than 156,000 illegal border crossings. This was the busiest January in more than two decades. Yet, somehow, the Biden administration is trying to claim victory for this temporary dip in illegal border crossings. If you ask me, the President is popping the cork a little early.

For starters, these numbers are artificially reduced thanks to the administration's new parole program. Now, “parole” is not a commonly used word, but what the parole does in this context is it allows up to 30,000 people from specific countries per month into the United States. Basically, they are waved on through. If migrants enter the country on a legal basis, which is exactly what this program creates, they will never be tallied as part of the illegal migration statistics. So how better to make something illegal legal than to simply wave your magic wand and create a new category by which migrants are admitted to the United States?

In short, this new policy has allowed the administration to roll out the welcome mat for tens of thousands of migrants while pretending that the humanitarian and public safety crisis at the border is abating. It is not. It is not abating.

Second, January is a historically slow month for migration. During the previous administration, Customs and Border Protection logged an average of about 43,000 illegal border crossings each January. As a reminder, last month, we encountered 156,000—43,000

during the previous administration; this administration, 156,000 in January.

Now, as we head into spring, those numbers are sure to climb again. Warming temperatures and seasonal work always leads to increased migration, and I don't expect this year to be an exception. The numbers may have dropped temporarily last month, but there is no reason for the President to spike the football or to claim victory.

Every single day, thousands of migrants cross the United States-Mexico border. The overwhelming majority arrive here with only what they can carry on their backs. When they reach the United States, they need food, shelter, clothing, medical care, transportation, and the like.

Since President Biden took office, the pace of illegal border crossings has made this already-tough job of caring for migrants increasingly more challenging just by the sheer volume of humanity coming across the border. So law enforcement, nonprofits, and folks in my State who live and work on the border have begged the Biden administration to take action. It is not even fair to say that they were met with a shrug. Rather, they were just ignored.

In order to ease the burden on border communities in Texas, Governor Greg Abbott began transporting migrants to other States and cities last year. If the Biden administration is going to give them a piece of paper and say, “Show up for an immigration court hearing at some indefinite date in the future”—perhaps years in the future—then Governor Abbott's theory was that, rather than have them wait there in the border communities, give them a bus ticket and let them go to the place where they have told the U.S. Government they intended to relocate pending their court hearing.

But the moment the challenges spread from these small border towns in Texas to liberal enclaves in the Northeast, the outrage machine fired up big time. President Biden didn't care about the border crisis when it affected the Rio Grande Valley or Laredo or Del Rio or El Paso, but the moment it reached Manhattan and Martha's Vineyard or Chicago or Washington, DC, it was somehow a crisis.

And, of course, we know who the President blamed. He blamed Republicans. Forget the fact that nonprofits have a longstanding practice of using Federal funds to transport migrants all over the country to await their future court hearing. But once the State of Texas or the State of Arizona or the State of Florida began offering transportation to these same migrants, the President and our Democratic colleagues had an absolute meltdown.

Our colleague from Illinois, Senator DURBIN, called the practice “cruel and inhumane.” The White House Press Secretary said it was “shameful” and “reckless.” Vice President KAMALA HARRIS went so far as to call this “the height of irresponsibility” and “a dereliction of duty.”

When it hurts my constituents, my border communities, the people I represent here in the Senate, they are simply ignored. But once that problem begins to show up on the doorstep of the Vice President or Mayor Bowser or Mayor Adams or the mayor of Chicago, you would think the roof was falling in.

I don't think Vice President HARRIS recognized the many layers of irony in the statement that somehow this was "a dereliction of duty" and "the height of irresponsibility." What it shows is simply how little she understands the nature of the problem, much less any way to try to fix it.

Now, it is not just the nonprofits and the Republican Governors that are transporting migrants. It is the Democratic mayor of New York City.

Eric Adams is the mayor of the largest city in the United States. New York City is home to roughly 8.5 million people, and its annual budget exceeds \$100 billion. That is higher than all but a handful of States. Once busloads of migrants began to arrive in New York City last year, Mayor Adams quickly realized what border mayors had been saying all along: that this is a big problem.

After welcoming a few thousand migrants, Mayor Adams said his city was near the breaking point. Again, this was the reaction when a few thousand migrants arrived into a major city with a \$100 billion annual budget.

Can you imagine what it has been like in small towns like Del Rio, TX, of 35,000 people, where they had 15,000 Haitians under a bridge in that small city and, frankly, without the resources to deal with them?

So, frankly, I am not all that sympathetic to Mayor Adams' quandary because of what my constituents have been living with for the entirety of the Biden administration. New York City has vast resources and a long list of folks willing to help, and still it is struggling to care for the migrants arriving on its doorstep.

Meanwhile, communities across Texas—small in comparison to New York—were absorbing thousands of migrants in a single day with only a fraction of the resources.

Over the last several months, the number of migrants arriving in New York City has grown dramatically. It has received more than 40,000 migrants, and the challenges have only grown. I am not surprised by that, but this is a taste of what we have been experiencing for years, thanks to the Biden administration's dereliction of duty.

Mayor Adams started doing what Republican Governors of Texas and the Democratic mayor of El Paso had already done. He offered these migrants free transportation elsewhere.

So they have come to New York City. Mayor Adams said this is terrible. And what does he do? He then offers the migrants a free bus ticket to go somewhere else.

New York City has purchased bus tickets for migrants headed in all di-

rections around the country. Migrants were offered a free ride, and many willingly accepted.

This is exactly what has happened in border States like Texas, but the reaction has been completely different. I haven't heard Vice President HARRIS, for example, call this "the height of irresponsibility" or "a dereliction of duty." Certainly, our Democratic colleagues haven't repeated their claims that this is somehow cruel and inhumane, no matter how erroneous they were in the first place.

When migrants receive free bus tickets from conservative States like Texas, it is framed as a human rights abuse. But when it happens in Manhattan, it is viewed as an act of charity or kindness. The hypocrisy is simply breathtaking.

To be clear, I don't fault Mayor Adams for helping migrants reach other parts of the country. I am sure he is trying to manage with this new phenomenon. But I would hope that he would recognize that this has been something we have been having to cope with as a result of the failure of the Federal Government to deal with this humanitarian and public safety crisis.

The influx of tens of thousands of migrants can certainly place a strain on local health systems and emergency response services. It could put a dent in a city's budget. It can overwhelm the nonprofits and hurt the vulnerable locals who already rely on those services. But that is exactly what we have been seeing in States like mine for years, but to no avail. It is unfair to expect any city or any State to carry the burden of this crisis because it is the Federal Government's responsibility.

We now learn that every community in America is now a border community. This morning, during a Finance Committee hearing, the chairman of the Finance Committee, the Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN, and the ranking member from Idaho, Senator CRAPO, both were recounting about the influx of fentanyl and synthetic opioids into their States and the impact it is having on crime and overdose deaths of the people they represent and care so much about.

But last year alone, 108,000 Americans died of drug overdoses, and 71,000 of those from synthetic opioids. Virtually all of the 108,000 deaths were caused by drugs that came across the southern border.

So it is not just economic migrants looking for a job and a better way of life. It is people with criminal records, sex offenders. It is people smuggling drugs into the United States. It is the criminal gangs who distribute those drugs in major cities all across the country, including in New Jersey, and who are responsible for much of the violence—particularly the gun violence—as they fight for market share and territory.

So every community in the country now is a border community and a border State.

This is not what successful immigration or border security policy looks like. The number of border crossings may have temporarily dipped, but communities across the country are still being crushed by the weight of President Biden's border crisis.

The one silver lining in all of this is that it appears the President is finally—finally—acknowledging the crisis at the border. With a possible reelection for President just around the corner, it looks like he is finally giving at least lip service to this major political liability.

In his State of the Union Address last week, President Biden urged Members of Congress:

If you won't pass my comprehensive immigration reform [bill], at least pass my plan to provide the equipment and officers to secure the border.

I was wondering what plan the President was referring to. None of us have seen it, to my knowledge. I have asked many of my Senate colleagues, and they don't know what the President is even talking about because none of them have seen his plan to secure the border.

He hasn't shown a serious interest in using the existing authorities to stop the flow of illegal immigration. But if the President's views have changed and now he is serious about dealing with this crisis, he will find a lot of allies here in Congress, and I would be one of them.

Senators on this side of the aisle want to reform the processes by which migrants are handled to quickly remove unlawful migrants who have invalid asylum claims and ensure that the cartels are not able to overwhelm the Border Patrol by directing migrants to key strategic locations while, then, the drug cartels move illegal drugs into the country that take the lives of innocent Americans.

The experts I listen to—the Border Patrol, mainly—have advocated for a combination of personnel, technology, and infrastructure to ensure that the Border Patrol is capable of stopping dangerous criminals and contraband at the border. And we need to fix the broken asylum system along with its characteristic catch-and-release because if there are no real consequences for people coming into the country, even though they don't qualify for asylum, they are going to continue to come. And that has been the case during the entirety of the Biden administration.

So if the President is serious now, at long last, I encourage him to pick up the phone. Communities across Texas and across the country are suffering because of the Biden administration's failure to simply do the job of the Federal Government.

Mayor Adams said while visiting El Paso last month:

Our cities are being undermined, and we don't deserve this. Migrants don't deserve this and the people who live in the cities don't deserve this.

I agree with Mayor Adams, and I hope President Biden has finally learned that lesson as well.

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.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor for a few moments this afternoon to recognize a woman of great distinction, a woman of valor, a woman by the name of Elizabeth Peratrovich, who championed civil rights for all Alaskans.

February 16, in Alaska, is a significant day. It is a day that the State of Alaska recognizes and observes Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. We have designated this day as early as 1988, but it is a time for us, as Alaskans, to reflect on the contributions of a pretty extraordinary Native woman, a Tlingit woman.

So I think it is important, and I have had an opportunity over the years to speak about Elizabeth Peratrovich. Senator SULLIVAN and I advanced a resolution recognizing Elizabeth Peratrovich's contributions when it comes to civil rights, and I think it is always important and timely to pay attention, to reflect on the legacies of those who have really worked to advance a more inclusive society and a more representative democracy.

Elizabeth Peratrovich carried the Tlingit name Kaaxgal.aat. I am attempting to do that well but certainly with respect to honor her name. She was of the Lukaax.adi clan. She was born on Independence Day. I think that is pretty fitting—born on Independence Day in Petersburg, AK, in 1911.

It was just right after that, right after the period that Elizabeth was born in Petersburg, that a group of Native people from across Southeast Alaska formed an organization called the Alaska Native Brotherhood, ANB. Two years later, the Alaska Native Sisterhood was formed, ANS. These are considered the oldest indigenous civil rights organizations in the world, coming out of Southeastern Alaska. ANB and ANS sought to advance equal opportunities for education, employment, housing; and they fought to secure Native civil rights.

So Elizabeth Peratrovich and her husband Roy became active in ANB and ANS in the forties. They moved to Juneau, our State's capital, in 1941. And their personal accounts of the discrimination that they encountered in Juneau, as Alaska Natives—you read the accounts, you read the stories, and it truly parallels the Jim Crow practices of the South.

But rather than be diminished, rather than be deterred, Elizabeth and Roy Peratrovich were advocates, advocates against the adversity that they saw in their own communities. And it was

through their work with ANB and ANS that they began advocating for an anti-discrimination bill in the territorial legislature.

And they pointed out the simple fact that Alaska Natives were paying taxes for a public school system, the same public school system that excluded their very own children. They pointed out that Alaska Native men were fighting in World War II and then, when they returned from the war, those Alaska Native veterans were denied rights that others enjoyed.

These very real, very immediate confrontations with discrimination drove their pursuit of equal rights for people all across the State of Alaska. So they worked on this anti-discrimination bill that was advancing through the legislature. It took a period of time. It was reintroduced in 1945, and in 1945 the measure passed the Alaska State House and moved on to the State senate.

And the debate on the senate floor was apparently quite animated and vocal throughout, but there was a territorial senator who denounced the efforts to desegregate. And he argued, and the words he quoted are ones that, as Alaskans, we see. The story told a lot. He said:

Who are these people, barely out of savagery, who want to associate with us whites, with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind us?

That is what he said on the senate floor.

At the end of the floor debate, at that time, it was not unusual to open up for comments from those who might be part of the public. I served in the Alaska State Legislature, and we have galleries that sit directly behind the chambers that are open to the chambers. And Elizabeth Peratrovich was sitting in the gallery listening to this extended and very offensive debate, quite honestly. But she rose, and she said:

I would not have expected that I, who am barely out of savagery, would have to remind the gentlemen with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind them of our Bill of Rights.

She stood gracefully. She stood firmly. She refuted clearly. And when asked if she thought that the bill would eliminate discrimination—so, again, a pretty interesting exchange between members of the senate and a member of the public in the gallery—and not just a member of the public in the gallery but a Native woman speaking up and challenging, forcefully and calmly but with a determination and a resolve.

And when she was asked if she thought the bill would eliminate discrimination, she replied:

Do your laws against larceny and even murder prevent those crimes? No laws will eliminate crimes, but at least you as legislators can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination.

A pretty powerful reminder.

And there was a long period of silence after her remarks, and then a wave of applause went through the gallery and through the senate floor, including from some who had previously opposed the bill. Alaska's Governor at the time, Ernest Gruening, was the one to sign the anti-discrimination law, the Nation's first anti-discrimination law. He signed it into law on February 16, 1945. This was almost two decades before the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. It is pretty significant when you think about the contributions of this woman, Elizabeth Peratrovich, her husband Roy Peratrovich, and other Alaska Native leaders, at a time when discrimination was rampant throughout our country, that they had the courage and the strength and the determination to stand up for what is right.

She is an inspiration because she set the example that, when you see injustice, you speak out, you take action. And she also provided a great example for why we need to listen to the perspective of all voices, especially—especially—those who have been left out or were left behind.

Elizabeth Peratrovich is, as I mentioned, recognized in Alaska on this day. She has also been recognized nationally. In 2020, the U.S. Mint released these \$1 coins commemorating Elizabeth Peratrovich, and 2020 was the 75th anniversary of when the anti-discrimination law of 1945 became law in our State.

On the one side of the coin, it features the portrait of Elizabeth, the name of the legislation that she advocated for, and the symbol of the Tlingit Raven moiety, of which she was a member. So it is, indeed, a significant reminder to each of us, Alaskan and non-Alaskan.

I think Elizabeth Peratrovich Day is also a timely reminder for those of us who serve here in the Senate. It may not be easy to take on some of these complicated issues, especially when partisanship is pulling Members back to their corners, but we know we can make good progress. We have done it. We certainly did it with the Violence Against Women reauthorization. We need to follow a process that allows us to get something done as opposed to simply sending messages.

So as Alaska celebrates Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, I would hope the Senate would look to her legacy, her example as an inspiration, as we seek unity, as we follow her example of treating fellow citizens with respect.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about Black History Month, which has its roots with Carter G. Woodson as early as 1915 and has been officially recognized since 1976.

Black History Month is an opportunity for celebration and discovery. It is a time to share the successes and

contributions of Black Americans that are woven deeply into the fabric of American history.

Over the last year, we Marylanders made exciting history as Wes Moore became our State's 63rd Governor, the first person of color to hold that office and the only currently serving Black Governor in the Nation. We also elected Anthony Brown, former Member of the House of Representatives and a former Lt. Governor of Maryland, to be attorney general. He, too, is the first Black to hold this position in our State. They join Adrienne Jones, the first Black and first woman to serve as Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, who has held that post since 2019.

Nationally, the Senate made history by confirming Justice Jackson as the first Black woman to serve as an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. President, we are making progress. Representation matters. When young girls and young boys of color see women and men who look like them holding positions of power, it makes a real, important difference in the expectations and aspirations they set for themselves.

As Bernice King, the youngest daughter of the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Chief Executive Officer of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center of Nonviolent Social Change, said:

If you don't think representation matters, you are probably well-represented.

Representation matters in history as well. Throughout our country's history, we have seen blatant attacks on the teaching of African American history as well as gaping omissions. Today, unfortunately, we continue to see these tactics playing out across our Nation.

Let me share a little of that history with you. The first Africans arrived in North America in the 16th and 17th centuries. A group of former Spanish slaves, freed by Englishman Francis Drake, arrived in California in 1579 during his first voyage to circumnavigate the world.

The first recorded group of enslaved Africans arrived in Virginia in 1619. They would be the first of hundreds of thousands brought here against their will and forced into servitude in North America. In 1641, Mathias de Sousa was elected to the colonial Maryland legislature. He was the first person of African descent to hold elected office in British North America.

By 1776, at the time of the American Revolutionary War, estimates are that about 20 percent of the population of the British colonies was of African descent—20 percent.

By 1788, when our Constitution was ratified, the Founding Fathers thought it appropriate that each of these men, women, and children were only counted as three-fifths of a person.

After the Civil War, with the abolition of slavery, Reconstruction meant

opportunities for African-Americans in the South and the North, including the right to vote and be elected to office, to own land, and to participate in business.

In 1870, Mississippi elected the first African-American U.S. Senator, Hiram Rhodes Revels, a one-time minister and school principal in Baltimore. He was followed by Senator Blanche K. Bruce, who served in this body from 1875 to 1881. African Americans were regularly elected to Congress until 1901. From there, it would be 28 years until another Black man served in the Congress.

The years between were turbulent and regressive. The summer of 1919 was dubbed "Red Summer" as White-on-Black violence exploded in dozens of cities across the country and continued thereafter. On May 21, 1921, Greenwood, a prosperous Black neighborhood in Tulsa, OK, known as Black Wall Street, became the site of one of the most violent attacks on Black freedom and progress in our Nation's history: the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921. A White mob killed an estimated 300 people and destroyed more than 1,400 homes and businesses. Thousands of people were left homeless.

Despite its severity and destructiveness, however, the Tulsa Race Massacre was barely mentioned in the history books until the late 1990s when the State formed the commission to document the incident. Tulsa is but one example. Regrettably, there are many more instances of White mob violence that also never made it into the history books.

Black history is American history, and attempts to whitewash or ignore the role that African Americans have played in this Nation, even before our founding, is an immense disservice. Slavery and segregation and racism are ugly and dehumanizing, but they are part of America's history.

For too long, our history lessons failed to acknowledge the African-American experience and the role that African Americans have played in American history. We should all learn about the inventors like George Washington Carver, who popularized crop rotation. Henry Blair, the second African-American inventor in U.S. history to be issued a patent, was born a free man in Glen Ross, MD, in 1807. His farm machinery revolutionized planting. Garrett Morgan patented the first traffic safety signal and developed the first gas mask. We should all learn about the entrepreneurs like Madam C.J. Walker, whose hair care and cosmetic business made her the first female self-made millionaire in the United States. Robert Johnson co-founded Black Entertainment Television on his way to becoming America's first Black billionaire.

We should all learn about scientists like Maryland's own Benjamin Banneker, a largely self-taught mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor. Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson

furthered our knowledge of star and galaxy formation and evolution and has done as much as Carl Sagan to popularize science, especially astronomy. All of these individuals should take their place in our history books alongside Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, and Dr. King.

Unfortunately, instead of expanding the teaching of Black history, we are seeing a retrenchment. In Florida, we have seen one of the most brazen attacks on the teaching of African-American history and culture with the Governor's rejection of the College Board's new Advanced Placement African-American studies course. For more than a year, Florida officials pressured the College Board to change its curriculum.

College Board officials have since denied they capitulated, but on the first day of Black History Month, they released a revised curriculum that deleted certain topics related to Black history. It appears the board was eager to keep selling its program to Florida. This past Saturday, board officials issued a statement saying:

We deeply regret not immediately denouncing the Florida Department of Education's slander, magnified by the DeSantis administration's subsequent comments that African-American studies "lacks educational value." Our failure to raise our voice betrayed Black scholars everywhere and those who have long toiled to build this remarkable field.

Florida is not acting alone. According to the Brookings Institution, nearly 20 States have introduced legislation to ban any discussion about conscious bias, privilege, discrimination, and oppression. At least nine have succeeded in passing such legislation.

These efforts are aimed at suppressing the discussion of uncomfortable truths about our past and even our present. They eliminate responsibility for the collective work that we all must do not only to acknowledge the centuries of harm done to Black communities but also remedy the lasting effects of these harms.

The continued suppression of history happens in many more places than schools alone, and we are all poorer for it. So much of what we have learned for generations about history, music, culture, and more has diminished or even extinguished the role of African-American creators, writers, musicians, and others. We must teach our children and learn for ourselves the full breadth of the American story—the good, the bad, and the ugly—if we truly aspire to form a more perfect Union.

Philip Graham, the former president and publisher of the Washington Post, is credited with saying "Journalism is the first rough draft of history." This is especially true with regard to Black history.

For decades, White newspapers barely acknowledged the African-American communities in their readership, except when there were negative stories to tell. Brent Staples, an editorial writer at the New York Times recently

described the culpability of White newspapers:

Newspapers that championed white supremacy throughout the pre-civil rights South paved the way for lynching by declaring African Americans nonpersons. They embraced the language once used at slave auctions by denying Black citizens street courtesy titles Mr. and Mrs. and referring to them in news stories as “the negro.”

One year ago, the Baltimore Sun declared:

We are deeply and profoundly sorry: For decades, The Baltimore Sun promoted policies that oppressed Black Marylanders; we are working to make amends.

The newspaper founder, Arunah S. Abell “was a Southern sympathizer who supported slavery and segregation.” As the Sun editorial stated:

Instead of using its platform, which at times included both a morning and evening newspaper, to question and strike down racism, The Baltimore Sun frequently employed prejudice as a tool of the times. It fed the fears and anxiety of white readers with stereotypes and caricatures that reinforced their erroneous beliefs about Black Americans. Through its news coverage and editorial opinions, The Sun sharpened, preserved and furthered the structural racism that still subjugates Black Marylanders in our communities today.

As White newspapers perpetrated lies and negative stories, Black journalism emerged to fill the void. Freedom’s Journal, the first Black-owned and -operated newspaper, was founded on March 16, 1827, in New York City. The newspaper’s inaugural broadsheet powerfully declared:

We wish to plead our own cause. Too long others have spoken for us.

The Maryland-based Afro-American newspaper began publishing in 1892. As the firm that owned the paper fell into bankruptcy, John H. Murphy, Sr., a former slave who worked at the newspaper, borrowed \$200 from his wife and purchased its equipment in 1897. In 1922, the Afro was the third largest Black-owned newspaper on the east coast, behind the Chicago Defender and the Negro World.

The Afro-American, headquartered in Baltimore, now is the oldest Black business in Maryland and the longest running, African-American family-owned newspaper in the United States. John Sr.’s great-granddaughter, Dr. Frances “Toni” Draper, is the current publisher.

This Monday, I was privileged to join Dr. Draper and other leaders from the local community to unveil a \$2.2-million earmark for the AFRO Charities, alongside my colleagues, CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and Representative KWEISI MFUME. These funds will be used to preserve the archives of the Afro-American and develop a permanent home and research center for these materials, the largest collection of its kind in our country.

The Afro-American has been published for more than 130 years. I have seen a small fraction of these archives, and I can tell you that there is so much history that needs to be preserved for

the community, the State of Maryland, and the Nation. The project will be digitized. There are approximately 3 million photographs, several thousand letters, back issues of the AFRO, personal audio recordings of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and Dr. King, and so much more.

Since its inception, the Black press has played a critical role in the struggle for freedom for African-Americans by highlighting issues that mainstream media ignored or misrepresented. As Dr. Draper of the Afro-American wrote recently:

If there were no Black press, would America draft its story honestly and equitably, and in a way that bends—however slowly—towards justice? We think not. The Black press in America plays a crucial role shaping and preserving our community’s history from the perspective of our people and advocating for a better, brighter day.

Today, so many Black journalists continue to walk boldly in this tradition, uncovering the stories of our time with an eye towards justice and civil rights. At the forefront of these media professionals is the National Association of Black Journalists, which is headquartered at the University of Maryland, College Park. This organization was founded in 1975. It is a non-profit association with more than 4,000 members in the United States and worldwide. The organization advocates for diversity in newsrooms, works to create strong ties among Black journalists, and expands job opportunities for Black media professionals. The organization provides scholarships and works with high school students to encourage Black students to pursue journalism careers. Black history is America’s history. Black journalism is essential to telling the American story.

On March 31, 1968, Dr. King gave his last Sunday sermon—this one was at Washington National Cathedral. He said:

We shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice.

The obstacles we face are harmful and hurtful. But they are temporary stumbling blocks.

On February 1, I was proud to join my friend Representative MFUME in introducing the National Council on African American History and Culture Act of 2023. Our legislation would create a 12-person National Council on African American History and Culture to advise the National Endowment of the Humanities in the best ways to amplify the work of black creators, strengthening teaching and learning in schools to ensure Black history and culture is recognized, and provide critical resources dedicated to preserving Black history.

On February 7, I was proud to invite Governor Moore to be my guest at President Biden’s State of the Union Address. Seated behind President Biden was Vice President Kamala Harris, a woman of color and the first female Vice President.

Before the State of the Union Address on February 4, the Senate Curator removed the bust of former Chief Justice Roger B. Taney from the Old Supreme Court Chamber in the Senate wing of the Capitol Building. We are making progress. The removal was in accordance with legislation I am proud to introduce with Representative STENY HOYER. Taney, a Marylander, authored the infamous Dred Scott decision in 1857, ruling that African Americans could not be considered U.S. citizens and that Congress had no authority to prohibit slavery in the U.S. territories. Our legislation directs the Joint Committee on the Library to commission a bust of Thurgood Marshall, another Marylander, for display in the Capitol Complex, preferably near the Old Supreme Court Chamber.

One Justice sought to prolong slavery; the other—the first African-American to sit on the Nation’s highest Court—helped to advance civil rights in this Nation due to his successful Supreme Court argument in *Brown v. Board of Education*, which held that the doctrine of “separate but equal” has no place in American society.

Removing the Taney bust from the Old Supreme Court Chamber is making the right decision about whom we choose to honor. Across the Nation, monuments to enslavers are coming down.

In Requiem for a Nun, William Faulkner famously wrote:

The past is never dead. It’s not even past.

Black history is America’s history. Black History Month is so important because it forces us to face who we are and where we are going. In doing so, it helps us respect and ultimately aspire to be a more perfect Union.

NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize February as National Children’s Dental Health Month. Since 1981, this month has afforded us the opportunity to acknowledge the importance of children’s dental health, recognize the significant strides we have made, and renew our commitment to ensuring all children in our country have access to affordable and comprehensive dental services. To echo Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, “There is no health without oral health.”

Despite recent encouraging reductions in tooth decay, also known as dental caries, particularly among younger children, dental caries remains one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood. About one in four preschool children experienced caries in primary teeth, and at least one in six children aged 6 to 11 years experienced dental caries in permanent teeth. Deferring routine preventive and restorative dental care increases the need for more advanced and expensive dental services, which are even less accessible, further widening the inequalities.

There is a persistent pattern of disparities in which children from lower

income and minority racial and ethnic groups generally experience more disease and have less access to treatment. Children from low-income households are twice as likely to have cavities, compared with children from higher income households. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, for children aged 2 to 5 years, about 33 percent of Mexican-American and 28 percent of non-Hispanic Black children have had cavities in their primary teeth, compared with 18 percent of non-Hispanic White children. For children aged 12 to 19, nearly 70 percent of Mexican-American children have had cavities in their permanent teeth, compared with 54 percent of non-Hispanic White children.

Tooth and gum pain can impede a child's healthy development, including the ability to learn, play, and eat nutritious foods. Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and get lower grades than children who have good oral health.

Untreated cavities can cause pain, infections, and can lead to problems eating, speaking, and learning. In some cases, they can even be fatal. In 2007, Deamonte Driver, a 12-year-old Prince George's County resident, tragically died. Deamonte's death was particularly heartbreaking because it was entirely preventable. What started out as a toothache turned into a severe brain infection that could have been prevented by an \$80 extraction. After multiple surgeries and a lengthy hospital stay, sadly, Deamonte passed away 16 years ago this month.

Since the tragic death of Deamonte, we have made significant progress in improving access to pediatric dental care in our country, particularly in my home State of Maryland. For example, in 2009, Congress reauthorized the Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP, with an important addition: a guaranteed pediatric dental benefit. Research shows that CHIP generally offers more comprehensive benefits at a much lower cost to families than private coverage.

Additionally, the Affordable Care Act, ACA, has significantly improved the affordability of and access to healthcare, including dental care, for millions of Americans. The ACA required most insurers to cover essential health benefits, EHB. I was particularly pleased that pediatric services, specifically pediatric dental care, were identified as part of the 10 categories of healthcare services included in the EHB package. As a result, pediatric dental insurance coverage is available for purchase on all State-based insurance marketplaces, like in Maryland, and the Federal marketplace. The dental coverage offered through ACA plans in all States covers a minimum set of benefits to ensure children have coverage for essential dental services.

Expansion of dental insurance coverage has enabled early intervention for more children from low-income households. Today, 9 in 10 children in

the United States have dental insurance. Dental care is also a mandatory benefit in Medicaid for children since it is provided through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program. Still, research has found that although State Medicaid Programs cover children's dental services, fewer than half of all publicly insured children get recommended care.

Therefore, there is more work to be done to ensure that once children have access, they actually get the care they need. This week, I was proud to join Senators LUJÁN and COLLINS in introducing the Oral Health Literacy and Awareness Act. The legislation would create an oral health literacy campaign, leveraging existing healthcare programs, to ensure that children start off strong and develop important oral health habits for the rest of their lives.

Additionally, in January, I was pleased to introduce, along with Senator STABENOW and Congresswoman BARRAGÁN S. 109, the Ensuring Kids Have Access to Medically Necessary Dental Care Act. Our legislation would eliminate lifetime and annual limits for dental care for children under CHIP. The bill would also require States to provide "wraparound" CHIP dental coverage, meaning CHIP would cover dental services for eligible children who are not enrolled in CHIP. Currently, if a child is eligible for CHIP but instead has coverage under a group health plan or employer-sponsored insurance, States have the option of providing dental-only coverage to this child through CHIP. This bill requires that dental coverage be offered.

In addition to dental insurance coverage for children, improving oral health care for the parents and communities can improve children's oral health outcomes. For example, a recent study found that Medicaid adult dental coverage was associated with a reduction in the prevalence of untreated tooth decay among children after parents had access to coverage for at least 1 year. The study found that all children saw improvements in oral health, and non-Hispanic Black children experienced larger and more persistent improvements than non-Hispanic White children. A Medicaid dental benefit for adults would enhance the progress for children and provide much needed dental care and improve oral health outcomes for adults.

That is why I am proud to champion legislation, the Medicaid Dental Benefit Act, which would extend comprehensive dental health benefits to tens of millions of low-income Americans on Medicaid. The legislation would also provide States with a 100-percent Federal match for the dental benefit for 3 years. This investment of Federal funds would support States to set up or improve their dental benefit and includes funding for culturally competent and linguistically appropriate provider education in addition to outreach efforts to better connect enrollees to oral health care. I was par-

ticularly pleased that, last year, Maryland extended access to dental care for adult Medicaid beneficiaries, providing access to over 740,000 Marylanders.

Oral health is an integral part of overall health. It should not be a luxury or reserved for the most privileged. Access to affordable dental care is essential to preventing tragedies like the death of Deamonte Driver from ever happening again. So, as we celebrate, we must also recommit to expanding access to afford care to all children. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort. Let us continue to building upon the progress made to date in advancing the access of oral health to protect individuals around the country.

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. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postclosure time on the Kahn nomination be considered expired and the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at a time determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 44, Jill E. Steinberg to be U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Georgia; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that 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.

Mr. CARDIN. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jill E. Steinberg, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Steinberg nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CARDIN. 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.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent that the rules of procedure of the Committee on Appropriations for the 118th Congress be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE RULES—118TH CONGRESS

I. MEETINGS

The Committee will meet at the call of the Chairman.

II. QUORUMS

1. Reporting a bill. A majority of the members must be present for the reporting of a bill.

2. Other business. For the purpose of transacting business other than reporting a bill or taking testimony, one-third of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

3. Taking testimony. For the purpose of taking testimony, other than sworn testimony, by the Committee or any subcommittee, one member of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum. For the purpose of taking sworn testimony by the Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum, and for the taking of sworn testimony by any subcommittee, one member shall constitute a quorum.

III. PROXIES

Except for the reporting of a bill, votes may be cast by proxy when any member so requests.

IV. ATTENDANCE OF STAFF MEMBERS AT CLOSED SESSIONS

Attendance of staff members at closed sessions of the Committee shall be limited to those members of the Committee staff who have a responsibility associated with the matter being considered at such meeting. This rule may be waived by unanimous consent.

V. BROADCASTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS

The Committee or any of its subcommittees may permit the photographing and broadcast of open hearings by television and/or radio. However, if any member of a subcommittee objects to the photographing or broadcasting of an open hearing, the question shall be referred to the full Committee for its decision.

VI. AVAILABILITY OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

To the extent possible, when the bill and report of any subcommittee are available, they shall be furnished to each member of the Committee thirty-six hours prior to the Committee's consideration of said bill and report.

VII. AMENDMENTS AND REPORT LANGUAGE

To the extent possible, amendments and report language intended to be proposed by Senators at full Committee markups shall be provided in writing to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member and the appropriate Subcommittee Chairman and Ranking Minority Member twenty-four hours prior to such markups.

VIII. POINTS OF ORDER

Any member of the Committee who is floor manager of an appropriations bill is hereby

authorized to make points of order against any amendment offered in violation of the Senate Rules on the floor of the Senate to such appropriations bill.

IX. EX OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP

The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the full Committee are ex officio members of all subcommittees of which they are not regular members but shall have no vote in the subcommittee and shall not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum.

CONFIRMATION OF DANIEL CALABRETTA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate voted on the nomination of Judge Daniel Calabretta, who has been nominated to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. Born in Union City, TN, Judge Calabretta received his bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, from Princeton University, and his J.D., magna cum laude, from the University of Chicago.

After clerking for the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and working in private practice for 3 years, Judge Calabretta spent the majority of his legal career—15 years in public service in California. As the Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary for California Governor Jerry Brown, Judge Calabretta advised officials on executive orders following emergency declarations. He then went on to work for the California Department of Justice, where he defended the Attorney General and other State officials in litigation on a variety of matters in Federal and State court. In 2019, Judge Calabretta was appointed to the California Superior Court as a Juvenile Court judge, where he has presided over approximately 200 bench trials.

The American Bar Association rated Judge Calabretta as unanimously "well qualified," and he has the strong support of Senators FEINSTEIN and PADILLA.

In addition to his qualifications and deep ties to the California legal community, Judge Calabretta will be the first openly LGBTQ+ person to serve on U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California.

I thank my colleagues for confirming him.

UKRAINE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to expand on my recent comments on the need to stand up to Putin to prevent future aggression and the death and suffering it causes. Specifically, I would like to address the calls from well-meaning people for a diplomatic solution.

Many people understandably want an end to the killing in Ukraine. I certainly do. So why not sit down and talk? As I have said before, we tried that after 2014, and it didn't work. We ended up with a full-scale invasion a year ago.

More fundamentally, it is important to consider what there is to negotiate

over. To start with, what is the nature of the disagreement? In other words, assuming you could get Putin or his representative to a negotiating table, what are the opposing positions and the potential middle ground?

Vladimir Putin has continued to repeat his original stated war aims, "demilitarization and denazification." Denazification in the context Putin uses it clearly means regime change. It is pretty clear that Putin thought he could take out the current elected government and install a puppet regime. President Biden publicly released the intelligence we had to that effect before the war began, which I think was a smart move.

Demilitarization means that Ukraine has to give up its right to defend itself, allowing Russia a free hand to intervene with force if Ukraine ever again tries to assert its right to act independently of Russia.

Obviously, President Zelenskyy cannot ever agree to meet those two demands. No President of a sovereign country could. Of course, in Putin's mind, Ukraine is not a sovereign country. That is the problem. Putin repeats a false version of history that says Ukraine is an artificially created country and rightfully part of Russia.

Ukraine has a long history of independence before it was ever conquered by Russia, in fact long before Russia even existed. But, for decades, Putin has pushed a warped, imperialistic view of history that is all too common among Russians.

When Putin repeatedly invokes Peter the Great, we should be concerned. Remember, Peter the Great was a Russian expansionist emperor who conquered lands like Finland and the Baltics from Sweden.

It may be comforting to buy into Putin's propaganda that he feels concern for the people in parts of Ukraine where they speak Russian and that perhaps those people want to be Russian. That makes his motives seem like they might have some justification. It also lulls us into the belief that Putin will be appeased once he cleaves off a chunk of eastern Ukraine. There is absolutely no reason to believe that, nor has Putin actually said that. The Russian Federation in its current borders has subsumed many non-Russian ethnicities and languages from past imperial conquests. Not speaking Russian never stopped them before.

In 1939, the Soviet Union attacked Finland in the Winter War despite its language and culture being very, very different from Russia. It was a nakedly imperial quest to reconquer lost territory of the Russian empire. Finland fought back and kept its independence, but Russia kept a big chunk of Karelia. This is an area that spoke a dialect of Finnish and was not historically Russian in any deep cultural or linguistic sense. Sadly today, in that region, Karelians maintaining their native language and culture represent a tiny minority of the population. Over the years, it has been thoroughly russified.

In Ukraine, mass graves and reports of widespread rape from areas liberated from Russian occupation should suffice to dispel the myth that Ukrainians welcome occupation or that Russians see Ukrainians as brothers. The fact that many people in eastern Ukraine speak Russian never made them Russian, just as English-speaking Irish citizens do not long to be governed by London. Eastern Ukraine was subject to a policy of russification under the Russian Empire and then under the Soviet Union, when many Russian workers were imported to the area.

But it should be clear to everyone now that the Ukrainian national identity cannot be easily suppressed, regardless of the language they speak at home. Still that does not stop Russians from trying. Thousands of Ukrainian children from Russian occupied areas in eastern Ukraine have been forcibly deported to Russia and adopted into Russian families. Members of the Putin regime talk openly about how these children came with pro-Ukrainian attitudes but have now been brainwashed to adopt pro-Russian sentiments. This alone meets the definition of genocide.

In Putin's 2007 Munich Security Conference speech, his critique of the United States included the assertion that we seek a unipolar world where we impose our values on others, and called for a multipolar world—in other words, one with different spheres of influence.

When Putin talks about countries like Ukraine and other formerly Russian dominated countries, it is clear that he sees them as either in his sphere of influence, or someone else's. Putin cannot accept that Ukrainians might want to leave behind the corrupt, Russian dominated post-Soviet system where oligarchs get rich and the average person's economic and political freedom are limited.

Putin talks about "NATO expansion" into the Baltics as though NATO is a rival empire. In reality, the Baltic countries begged to join NATO. And they were admitted at a time of naive optimism in the West that Russia was becoming a peaceful democracy. The Baltic countries are actually a useful case study to understand how many Russians think about their former imperial subject countries.

This month, Estonia and Lithuania celebrate the 106th anniversary of the birth of their republics in their current independent form. It is important to understand that the Baltic countries are historically Western in their culture and outlook. Like Ukraine, they experienced attempts at russification, during the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, including importing of Russian-speaking workers, threatening their unique cultures and languages. After regaining their freedom from Soviet occupation in 1991, the Baltics quickly built thriving, free market democracies.

Given their history, it is natural that they sought to protect their way of life from Russian domination by joining

the most successful defensive alliance in history. Putin and many Russians speak with resentment about the Baltics. Their very existence as prosperous, Western-style free-market democracies not dependent on Russia politically or economically is clearly threatening.

Russian state media tries, absurdly, to convince Russians that their prosperity is due to development efforts under the Soviet occupation or that they are about to become failed states any day now. Many Russians are convinced that their joining NATO makes them U.S. puppets, reflecting the spheres of influence worldview.

Again, joining NATO was their fervent wish, not some policy of expansion for expansion's sake on the part of NATO, and their populations are some of the most pro-American anywhere in the world. Putin dismisses the wishes of his smaller neighbors as irrelevant to great power geopolitics. He thinks they are inevitably pawns to be bartered over by big empires. Given our origin as a tiny collection of Colonies seeking independence from a powerful empire, Americans ought to think differently.

Putin is threatened by NATO expansion not because he believes NATO countries might attack the Russian Federation. Our NATO allies bordering Russia did not host any long-term deployments of troops from other allies before Russia's 2014 invasion of Ukraine. Multiple NATO allies have since provided small rotational forces to our eastern flank allies intended to deter Russian aggression. Those forces have naturally grown since the full scale invasion of Ukraine in February. But, frankly, they are still insufficient to repel the kind of full-scale invasion we saw in Ukraine, much less pose any kind of threat to Russian territory.

Putin's military leaders, for all their mistakes in Ukraine, are not stupid. They do not see NATO as a military threat to current Russian territory. Rather, Putin sees NATO as a threat to his dream of reconstituting the Russian Empire. President Macron of France has suggested offering Putin security guarantees. That plays into Putin's false propaganda that he faces any kind of threat from NATO.

When Putin talks about security guarantees, he has made clear that he means a dismantling of NATO in areas he sees as his rightful sphere of influence, enabling him to bully them. Keep in mind that, when he invaded Ukraine initially in 2014, Ukraine was militarily neutral, but seeking closer economic relations with the European Union. In February 2014, months of popular protests by ordinary Ukrainians culminated in what Ukrainians call their "Revolution of Dignity." The Ukrainian President at the time yielded to pressure from Putin and refused to sign an association agreement with the European Union after it passed overwhelmingly in the Parliament.

The Ukrainian Parliament ultimately voted to remove the President.

He then fled to Russia, but not before violent confrontations between special riot police and protestors. Putin has falsely claimed this was a U.S.-sponsored coup rather than a grassroots rejecting of his meddling in Ukraine's sovereign affairs. Russia then invaded Eastern Ukraine and Crimea.

To be clear, the 2014 Russian invasion of Ukraine had nothing to do with NATO, the U.S., or any military threat to Russia. Rather, Ukraine's decision to seek closer economic ties to Europe threatened Putin's sense of entitlement to have Ukraine dominated by Russia.

Putin has said "true sovereignty of Ukraine is possible only in partnership with Russia." This reflects his notion that Ukraine can never be truly independent. In his mind, Ukraine is either in Russia's sphere of influence, which he sees as its natural state, or it is somehow controlled by shadowy Western forces. We should not fall into the same imperialistic trap of sidelining or minimizing the wishes of Ukrainians. President Biden has said, "nothing about Ukraine without Ukraine," and he must stick to that.

We must also be clear-eyed about what is and is not possible to negotiate with Putin. As I have said before, Putin only understands strength and weakness is provocative. As Ursula von der Leyen, the EU Commission President and former German Defense Minister under Angela Merkel said, "We should have listened to the voices inside our Union—in Poland, in the Baltics, and all across Central and Eastern Europe—they have been telling us for years that Putin would not stop."

President Biden should take that lesson to heart as well.

Estonian Prime Minister Kallas puts it this way: "History shows that appeasement only strengthens and encourages aggressors and that aggressors can be stopped only with force. As the prime minister of Estonia, a frontline NATO country that endured half a century of Soviet occupation, I know what peace on Russia's terms really means. Russian peace would not mean the end of suffering but rather more atrocities."

I wish it was possible to negotiate with Putin to put an end to Ukraine's suffering. But what he wants is domination of Ukraine, and that is not ours to offer.

We have only two options left. We could sit on the sidelines and watch Ukraine get slowly crushed, which would embolden Putin and open the possibility that he would eventually attack one of our allies. Or we can support Ukraine's victory and independence.

As I have said before, backing a Ukrainian victory comes with costs and risks. But the risks and costs of not stopping Putin now will be much higher. That makes repelling Russia's invasion of its sovereign neighbor in the U.S. national interest.

The Russian threat will not go away, so for our national interest and in the

interest of long term peace in Europe, supporting a decisive victory for Ukraine is the right thing to do.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

CHAIRMAN,
Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-08, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Netherlands for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$670 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCHE,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-08

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: The Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$520 million.

Other \$150 million.

Total \$670 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MOE):

Twenty (20) M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) Launchers.

Thirty-nine (39) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with Insensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS).

Thirty-eight (38) M31A2 GMLRS Unitary (GMLRS-U) High Explosive (HE) Missile Pods with IMPS.

Eighty (80) M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) Missile Pods Seventeen (17) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs).

Non-MDE: Also included are M28A2 Reduced Range Practice Rocket (RRPR) pods; radios with similar "SINGARS" capability,

including vehicular dual long-range radio systems w/GPS; single radio, long range vehicular system w/GPS; High Frequency/VHF radios; M1084A2 cargo trucks, Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTVs) Resupply Vehicles (RSVs); M1089A2 wrecker truck, FMTVs; M1095 5-ton trailer FMTVs; Simple Key Loaders (SKLs), AN/PYQ-10; Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receivers (DAGRs); machine gun mounts; battle management systems, Vehicle Integration Kits, ruggedized laptops, and training equipment publications for HIMARS and munitions; camouflage screen and support systems; support equipment; communications equipment; spare and repair parts; test sets; training and training equipment; publications; systems integration support; technical data; Stockpile Reliability, Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance teams; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (NE-B-Y AX).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: NE-B-PBM.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 16, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Netherlands—M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS)

The Government of the Netherlands has requested to buy twenty (20) M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) launchers; thirty-nine (39) M30A2 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) Alternative Warhead (AW) Missile Pods with Insensitive Munitions Propulsion System (IMPS); thirty-eight (38) M31A2 GMLRS Unitary (GMLRS-U) High Explosive (HE) Missile Pods with IMPS; eighty (80) M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) Missile Pods; and seventeen (17) M1152A1 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs). Also included are M28A2 Reduced Range Practice Rocket (RRPR) pods; radios with similar "SINGARS" capability, including vehicular dual long-range radio systems w/GPS; single radio, long range vehicular system w/GPS; High Frequency/VHF radios; M1084A2 cargo trucks, Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTVs) Resupply Vehicles (RSVs); M1089A2 wrecker truck, FMTVs; M1095 5-ton trailer FMTVs; Simple Key Loaders (SKLs), AN/PYQ-10; Defense Advanced Global Positioning System Receivers (DAGRs); machine gun mounts; battle management systems, Vehicle Integration Kits, ruggedized laptops, and training equipment publications for HIMARS and munitions; camouflage screen and support systems; support equipment; communications equipment; spare and repair parts; test sets; training and training equipment; publications; systems integration support; technical data; Stockpile Reliability, Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance teams; U.S. Government and contractor technical, engineering, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The total estimated cost is \$670 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve the Netherlands' military goals of updating capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The Netherlands intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces and expand its capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. The Netherlands will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin, Grand Prairie, TX. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require U.S. Government or contractor representatives to travel to the Netherlands for program management reviews to support the program. Travel is expected to occur approximately twice per year as needed to support equipment fielding and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-08

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology

1. The M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) is a C-130 transportable wheeled launcher mounted on a 5-ton Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles truck chassis. HIMARS is the modern Army-fielded version of the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) M270 launcher and can fire all of the MLRS Family of Munitions (FOM) including Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) variants and the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS). Utilizing the MLRS FOM, the HIMARS can engage targets between 15 and 300 kilometers with GPS-aided precision accuracy.

2. The Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) M31A2 Unitary is the Army's primary munition for units fielding the M142 HIMARS and M270A1 Multiple Launcher Rocket System (MLRS) Launchers. The M31 Unitary is a solid propellant artillery rocket that uses Global Positioning System/Precise Positioning Service (GPS/PPS)-aided inertial guidance to accurately and quickly deliver a single high-explosive blast fragmentation warhead to targets at ranges from 15-70 kilometers. The rockets are fired from a launch pod container that also serves as the storage and transportation container for the rockets. Each rocket pod holds six (6) total rockets.

3. The M30A2 GMLRS Alternative Warhead shares a greater than 90% commonality with the M31A1 Unitary. The primary difference between the GMLRS-U and GMLRS-AW is the replacement of the Unitary's high explosive warhead with a 200-pound fragmentation warhead of pre-formed tungsten penetrators which is optimized for effectiveness against large area and imprecisely located targets. The munitions otherwise share a common motor, GPS/PPS-aided inertial guidance and control system, fuzing mechanism, multi-option height of burst capability, and effective range of 15-70km.

4. The M57 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS)—Unitary is a conventional, semi-ballistic missile that utilizes a 500-pound high explosive warhead. It has an effective range of between 70 and 300 kilometers and has increased lethality and accuracy over previous versions of the ATACMS due to a GPS/Precise Position System (PPS) aided navigation system.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that the Netherlands can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of the Netherlands.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGIA'S LATIN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

• Mr. OSSOFF. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Georgia's 25th anniversary.

Over the last 25 years, the Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Georgia has strengthened the State's Latin American community by championing efforts that boost economic development, expand access to new business opportunities, and promote civic engagement. Founded as the Mexican American Business Chamber in 1998, the LACC today is one of the largest Latin American organizations in the State of Georgia. The chamber plays an important role in the extraordinary contributions of Georgia's Latino community, and it stands as a pillar of unity and diversity that keeps moving the State forward. Georgia's Latin American diaspora community is diverse and fast-growing, and it is a privilege to represent Georgia's Latin American community in the U.S. Senate.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize the Latin American Chamber of Commerce of Georgia on its 25th anniversary and commend them for their dedication to Georgia's Latino community.●

RECOGNIZING THE SHOE AND TACK SHOP

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor The Shoe and Tack Shop, as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 2023.

The Shoe and Tack shop, owned by Steve, Patty, and Clay Gorrell, has been in business since January 17, 1979. Steve, a cowboy and rodeo clown, met Patty while working for her father at

Simplot. The two married in 1970 and moved to Colorado a few years later. During their time in Colorado, Steve managed 40,000 head of cattle for Lebsack and Patty worked as a supervisor for Miller Western Wear. By 1978, they found their way back to Twin Falls, ID, where Steve worked for his father's business, Dan's Boot Repair. Five months later, Steve and Patty moved to Jerome and began their venture at shoe repair.

What started as a boot and shoe repair shop has since evolved into a retail store, where the Gorrell family makes and sells their own cowboy gear. The Gorrell family has mastered their craftsmanship—Clay is an artisan, who does much of the tooling, Patty does the intricate sewing, and Steve does a little bit of everything.

The Gorrells commitment to the community shows through knowledgeable, fair, and honest treatment of their customers. From building and repairing tack, to offering advice on the best pair of boots, the Gorrells offer exceptional service. Their journey from humble beginnings to becoming a community stronghold exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. They are truly a local gem.

Congratulations to the Gorrell family on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for February 2023. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make Idaho proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Kate E. Brubacher, of Kansas, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas for the term of four years.

Ismail J. Ramsey, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 461. A bill to make certain irrigation districts eligible for Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program pumping power, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 462. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to modify the loan repayment program for the substance use disorder treatment workforce to relieve workforce shortages; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 463. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to include certain communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 464. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 465. A bill to require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 466. A bill to provide for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study and report on a Federal research agenda to advance the understanding of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 467. A bill to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 468. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance compliance with hospital price transparency requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. Kaine):

S. 469. A bill to require disclosure of the total amount of interest that would be paid over the life of a loan for certain Federal student loans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CASIDY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LEE, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 470. A bill to repeal changes made by health care reform laws to the Medicare exception to the prohibition on certain physician referrals for hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 471. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for greater State flexibility with respect to excluding providers who are involved in abortions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LEE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 472. A bill to declare that any agreement reached by the President relating to the nuclear program of Iran is deemed a treaty that is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 473. A bill to provide for drone security; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 474. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen reporting to the CyberTipline related to online sexual exploitation of children, to modernize liabilities for such reports, to preserve the contents of such reports for 1 year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 475. A bill to designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Gallup, New Mexico, as the Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura VA Clinic; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 476. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to protect access to genetically targeted technologies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 477. A bill to authorize the President to use military force for the purpose of securing and defending Taiwan against armed attack, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 478. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for comprehensive student achievement information; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 479. A bill to modify the fire management assistance cost share, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 480. A bill to require the establishment of a working group to evaluate the threat to food safety and animal health posed by beef imported from Brazil, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 481. A bill to impose sanctions to deter aggression by the People's Republic of China against Taiwan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 482. A bill to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 483. A bill to require transparency, accountability, and protections for consumers online; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 484. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 485. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide hazard mitigation assistance for mitigating and preventing post-wildfire flooding and debris flow, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 486. A bill to enhance transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads to disclose information about the advertisements to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN:

S. 487. A bill to require Federal agencies to conduct a benefit-cost analysis on relocations involving the movement of employment positions to different areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 488. A bill to modify the Freedom of Information Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 489. A bill to prohibit any direct or indirect United States funding for the territory of Gaza unless certain conditions are met; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 490. A bill to require the President to remove the extension of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices if Hong Kong no longer enjoys a high degree of autonomy from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 491. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that online contributions to a political organization require a credit verification value; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 492. A bill to prohibit the imposition of certain substantial burdens, relating to COVID-19 vaccine mandates, on religious exercise, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 493. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require Visa Waiver Program countries to share watch list information about known or suspected terrorists and to fully cooperate with United States law enforcement entities in preventing and combating serious crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 494. A bill to require a background check for every firearm sale; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 495. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide assisted living services for eligible veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 496. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to reaffirm the importance of workers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 497. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude a basic allowance for housing from income for purposes of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 498. A bill to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing maintaining, improving, and operating Student Veteran Centers; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 499. A bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to reauthorize the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 500. A bill to reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of Presidential election campaigns; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 501. A bill to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. RISCH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 502. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act with respect to the importation of live dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 503. A bill to establish the Space National Guard; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 504. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that engage in certain transactions relating to Cuba and to impose sanctions with respect to human rights abuse and corruption in Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. VANCE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. LEE, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 505. A bill to amend section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform immigration parole, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 506. A bill to amend the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 to strike the Secretary's unilateral authority during a national emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 507. A bill to establish the Ralph David Abernathy, Sr., National Historic Site, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 508. A bill to authorize appropriations for occupational education and training programs of the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 509. A bill to provide resources for United States nationals unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 510. A bill to require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide training to mem-

bers of the air force of Israel on the operation of KC-46 aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 511. A bill to establish the CCP Initiative program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KING, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SMITH, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 512. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 513. A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a working group on cyber insurance, to require dissemination of informative resources for issuers and customers of cyber insurance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CASEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 514. A bill to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Constance Baker Motley, in recognition of her enduring contributions and service to the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 515. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of establishing a national strategic propane reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 516. A bill to require coverage of incarcerated workers under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 517. A bill to prevent discrimination and retaliation against incarcerated workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 518. A bill to enhance coverage and oversight of occupational safety and health standards in correctional facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 519. A bill to prohibit individuals charged with or convicted of human trafficking or drug trafficking offenses committed near the border of the United States from receiving Federal benefits; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 520. A bill to provide for greater transparency about China's bilateral security agreements and joint police initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

S. 521. A bill to amend the Lumbee Act of 1956; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 522. A bill to establish appropriate penalties for cocaine-related offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 523. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to permit retirement plans to consider certain factors in investment decisions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. COONS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. PAUL):

S. 524. A bill to eliminate disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 525. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that a child can sit next to a family member on a flight at no additional cost; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 526. A bill to strengthen the use of patient-experience data within the benefit-risk framework for approval of new drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S.J. Res. 14. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that the Federal budget be balanced; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. VANCE, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. COTTON):

S.J. Res. 15. A joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414"; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S.J. Res. 16. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme

Court of the United States be composed of not more than 9 justices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S.J. Res. 17. A joint resolution to acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Vietnam war and formally apologize for the treatment they received upon returning home; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. Res. 71. A resolution congratulating the Kansas City Chiefs on their victory in Super Bowl LVII; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 72. A resolution recognizing Russian actions in Ukraine as a genocide; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. Res. 73. A resolution designating February 16, 2023, as "International Black Aviation Professionals Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 74. A resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of the Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 75. A resolution reaffirming the state of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemning the People's Republic of China's provocations in South Asia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 76. A resolution expressing deepest condolences to and solidarity with the people of Türkiye and Syria following the devastating earthquake on February 6, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 77. A resolution designating February 16, 2023, as "National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 78. A resolution authorizing the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate to conduct quarterly blood donation drives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr.

ROUNDS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. Con. Res. 4. A concurrent resolution establishing deadlines for the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library to approve or deny the statue of the Reverend William Franklin "Billy" Graham, Jr., for placement in the National Statuary Hall; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 27

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) were added as cosponsors of S. 27, a bill to prohibit the Department of Defense from requiring contractors to provide information relating to greenhouse gas emissions.

S. 129

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 129, a bill to ensure due process protections of individuals in the United States against unlawful detention based solely on a protected characteristic.

S. 204

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 204, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 273

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 273, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the African Americans who served with Union forces during the Civil War, in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service.

S. 308

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 308, a bill to end the treatment of

the People's Republic of China as a developing nation.

S. 401

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 401, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 422

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 422, a bill to remove legal impediments preventing construction of a border barrier along the international border between the United States and Mexico, improve the construction requirements for such barrier, make previously appropriated funds available for constructing such barrier until expanded, and for other purposes.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to protect alien minors and to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end abuse of the asylum system and establish refugee application and processing centers outside the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 431, a bill to withhold United States contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and for other purposes.

S. 453

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 453, a bill to prohibit the implementation of new requirements to report bank account deposits and withdrawals.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to "Reproductive Health Services".

S. CON. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 2, a concurrent

resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

S. RES. 36

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 36, a resolution reinforcing the United States-Nigeria relationship and urging the Government of Nigeria to conduct free, fair, transparent, and inclusive elections in 2023.

S. RES. 49

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 49, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Chinese Communist Party's espionage mission to send a surveillance balloon across the United States, in violation of international law, is unacceptable and should be condemned.

S. RES. 66

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 66, a resolution condemning the use by the People's Republic of China of a high-altitude surveillance balloon over the territory of the United States as a brazen violation of United States sovereignty.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 479. A bill to modify the fire management assistance cost share, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 485. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide hazard mitigation assistance for mitigating and preventing post-wildfire flooding and debris flow, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA, Madam President, I rise to introduce the Fire Suppression and Response Funding Act and the Hazard and Flooding Mitigation Funding Equity Act, two bills that would help both California and our Nation meet the increasing challenges posed by natural disasters.

Currently, FEMA's Fire Management Assistance Grant, FMAG, program is available to State, local, and Tribal governments for the mitigation, management, and control of fires that threaten such destruction that they would constitute a major disaster.

However, current law does not account for extreme circumstances like consecutive events or have any flexi-

bility like other Federal assistance programs and only allows for reimbursement of expenses incurred after an FMAG is granted.

The Fire Suppression and Response Funding Act would explicitly allow for FMAGs to cover the predeployment of assets and resources during times of extreme risk before a catastrophic fire breaks out. These predeployed assets are critical tools to help State, local, and Tribal governments suppress and contain a fire in its early stages before it constitutes a major disaster declaration.

Additionally, this bill states that the Federal cost share of FMAGs shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of such assistance, making FMAGs consistent with other FEMA disaster assistance and allowing for necessary flexibility to address consecutive wildfires in the same area. This bill does not mandate any cost share increase but simply allows for flexibility as FEMA considers FMAGs on an incident-by-incident basis.

As we have seen in the West, wildfires strip away vegetation in the form of burn scars, leaving the soil vulnerable to erosion and mudslides. When these burn scars are met with heavy rainfall, they often produce debris flows of loose mud, soil, and rock that pose serious threats to life, property, and public infrastructure. Post-fire events of this type are well documented throughout Southern California and across the Western United States. After the most recent atmospheric river event in California, thousands of people were evacuated due to large scale flooding and fears of debris flows in areas recently affected by wildfires.

The Hazard and Flooding Mitigation Funding Equity Act would make FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, HMGP, which covers flood protection, consistent with other FEMA disaster assistance by stating that the Federal cost share of HMGP shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of such assistance. This bill does not mandate any increase but simply allows for flexibility and increased Federal assistance where necessary to address concurrent extreme weather and wildfire events.

This bill will better support State and local governments to rebuild and mitigate future risk from flooding like we saw recently in California and postfire risks we have seen across the West.

These bills represent commonsense ways to proactively mitigate, effectively respond, and equitably recover from disasters. I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact them as soon as possible.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 496. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to reaffirm the importance of workers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED, Madam President, I am joined by Senators BROWN, WARREN, VAN HOLLEN, BOOKER, WHITEHOUSE, BALDWIN, PADILLA, and MERKLEY in reintroducing the Respect for Workers Act, a bill that would ensure that at least one Federal Reserve Governor has demonstrated primary experience in supporting or protecting the rights of workers.

Today, the Federal Reserve is attempting to curb inflation without plunging the economy into a recession. Over the past year, it has increased the Federal funds rate by 4½ percentage points to cool the economy and ease prices—its fastest pace of rate hikes since the early 1980s. But this is a difficult balancing act. If the Federal Reserve does not get its policies right, it may fail to defeat inflation or drive us into a recession. Workers would bear the brunt of the economic fallout attached to either outcome through higher prices or higher unemployment.

Arguably no group is more affected by the Federal Reserve's efforts to meet its dual mandate to promote stable prices and maximum employment than workers. But, while the law requires the Federal Reserve Board of Governors to represent diverse geographic regions and a wide array of commercial interests, no Federal Reserve Governor is required to have a background in protecting the interests of workers. Indeed, while the interests of Wall Street, nonbank financial institutions, and big business have long been well-represented on the Board, everyday working men and women have not been given the same voice in monetary policymaking.

Our bill fills this hole by requiring at least one Federal Reserve Governor has experience addressing the challenges facing workers. This is not a new concept. In fact, our bill is modeled on the 2015 law that requires at least one of the seven Federal Reserve Governors to be an individual "with demonstrated primary experience working in or supervising community banks."

In short, the Respect for Workers Act would ensure workers' economic needs are represented at the Federal Reserve. It would build a stronger, more representative Board of Governors and promote a healthier economy.

I thank the AFL-CIO, Groundwork Collaborative, National Employment Law Project, MIT Professor and Former International Monetary Fund Chief Economist Simon Johnson, and Georgetown Law Professor Adam Levitin for their support and urge our colleagues to join in pushing to enact this legislation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 506. A bill to amend the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 to strike the Secretary's unilateral authority during a national emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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. 506

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 “Stop Reckless Student Loan Actions Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 1098aa et seq.) was intended to provide relief opportunities for members of the armed services.

(2) The authority provided under the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 has been abused by the Executive Branch during the COVID-19 national emergency regarding the payment of Federal student loans.

(3) The unilateral payment pause on Federal student loans has cost more than \$160,000,000,000.

(4) The unilateral payment pause on Federal student loans has inflationary impacts.

(5) The individuals benefitting the most from the payment pause continued by the Executive Branch are doctors, who receive 11 times the benefit of bachelor's degree recipients and 16 times the benefit of associate's degree recipients.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS ACT OF 2003.

Section 5(2) of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 1098ee) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “(or the spouse or dependent of the parent, as that term is used in section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv))” after “an individual”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “and” after the semicolon;

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking the semicolon and inserting a period; and

(4) by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D).

SEC. 4. HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR CIVILIANS IN THE CASE OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND LIMITATIONS ON COVERED LOANS.

(a) TEMPORARY AUTHORITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation provided in subsection (c), during the 90 day period after a declaration of a national emergency under section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), the Secretary of Education may suspend or defer Federal student loan payments or the accrual of interest for loans made, insured or guaranteed under part B, D, or E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.; 1087a et seq.; 1087aa et seq.) or loans under the Health Education Assistance Loan Program.

(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Education may not use the temporary authority provided under paragraph (1) in consecutive 90 day periods.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF FROM THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.—In the case of a national emer-

gency declared by the President under section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), the Secretary of Education shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, not later than 60 days after the date of such declaration, a report that includes any recommendations on relief necessary for recipients of student financial assistance under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.).

(c) LIMITS ON EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND OR DEFER FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS OR INTEREST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President or the Secretary of Education may not suspend or defer Federal student loan payments on covered loans or the accrual of interest on covered loans of borrowers with annual household incomes over 400 percent of the poverty line (as determined under the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))).

(2) APPLICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT.—In any case where the President or the Secretary of Education suspends or defers Federal student loan payments on covered loans or the accrual of interest on covered loans through any type of executive or regulatory action, the suspension or deferral shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Congressional Review Act”); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(d) LIMITS ON EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO CANCEL STUDENT LOANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the President or the Secretary of Education may not cancel the outstanding balances, or a portion of the balances, on covered loans due to the COVID-19 national emergency or any other national emergency.

(2) APPLICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT.—In any case where the President or the Secretary of Education cancels the outstanding balances, or portion of the balances, on covered loans through any type of executive or regulatory action, the cancellation shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Congressional Review Act”); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) REGARDING SUSPENSIONS OR DEFERMENTS OF FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS ONGOING AT THE TIME OF ENACTMENT.—Not later than the effective date of this Act, any suspension or deferment of Federal student loan payments on covered loans due to the COVID-19 national emergency shall terminate. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a subsequent suspension or deferment of Federal student loan payments on covered loans for the COVID-19 national emergency shall be prohibited.

(2) REGARDING CANCELLATION OF STUDENT LOANS PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any cancellation of the outstanding balance, or portion of a balance, on a covered loan made by the President or Secretary of Education through any type of executive or regulatory action in the 30 days before the effective date of this Act shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code

(commonly known as the “Congressional Review Act”); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(f) DEFINITION OF COVERED LOAN.—In this subsection, the term “covered loan” means a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, D, or E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.; 1087a et seq.; 1087aa et seq.) or a loan under the Health Education Assistance Loan Program.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 71—CONGRATULATING THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS ON THEIR VICTORY IN SUPER BOWL LVII

Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. SCHMITT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 71

Whereas, on Sunday, February 12, 2023, the Kansas City Chiefs (in this preamble referred to as the “Chiefs”) won Super Bowl LVII to become the champion of the National Football League (in this preamble referred to as the “NFL”) for the 2022 season by defeating the Philadelphia Eagles by a score of 38 to 35;

Whereas this was the third Super Bowl victory in the franchise history of the Chiefs and the second Super Bowl victory for the Chiefs in 4 years;

Whereas the Chiefs displayed great resiliency to overcome a 10-point halftime deficit to win;

Whereas head coach Andy Reid earned his second Super Bowl victory, becoming only the 14th head coach to accomplish this feat;

Whereas quarterback Patrick Mahomes completed 21 of 27 passes and threw for 182 yards with 3 touchdowns and 0 interceptions and carried the ball 6 times for 44 yards and was named Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl LVII;

Whereas Patrick Mahomes became the first player named NFL Most Valuable Player and Super Bowl Most Valuable Player in the same season since 1999;

Whereas during Super Bowl LVII—

(1) Isiah Pacheco carried the ball 15 times for 76 yards and scored 1 touchdown;

(2) Travis Kelce had 6 receptions for 81 yards and scored 1 touchdown;

(3) Kadarius Toney made a touchdown reception to take the lead in the fourth quarter, as well as a Super Bowl record-long 65-yard punt return during the fourth quarter;

(4) Skyy Moore had a critical touchdown reception to extend the lead by the Chiefs during the fourth quarter;

(5) Nick Bolton led all players with 9 tackles and had a fumble recovery and defensive touchdown;

(6) JuJu Smith-Schuster had 7 receptions for 53 yards; and

(7) Harrison Butker made the game-winning field goal from 27 yards with 8 seconds left in the game;

Whereas the Chiefs also won—

(1) the American Football Conference Championship by defeating the Cincinnati Bengals 23 to 20 on January 29, 2023; and

(2) the American Football Conference Divisional playoff game by defeating the Jacksonville Jaguars 27 to 20 on January 22, 2023;

Whereas the entire Chiefs roster contributed to the victory in Super Bowl LVII, including Nick Allegretti, Blake Bell, Nick Bolton, Orlando Brown, Shane Buechele, Michael Burton, Deon Bush, Harrison Butker, Leo Chenal, Frank Clark, Jack Cochrane, Bryan Cook, Mike Danna, Carlos Dunlap, Clyde Edwards-Helaire, Jody Fortson, Willie Gay, Noah Gray, Darius Harris, Chad Henne, Malik Herring, Creed Humphrey, Nazeem Johnson, Chris Jones, Ronald Jones, Joshua Kaindoh, George Karlaftis, Travis Kelce, Darian Kinnard, Patrick Mahomes, Trent McDuffie, Jerick McKinnon, Skyy Moore, Lucas Niang, Derrick Nnadi, Isaiah Pacheco, Justin Reid, Khalel Saunders, Trey Smith, JuJu Smith-Schuster, L'Jarius Sneed, Juan Thornhill, Joe Thuney, Kadarius Toney, Tommy Townsend, Marquez Valdes-Scantling, Prince Tega Wanogho, Jaylen Watson, Justin Watson, Brandon Williams, Joshua Williams, James Winchester, and Andrew Wylie;

Whereas the Chiefs victory in Super Bowl LVII instills an extraordinary sense of pride for all of Chiefs Kingdom in the States of Missouri and Kansas and across the Midwest;

Whereas people all over the world are asking, "How 'bout those Chiefs?";

Whereas Lamar Hunt founded the Chiefs more than 6 decades ago and helped shape the NFL, including by coining the phrase "Super Bowl"; and

Whereas the Hunt family deserves great credit for its unwavering commitment to, and leadership and support of, Chiefs Kingdom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Kansas City Chiefs and their entire staff and fans of the Kansas City Chiefs for their victory in Super Bowl LVII; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the chairman and chief executive officer of the Kansas City Chiefs, Clark Hunt;

(B) the president of the Kansas City Chiefs, Mark Donovan, and the general manager of the Kansas City Chiefs, Brett Veach; and

(C) the head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs, Andy Reid.

SENATE RESOLUTION 72—RECOGNIZING RUSSIAN ACTIONS IN UKRAINE AS A GENOCIDE

Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 72

Whereas the Russian Federation's illegal, premeditated, unprovoked, and brutal war against Ukraine includes extensive, systematic, and flagrant atrocities against the people of Ukraine;

Whereas article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (in this preamble referred to as the "Genocide Convention"), adopted and opened for signature in 1948 and entered into force in 1951, defines genocide as "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: (a) Killing members of the group; (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) Deliberately inflicting on the

group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group";

Whereas, on October 3, 2018, the Senate unanimously agreed to Senate Resolution 435, 115th Congress, which commemorated the 85th anniversary of the Holodomor and "recognize[d] the findings of the Commission on the Ukraine Famine as submitted to Congress on April 22, 1988, including that 'Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against the Ukrainians in 1932–1933'";

Whereas substantial and significant evidence documents widespread, systematic actions against the Ukrainian people committed by Russian forces under the direction of political leadership of the Russian Federation that meet one or more of the criteria under article II of the Genocide Convention, including—

(1) killing members of the Ukrainian people in mass atrocities through deliberate and regularized murders of fleeing civilians and civilians in passing as well as purposeful targeting of homes, schools, hospitals, shelters, and other residential and civilian areas;

(2) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the Ukrainian people by launching indiscriminate attacks against civilians and civilian areas, conducting willful strikes on humanitarian evacuation corridors, and employing widespread and systematic sexual violence against Ukrainian civilians, including women, children, and men;

(3) deliberately inflicting upon the Ukrainian people conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction in whole or in part, including displacement due to annihilated villages, towns, and cities left devoid of food, water, shelter, electricity, and other basic necessities, starvation caused by the destruction of farmlands and agricultural equipment, the placing of Russian landmines across thousands of acres of useable fields, and blocking the delivery of humanitarian food aid;

(4) imposing measures intended to prevent births among the Ukrainian people, demonstrated by the Russian military's expansive and direct targeting of maternity hospitals and other medical facilities and systematic attacks against residential and civilian areas as well as humanitarian corridors intended to deprive Ukrainians of safe havens within their own country and the material conditions conducive to childrearing; and

(5) forcibly mass transferring millions of Ukrainian civilians, hundreds of thousands of whom are children, to the Russian Federation or territories controlled by the Russian Federation;

Whereas the intent of the Russian Federation and those acting on its behalf in favor of those heinous crimes against humanity has been demonstrated through frequent pronouncements and other forms of official communication denying Ukrainian nationhood, including President Putin's ahistorical claims that Ukraine is part of a "single whole" Russian nation with "no historical basis" for being an independent country;

Whereas some Russian soldiers and brigades accused of committing war crimes in Bucha, Ukraine, and elsewhere were rewarded with medals by President Putin;

Whereas the Russian state-owned media outlet RIA Novosti published the article "What Should Russia do with Ukraine", which outlines "de-Nazification" as meaning "de-Ukrainianization" or the destruction of Ukraine and rejection of the "ethnic component" of Ukraine;

Whereas article I of the Genocide Convention confirms "that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which [the Contracting Parties] undertake to prevent and to punish";

Whereas although additional documentation and analysis of atrocities committed by the Russian Federation in Ukraine may be needed to punish those responsible, the substantial and significant documentation already undertaken, combined with statements showing intent, compel urgent action to prevent future acts of genocide; and

Whereas the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) authorizes the President to impose economic sanctions on, and deny entry into the United States to, foreign individuals identified as engaging in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns those acting on behalf of the Russian Federation for committing acts of genocide against the Ukrainian people;

(2) calls on the United States, in cooperation with allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union, to undertake measures to support the Government of Ukraine to prevent acts of Russian genocide against the Ukrainian people;

(3) supports tribunals and international criminal investigations to hold Russian political leaders and military personnel to account for a war of aggression, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide; and

(4) urges the President to use the authorities under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) to impose economic sanctions on those responsible for, or complicit in, genocide in Ukraine by the Russian Federation and those acting on its behalf.

SENATE RESOLUTION 73—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AS "INTERNATIONAL BLACK AVIATION PROFESSIONALS DAY"

Mr. OSSOFF submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 73

Whereas, since the birth of aviation, Black Americans have made and continue to make significant contributions to flight, space exploration, and the aviation industry as a whole, despite significant adversity;

Whereas aviation trailblazers like Emory C. Malick, the first licensed Black pilot, James H. Banning, the first Black pilot to fly across the United States, and Bessie "Queen" Coleman, the first licensed Black woman pilot, barnstormed through barriers such as racism and sexism to have careers in aviation;

Whereas William J. Powell, Jr., was a visionary who established the Bessie Coleman Flying Club, sponsored the first all-Black American airshow, wrote the book entitled "Black Wings", produced a documentary film entitled "Unemployment, the Negro and Aviation", and worked tirelessly to mobilize Black American youth to pursue careers in aviation;

Whereas Cornelius Coffey, a skilled auto mechanic who dreamed of flying, and Willa Brown, the first Black woman to earn both a pilot license and a commercial license and the first Black woman to become an officer in the Illinois Civil Air Patrol, organized a group of Black air enthusiasts, established training classes and a school of aeronautics, and helped promote the 1939 flight of

Chauncey Spencer and Dale White from Chicago to Washington, DC, to campaign for an end to racial segregation in aviation;

Whereas the Tuskegee Army Airfield, after which the Tuskegee Airmen were named, became a vital center for Black American servicemembers to train as mechanics, control tower operators, and pilots of military aircrafts, launching the careers of many notable Black aviators, including General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Amelia Jones, Linkwood Williams, Lieutenant Colonel Lee A. Archer, Major Charles Hall, Brigadier General Charles McGee, and many others;

Whereas the “Red Tails” of the 99th Fighter Squadron, and later the 332d Fighter Group known as the “Tuskegee Airmen”, made pioneering contributions to the United States war effort during World War II and the subsequent drive to end racial segregation in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas, in 1958, Ruth Carol Taylor became the first Black regional flight attendant in the United States;

Whereas, in 1956, Patricia Banks-Edmiston filed, and, in 1960, ultimately won a discrimination case against Capital Airlines, paving the way for her to become the first Black commercial flight attendant in the United States;

Whereas these historic firsts opened the skies for Black flight attendants, including Joan Dorsey, Diane Hunter, Patricia Grace Murphy, Undra Mays, Sheila Nutt, and Margaret Grant;

Whereas Oscar Wayman Holmes was the first Black air traffic controller and served as the first Black aircraft pilot and Black commissioned officer in the United States Navy, and, in 1971, Eleanor Williams became the first Black woman air traffic controller;

Whereas Black scientists have played an integral role in the United States, reaching the stars through the brilliance and fortitude of historically overlooked and unappreciated figures, including Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson, whose contributions in astrophysics allowed the United States to send individuals into space;

Whereas Black Americans finally soared amongst the stars when Guion “Guy” Bluford and Mae Jemison became the first Black American man and woman, respectively, to venture into space;

Whereas the research of Black Americans like physician Vance H. Marchbanks and psychophysicist Patricia Cowings made it safer for astronauts to travel to space;

Whereas Black American inventors helped revolutionize air and space travel, including Charles W. Chappelle designing a long-distance airplane, Gladys West contributing to the development of the Global Positioning System (GPS), George Robert Carruthers creating technology that allowed for photography in space, and Lonnie Johnson creating the power source for the Galileo mission to Jupiter for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

Whereas, on February 12, 2009, on a flight from Atlanta to Nashville, Captain Rachelle Jones Kerr, First Officer Stephanie Grant, and flight attendants Robin Rogers and Diana Galloway, made history as the first all-female, all-Black American flight crew;

Whereas Casey Grant, an author, an aviator, and a pioneer in her own right as 1 of the earliest Black flight attendants, has made it her mission to honor the legacy and contributions of Black pioneers in aviation through her books, entitled “Stars in the Sky” and “Stars and Beyond”, and her efforts to introduce a new generation of young Black individuals across the United States and in Ghana to the field of aviation;

Whereas organizations, including the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals,

the Black Aviation Airline Pioneers, the Sisters of the Skies, the Bessie Coleman Aviation All-Stars, the Black Flight Attendants of America, Inc., and more continue to preserve the legacy of Black Americans in aviation;

Whereas Black Americans have long served in every aspect of aviation, from skycaps, who greet travelers arriving at the airport, and ticketing agents, who ensure the itineraries of travelers are in order, to ground crew, mechanics, and many others, who make the aviation industry safe and reliable;

Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration provides opportunities to eligible students from historically underrepresented backgrounds in the fields of aviation and aeronautics, and science, technology, engineering, and math (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) through the STEM Aviation and Space Education Program by recruiting candidates from historically Black colleges and universities for programs such as the Minority Serving Institutions Intern Program; and

Whereas public and private sector efforts to recruit, retain, and promote talented Black Americans through increased emphasis on intentional diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, programs, and commitments, as well as investments in programs that expose underrepresented groups to careers in aviation, will ultimately help diversify the workforce for decades to come: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 16, 2023, as “International Black Aviation Professionals Day”;

(2) encourages the observation of “International Black Aviation Professionals Day” through the recognition and celebration of the contributions of Black aviation professionals; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States—

(A) to recognize the stories and contributions of Black American aviation professionals who broke barriers, innovated, and took aviation to greater heights;

(B) to provide an enhanced curriculum in schools, libraries, and other places of learning to educate all individuals of the United States with respect to the contributions of Black aviation pioneers; and

(C) to support greater opportunities for Black Americans in all areas of aviation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 74—CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN’S STATE-SPONSORED PERSECUTION OF THE BAHÁ’Í MINORITY AND ITS CONTINUED VIOLATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. COONS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 74

Whereas, in 1982, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, and 2022, Congress

declared that it deplored the religious persecution by the Government of Iran of the Baha’i community and would hold the Government of Iran responsible for upholding the rights of all Iranian nationals, including members of the Baha’i faith;

Whereas, since 1979, Iranian authorities have killed or executed more than 200 Baha’i leaders, and more than 10,000 Baha’is have been dismissed from government and university jobs;

Whereas, on December 15, 2022, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution (A/C.3/77/L.34) criticizing Iran for human rights abuses and calling on Iran to carry out wide-ranging reforms, including—

(1) to end its “continuing disregard for protections under Iranian law or internationally recognized safeguards relating to the imposition of the death penalty” and “to commute the sentences for child offenders on death row”;

(2) “to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment”;

(3) “to cease the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary arrests and detention”;

(4) “to release persons detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms”;

(5) “to address the poor conditions of prisons”;

(6) “to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of systemic discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls”;

(7) to cease “the increased harassment, intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrest and detention of, and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against, persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians (particularly converts from Islam), Gonabadi Dervishes, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians, and, in particular, Baha’is, who have been subjected to a sudden increase in persecution, who have faced increasing restrictions and systemic persecution by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on account of their faith and have been reportedly subjected to mass arrests and lengthy prison sentences, as well as the arrest of prominent members and increased confiscation and destruction of property”;

(8) “to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a minority religious group, to cease the desecration of cemeteries and to ensure that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief”;

Whereas, in the 2022 Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom issued in April 2022, it is reported that—

(1) the Government of Iran “arrested scores of Baha’is across Iran”, many of whom “were held incommunicado or taken to undisclosed locations”;

(2) “Iranian universities continued to deny education to Baha’is on account of their faith”;

(3) government agents “closed six Baha’i businesses”;

(4) government officials “demolished the homes of three Baha’is without warning”;

and

(5) the Government of Iran “announced the auction of thirteen Baha’i farms”;

Whereas the Iran section of the Department of State’s 2021 Report on International Religious Freedom issued in June 2022 provides, in part—

(1) “Authorities continued to confiscate Baha’i properties as part of an ongoing state-led campaign of economic persecution against Baha’is.”;

(2) “Authorities reportedly continued to deny the Baha’i, Sabean-Mandaean, and Yarsani religious communities, as well as members of other unrecognized religious minorities, access to education and government employment unless they declared themselves as belonging to one of the country’s recognized religions on their application forms.”; and

(3) “Government officials continued to disseminate anti-Baha’i and antisemitic messages using traditional and social media.”;

Whereas, in response to a surge in persecution in June and July 2022, involving the subjection of over 100 Baha’is to arrests, arraignments, sentencing, and raids on their homes and businesses across Iran, including the sentencing in June of 26 individuals in the city of Shiraz to a combined total of 85 years in prison, the Department of State’s Office of International Religious Freedom issued a statement on August 2, 2022, indicating that “[a]mid a continued rise in arrests, sentences, and imprisonments, the U.S. urges Iran to halt its ongoing oppression of the Baha’i community and honor its international obligations to respect the right of all Iranians to freedom of religion or belief”;

Whereas, on November 21, 2022, Mahvash Sabet and Fariba Kamalabadi, 2 former members of the informal 7-person leadership group of the Baha’is of Iran, who each served 10-year sentences from 2008 to 2018 and have been detained since July 31, 2022, in Evin prison, were sentenced to 10 years in prison each after a summary trial lasting 1 hour;

Whereas, on December 11, 2022, the Baha’i International Community organization stated that “Dr. Shirin Ebadi, the Nobel laureate and defence lawyer for Mahvash and Fariba during their first trial, said in 2008 that ‘not a shred of evidence’ was offered to prove the national security charges or other allegations. Nor was any new evidence forthcoming at this latest trial”;

Whereas, on December 11, 2022, the Baha’i International Community organization reported, “More than 320 Baha’is have been affected by individual acts of persecution since the arrest of Mahvash and Fariba. Dozens were arrested at various points in Shiraz, across Mazandaran province, and elsewhere throughout the country. Homes owned by Baha’is in the village of Roshankouh were demolished. Government plans to tar the Baha’is through hate speech and propaganda were also exposed. And at least 90 Baha’is are currently in prison or subject to degrading ankle-band monitoring.”;

Whereas Iran is a member of the United Nations and a signatory to both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, among other international human rights treaties, without reservation;

Whereas section 105 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8514) authorizes the President to impose sanctions on individuals who are “responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses against citizens of Iran or their family members on or after June 12, 2009”; and

Whereas the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-158) amends and expands the authorities established under the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-195) to sanction Iranian human rights abusers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the Government of Iran’s state-sponsored persecution of the Baha’i minority in Iran and the continued violation of

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(2) calls on the Government of Iran—

(A) to immediately release the imprisoned or detained Baha’is and all other prisoners held solely on account of their religion;

(B) to end its state-sponsored campaign of hate propaganda against the Baha’is; and

(C) to reverse state-imposed policies denying Baha’is and members of other religious minorities equal opportunities to higher education, earning a livelihood, due process under the law, and the free exercise of religious practices;

(3) calls on the President and the Secretary of State, in cooperation with responsible nations, to immediately condemn the Government of Iran’s continued violation of human rights, and demand the immediate release of prisoners held solely on account of their religion; and

(4) urges the President and the Secretary of State to utilize available authorities to impose sanctions on officials of the Government of Iran and other individuals directly responsible for serious human rights abuses, including abuses against the Baha’i community of Iran.

SENATE RESOLUTION 75—RE-AFFIRMING THE STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH AS INDIAN TERRITORY AND CONDEMNING THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA’S PROVOCATIONS IN SOUTH ASIA

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 75

Whereas, since the Sino-Indian war of 1962, the United States has recognized the McMahon Line as the international boundary between the People’s Republic of China and the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh;

Whereas the United States recognizes the state of Arunachal Pradesh not as disputed territory but as an integral part of the Republic of India, and this recognition is not qualified in any way;

Whereas the Government of the People’s Republic of China claims Arunachal Pradesh as its own territory, which it calls “South Tibet”, and has invoked these claims as part of its increasingly aggressive and expansionist policies;

Whereas, in December 2021, the People’s Republic of China’s Ministry of Civil Affairs published a detailed map of the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh which assigned Mandarin-language names to 15 geographic features, including eight residential settlements, four mountain peaks, two rivers, and one mountain pass, as well as the names of the administrative regions where each of these are located;

Whereas, in December 2022, People’s Republic of China and Indian troops engaged in a skirmish in Arunachal Pradesh along the Line of Actual Control, the biggest clash in the Eastern Sector in six years;

Whereas the People’s Liberation Army engaged in provocative moves in the Western Sector along the Line of Actual Control starting in April 2020, including increasing troop deployments, building new infrastructure in contested areas, and harassing Indian patrols, particularly around the Depsang Plains, Galwan Valley, Hot Springs, and Pangong Lake;

Whereas these provocations by the People’s Republic of China upended then-im-

proving India-China relations and ultimately led to the Galwan Valley clash in June 2020, which resulted in the death of 20 Indian soldiers;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has constructed two Chinese villages close to the Line of Actual Control near Arunachal Pradesh and expanded its territorial claims in Bhutanese territory in the Eastern Sector;

Whereas Arunachal Pradesh contains the Buddhist town of Tawang, home to the revered Tawang Monastery and is the birthplace of the sixth Dalai Lama, Tsangyang Gyatso;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China has raised diplomatic objections to visits to Arunachal Pradesh by the Dalai Lama and other leaders and has refused to grant residents of the Indian state visas for travel to China;

Whereas the provocations by the People’s Republic of China impede poverty alleviation and economic development in Arunachal Pradesh, where nearly 25 percent of the population lives in multidimensional poverty according to India’s 2021 National Multidimensional Poverty Index, leading many international donors to be cautious of providing assistance due to the state’s perceived status as disputed territory;

Whereas the Government of India has increased its funding for border infrastructure to improve accessibility in Arunachal Pradesh, as well as for village infrastructure, housing, tourist centers, road connectivity, and decentralized renewable energy production through India’s Vibrant Villages program;

Whereas the Government of India has taken steps to defend itself from aggression and security threats from the People’s Republic of China, including through securing its telecommunications infrastructure and conducting investment screening;

Whereas it is in the interest of the United States to work both bilaterally with India through our Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, as well as multilaterally through the Quad with Japan and Australia, and through the I2U2 with Israel and the United Arab Emirates;

Whereas there is significant and continuing progress in the U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership, including ambitions for building an advanced and comprehensive defense partnership in which the armed forces of the United States and India coordinate across all domains; and

Whereas the Government of India is playing a significant leadership role on the global stage, including as part of its G20 presidency in 2023: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) unequivocally recognizes the state of Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of the Republic of India and supports the country’s sovereignty and territorial integrity;

(2) condemns the People’s Republic of China’s use of military force to change the status quo along the Line of Actual Control, as well as additional provocations including the construction of villages in contested areas, expansion of territorial claims in Bhutan, and publication of maps assigning Mandarin-language names to cities and features in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh;

(3) commends the Government of India for taking steps to defend itself against aggression and security threats from the People’s Republic of China, including through securing its telecommunications infrastructure, examining its procurement processes and supply chains, implementing investment screening standards, and expanding its cooperation with Taiwan in public health and other sectors;

(4) supports, as part of a joint vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, India's continued defense modernization, including its diversification away from countries that fail to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of other nations;

(5) applauds the Government of India for increasing its development efforts in Arunachal Pradesh, including for improving border infrastructure, connectivity, and energy security, including renewable energy production;

(6) commits to deepening United States assistance to the region, including through the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development using funding mechanisms such as the Countering PRC Influence Fund;

(7) encourages like-minded international partners and donors to likewise bolster their assistance efforts to Arunachal Pradesh;

(8) supports further strengthening the United States-India bilateral partnership, including through enhanced defense interoperability and information-sharing especially for early warning systems, the United States-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology, further economic cooperation, and our broad and long-standing people-to-people ties; and

(9) promotes enhancing our multilateral cooperation with India through the Quad, the East Asia Summit alongside our partners in the Association for Southeast Asian Nations, and other international fora.

SENATE RESOLUTION 76—EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF TÜRKIYE AND SYRIA FOLLOWING THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE ON FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 76

Whereas, on February 6, 2023, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck southern and central Türkiye, a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) ally, and western Syria;

Whereas this is the most powerful earthquake recorded in Türkiye since 1939;

Whereas, according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake epicenter was located approximately 16 miles east of Nurdagi, in Türkiye's Gaziantep province;

Whereas the USGS has registered more than 100 aftershocks between magnitudes 4.5 and 7.5;

Whereas the reported death toll has reached 42,000, thousands more people have been reported injured, hundreds of thousands have been displaced from their homes, and thousands of buildings have collapsed;

Whereas the World Health Organization estimates that 23,000,000 people, including 1,400,000 children, in Türkiye and Syria have likely been affected by the earthquake and more than 4,000,000 people already rely on humanitarian assistance in the region of northwest Syria that was affected by the earthquake;

Whereas countless people in the region and across the world have lost family, friends, and loved ones to the earthquakes and will be mourning their loss;

Whereas the United States Government responded immediately to the disaster and the United States Agency for International De-

velopment (USAID) has deployed a nearly 200-member Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to Türkiye, including nearly 160 urban search-and-rescue teams, to provide life-saving assistance on both sides of the Türkiye-Syria border;

Whereas USAID has committed \$85,000,000 to date for USAID's humanitarian partners to deliver urgently-needed aid for millions of people in Türkiye and Syria;

Whereas individuals, businesses, and philanthropic and humanitarian organizations across the United States and throughout the international community have responded in support of Türkiye and Syria;

Whereas humanitarian access has been constrained by road closures, infrastructural damage, and weather conditions in Türkiye; and

Whereas access to the one official crossing for cross-border aid from the United Nations from Türkiye to northern Syria was heavily damaged, further delaying humanitarian access: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its deepest condolences to and solidarity with the people of Türkiye and Syria following the devastating earthquake on February 6, 2023;

(2) commends the efforts and honors the sacrifice of the men and women engaged in the humanitarian response on the ground in the affected regions of Türkiye and Syria;

(3) commends as well the international humanitarian and nongovernmental organizations engaged in this effort;

(4) urges the United States Government, in coordination with appropriate local authorities in Türkiye and internationally recognized organizations and institutions in Syria, as well as other donors, to continue to provide emergency relief and reconstruction efforts in both countries as provided in the humanitarian exemptions of the United States Treasury's Syria Sanctions program;

(5) urges the United States Government to ensure that earthquake assistance does not—

(A) violate the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 (title LXXIV of Public Law 116-92; 22 U.S.C. 8791 note);

(B) facilitate reconstruction efforts that directly benefit the Assad regime;

(C) signal or support normalization with the Assad regime; or

(D) fuel continued regime atrocities against the people of Syria;

(6) encourages efforts by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and allies to assist Türkiye by providing—

(A) search-and-rescue teams;

(B) firefighters and structural engineers;

(C) medical personnel and supplies; and

(D) technical experts;

(7) urges the international community to continue to find alternative border crossings to ensure aid gets into affected areas in Syria;

(8) calls on the United Nations Security Council, to pass a resolution to allow for additional border crossings from Türkiye into northern Syria for aid convoys; and

(9) to allow full access for humanitarian aid organizations, urges the immediate cessation of violence in northern Syria.

SENATE RESOLUTION 77—DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AS “NATIONAL ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY”

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 77

Whereas Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich, Tlingit, was a member of the Lukaa.ádi clan in the Raven moiety with the Tlingit name of aa gala.aat (referred to in this preamble as “Elizabeth”) who fought for social equality, civil liberties, and respect for Alaska Native and Native American communities;

Whereas Elizabeth, who was born in 1911 in Petersburg, Alaska, experienced discrimination as a Tlingit woman, and dedicated her life to creating a better future for Alaska Natives;

Whereas, more than 6,000 patriotic Alaska Natives protected the United States alongside non-Native Servicemen and women during World War II, despite suffering from unjust discrimination;

Whereas, in 1941, Elizabeth and her husband, Roy Peratrovich, moved to Juneau, the capital city of Alaska, to campaign tirelessly for the passage of the anti-discrimination legislation of Ernest Gruening, the Governor of Alaska, which would later result in the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945;

Whereas, in campaigning for the passage of anti-discrimination legislation, Elizabeth persevered for several years traveling across the Alaska Territory enabling, rallying, and uniting Alaska Natives to fight for recognition that they are created equal to others and equally endowed with “unalienable Rights”;

Whereas Elizabeth was a powerful orator who envisioned unity and then spoke it into existence through community advocacy and the support of the Alaska Native Brotherhood and the Alaska Native Sisterhood;

Whereas Elizabeth testified strongly before the Alaska Territorial legislature vote on the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945, passionately asking the legislature, “Have you eliminated larceny or murder by passing a law against it? No law will eliminate crimes but, at least you as legislators, can assert to the world that you recognize the evil of the present situation and speak your intent to help us overcome discrimination.”;

Whereas the Alaska Territorial Legislature passed the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 on February 16, 1945, which was the first anti-discrimination law enacted in the history of the United States;

Whereas Elizabeth dedicated the rest of her life to create a better Alaska for future generations;

Whereas Elizabeth tragically died of cancer in 1958, but her legacy has not been forgotten;

Whereas, beginning in 1988, the State of Alaska has recognized February 16 as Elizabeth Peratrovich Day; and

Whereas, in 2020, the United States Mint released the Elizabeth Peratrovich \$1 coin to commemorate the significant impact that Elizabeth had on advancing equality under the law in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates February 16, 2023, as “National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day”;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day by remembering the work of Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich and other civil rights leaders; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States and Members of Congress to commemorate the life and civil rights advocacy of Elizabeth Wanamaker Peratrovich by continuing the important work of ensuring equality for Alaska Natives and Native Americans.

SENATE RESOLUTION 78—AUTHORIZING THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE TO CONDUCT QUARTERLY BLOOD DONATION DRIVES

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 78

Resolved,

SECTION 1. QUARTERLY SENATE BLOOD DONATION DRIVES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During calendar year 2023, the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, in conjunction with a partnering blood donation organization, is authorized to conduct a blood donation drive once every quarter in room G-50 of the Everett McKinley Dirksen Senate Office Building.

(2) DATE SELECTION.—The Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate shall, in consultation with the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate—

(A) identify the dates for quarterly blood donation drives conducted under paragraph (1); and

(B) select the partnering blood donation organization for each such drive.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Physical preparations for the conduct of, and the implementation of, each blood donation drive authorized under subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, in consultation with the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate, may prescribe.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4—ESTABLISHING DEADLINES FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY TO APPROVE OR DENY THE STATUE OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM FRANKLIN “BILLY” GRAHAM, JR., FOR PLACEMENT IN THE NATIONAL STATUARY HALL

Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 4

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

SECTION 1. DEADLINES FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL BY JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY.

The Joint Committee of Congress on the Library shall—

(1) approve or deny the full-sized clay model and pedestal design of a statue of the Reverend William Franklin “Billy” Graham, Jr., not later than 30 days after the date on which the State of North Carolina submits to the Architect of the Capitol—

(A) photographs of the model from all 4 sides;

(B) the dimensions of the statue and pedestal;

(C) engineering drawings of the pedestal;

(D) the anticipated weight of the completed statue and pedestal; and

(E) the text of any proposed inscription;

(2) approve or deny the completed statue of the Reverend William Franklin “Billy” Graham, Jr., not later than 30 days after the date on which the State of North Carolina submits to the Architect of the Capitol—

(A) photographs of the completed statue and pedestal from all 4 sides;

(B) the dimensions of the statue and pedestal;

(C) the final weight of the statue and pedestal; and

(D) the text of any inscription; and

(3) if the Committee approves the statue of the Reverend William Franklin “Billy” Graham, Jr., under paragraph (2), not later than 30 days after the date of the approval, determine a permanent public location in the Capitol for the statue.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I have nine 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate

on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10 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, February 16, 2023, at 10:30 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, February 16, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10 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, February 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans’ Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95—384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Paul Grove:									
New Zealand	Dollar		303.00						303.00
Fiji	Dollar		820.00						820.00
Kiribati	Dollar		411.00						411.00
Samoa	Tala		556.00						556.00
United States	Dollar				9,843.48				9,843.48
Senator John Boozman:									
Spain	Euro		253.55						253.55
Ethiopia	Birr		833.86						833.86
Kenya	Shilling		767.00						767.00
Rwanda	Franc		345.01						345.01

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95—384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Greece	Euro		75.00						75.00
Patrick McGuigan:									
Spain	Euro		253.55						253.55
Ethiopia	Birr		833.86						833.86
Kenya	Shilling		767.00						767.00
Rwanda	Franc		345.01						345.01
Greece	Euro		75.00						75.00
Brian Daner:									
Japan	Yen		1,191.91						1,191.91
South Korea	Won		1,316.00						1,316.00
United States	Dollar				16,764.80				16,764.80
Michael Bednarczyk:									
Japan	Yen		1,191.91						1,191.91
South Korea	Won		987.00						987.00
United States	Dollar				21,067.68				21,067.68
Blaise Sheridan:									
Japan	Yen		1,191.91						1,191.91
South Korea	Won		987.00						987.00
United States	Dollar				16,509.98				16,509.98
Brian Daner:									
South Korea	Won		1,062.00						1,062.00
Thailand	Baht		753.60						753.60
United States	Dollar				1,458.00				1,458.00
Kevin Wheeler:									
Japan	Yen		1,191.91						1,191.91
United States	Dollar				16,817.18				16,817.18
Allen Cutler:									
Japan	Yen		1,191.91						1,191.91
United States	Dollar				16,922.48				16,922.48
Adam Yezerksi:									
Mexico	Peso		1,049.00						1,049.00
Colombia	Peso		1,003.49						1,003.49
United States	Dollar				3,199.32				3,199.32
Laura Friedel:									
Kenya	Shilling		1,319.75						1,319.75
Ghana	Cedi		868.29						868.29
United States	Dollar				11,065.17				11,065.17
Ashley Palmer:									
Kenya	Shilling		1,319.75						1,319.75
Ghana	Cedi		868.29						868.29
United States	Dollar				11,065.17				11,065.17
Anna Lanier Fischer:									
Kenya	Shilling		1,319.75						1,319.75
Ghana	Cedi		868.29						868.29
United States	Dollar				11,065.17				11,065.17
Thompson Moore:									
Austria	Euro		596.30						596.30
United Kingdom	Pound		837.45						837.45
Ireland	Euro		327.60						327.60
United States	Dollar				5,605.78				5,605.78
Daniel Mencher:									
Austria	Euro		594.80						594.80
United Kingdom	Pound		250.00						250.00
United States	Dollar				6,699.88				6,699.88
Senator Richard Shelby:									
Germany	Euro		816.00						816.00
Czechia	Koruna		840.72						840.72
Austria	Euro		1,081.87						1,081.87
France	Euro		3,161.00						3,161.00
United Kingdom	Pound		2,307.14						2,307.14
United States	Dollar				11,901.80				11,901.80
William Duhnke:									
Germany	Euro		816.00						816.00
Czechia	Koruna		840.72						840.72
Austria	Euro		1,081.87						1,081.87
France	Euro		2,054.00						2,054.00
United States	Dollar				8,694.38				8,694.38
David Adkins:									
Germany	Euro		816.00						816.00
Czechia	Koruna		840.72						840.72
Austria	Euro		1,081.87						1,081.87
France	Euro		1,369.00						1,369.00
United States	Dollar				7,647.40				7,647.40
Kate Kaufer:									
Taiwan	Dollar		794.41						794.41
United States	Dollar				12,372.28				12,372.28
Robert Leonard:									
Taiwan	Dollar		794.41						794.41
United States	Dollar				12,372.28				12,372.28
Todd Phillips:									
Taiwan	Dollar		794.41						794.41
United States	Dollar				12,372.28				12,372.28
David Adkins:									
Taiwan	Dollar		794.74						794.74
United States	Dollar				10,438.98				10,438.98
Paul Grove:									
Thailand	Baht		872.00						872.00
Laos	Kip		1,069.00						1,069.00
United States	Dollar				13,901.58				13,901.58
Katherine Bowles:									
Taiwan	Dollar		790.00						790.00
Philippines	Dollar		420.20						420.20
United States	Dollar				15,951.58				15,951.58
Jessica Berry:									
South Korea	Yen		708.00						708.00
Thailand	Baht		753.60						753.60
United States	Dollar				7,875.98				7,875.98
Lindsay Erickson:									
South Korea	Yen		708.00						708.00
Thailand	Baht		753.60						753.60
United States	Dollar				7,875.98				7,875.98
Tim Rieser:									
Vietnam	Dollar		1,716.00						1,716.00
United States	Dollar				1,511.28				1,511.28
Alex Carnes:									
Poland	Dollar		338.00						338.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Netherlands	Dollar		495.97						495.97
United States	Dollar				11,284.38				11,284.38
Delegation Expenses: *									
New Zealand	Dollar					1,400.00			1,400.00
Fiji	Dollar					195.00			195.00
Samoa	Samoa					471.00			471.00
Delegation Expenses: *									
Ethiopia	Birr					1,510.46			1,510.46
Kenya	Shilling					1,794.76			1,794.76
Rwanda	Franc					584.10			584.10
Greece	Euro					127.50			127.50
Delegation Expenses: *									
Japan	Yen					1,681.77			1,681.77
South Korea	Won					1,804.11			1,804.11
Delegation Expenses: *									
Mexico	Peso					1,840.00			1,840.00
Colombia	Peso					1,617.95			1,617.95
Delegation Expense: *									
Kenya	Shilling					2,523.25			2,523.25
Delegation Expenses: *									
South Korea	Won					1,252.34			1,252.34
Thailand	Baht					135.42			135.42
Delegation Expenses: *									
United Kingdom	Pound					359.95			359.95
Ireland	Euro					1,132.15			1,132.15
Delegation Expenses: *									
Germany	Euro					2,567.00			2,567.00
Czechia	Koruna					4,558.77			4,558.77
Austria	Euro					1,826.99			1,826.99
France	Euro					7,749.00			7,749.00
United Kingdom	Pound					4,557.40			4,557.40
Delegation Expense: *									
Taiwan	Dollar					3,341.19			3,341.19
Delegation Expenses: *									
Thailand	Baht					2,917.98			2,917.98
Laos	Kip					3,367.96			3,367.96
Delegation Expenses: *									
Taiwan	Dollar					848.34			848.34
Philippines	Dollar					355.13			355.13
Delegation Expense: *									
Vietnam	Dollar					696.00			696.00
Delegation Expense: *									
Poland	Dollar					1,142.60			1,142.60
Total			57,836.00		282,284.27		52,358.12		392,478.39

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Dec. 31, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Thom Tillis:									
Serbia	Dinar		178.23						178.23
Bosnia	Mark		88.00						88.00
Kosovo	Euro		177.77						177.77
Belgium	Euro		354.27						354.27
United States	Dollar				11,260.17				11,260.17
Shil Patel:									
Serbia	Dinar		178.23						178.23
Bosnia	Mark		110.00						110.00
Kosovo	Euro		186.77						186.77
Belgium	Euro		467.73						467.73
United States	Dollar				11,331.27				11,331.27
Delegation Expense: *									
Serbia	Dinar					4,718.00			4,718.00
Total			1,741.00		22,591.44		4,718.00		29,050.44

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Jan. 31, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Adam Trull:									
Belgium	Euro		308.37						308.37
United States	Dollar				6,103.27				6,103.27
Kristina Belcourt:									
Belgium	Euro		350.37						350.37
United States	Dollar				6,103.27				6,103.27
Jonathan Epstein:									
Belgium	Euro		292.37						292.37
United States	Dollar				6,103.27				6,103.27

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Delegation Expense:									
Belgium	Euro					1,982.00			1,982.00
Senator James Inhofe:									
Greece	Euro		251.00						251.00
Ethiopia	Birr		833.91						833.91
Kenya	Shilling		872.01						872.01
Rwanda	Franc		345.00						345.00
Spain	Euro		243.82						243.82
Senator Mike Rounds:									
Greece	Euro		251.00						251.00
Ethiopia	Birr		833.91						833.91
Kenya	Shilling		667.10						667.10
Rwanda	Franc		345.00						345.00
Spain	Euro		257.20						257.20
Don Archer:									
Greece	Euro		251.00						251.00
Ethiopia	Birr		833.91						833.91
Kenya	Shilling		872.01						872.01
Rwanda	Franc		345.00						345.00
Spain	Euro		243.82						243.82
Mark Powers:									
Greece	Euro		251.00						251.00
Ethiopia	Birr		833.91						833.91
Kenya	Shilling		872.01						872.01
Rwanda	Franc		345.00						345.00
Spain	Euro		243.82						243.82
Dan Adelstein:									
Greece	Euro		251.00						251.00
Ethiopia	Birr		833.91						833.91
Kenya	Shilling		667.10						667.10
Rwanda	Franc		345.00						345.00
Spain	Euro		257.20						257.20
Delegation Expenses: *									
Greece	Euro					1,020.00			1,020.00
Ethiopia	Birr					6,041.83			6,041.83
Kenya	Shilling					7,179.00			7,179.00
Spain	Euro					2,336.40			2,336.40
Senator Jack Reed:									
Poland	Zloty		180.80						180.80
United States	Dollar				11,295.27				11,295.27
Senator Angus King:									
Poland	Zloty		89.64						89.64
United States	Dollar				13,284.02				13,284.02
Mariah McNamara:									
Poland	Zloty		273.09						273.09
United States	Dollar				13,169.78				13,169.78
Jeffrey Bennett:									
Poland	Zloty		89.64						89.64
United States	Dollar				13,284.02				13,284.02
Total			13,929.92		69,342.90		18,559.23		101,832.05

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of States under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Jan. 30, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Dan Sullivan:									
France	Euro		2,441.00						2,441.00
Senator Patrick Toomey:									
France	Euro		2,375.03						2,375.03
Senator Kyrsten Sinema:									
France	Euro		2,441.00						2,441.00
Michael Wong:									
France	Euro		3,051.00						3,051.00
Delegation Expenses: *									
United Kingdom	Pound						67.93		67.93
France	Euro						13,590.00		13,590.00
Total			10,308.03				13,657.93		23,965.96

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHERROD BROWN,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,
Jan. 25, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
John Connell:									
United States	Dollar				4,151.88				4,151.88
Qatar	Riyal		3,900.90						3,900.90
Delegation Expense: *									
Qatar	Riyal						263.85		263.85

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Total			3,900.90		4,151.88		263.85		8,316.63

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,
Jan. 3, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Edward Markey:									
Egypt			3,749.70						3,749.70
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse:									
Egypt			3,735.08						3,735.08
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Jake Abbott:									
Egypt			3,813.50						3,813.50
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Laura Gillam:									
Egypt			3,859.00						3,859.00
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Elizabeth Horner:									
Egypt			3,785.53						3,785.53
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Dan Dudis:									
Egypt			4,569.50						4,569.50
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Shannon Frede:									
Egypt			3,758.50						3,758.50
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Hannah Vogel:									
Egypt			3,763.90						3,763.90
Ireland			176.17						176.17
Delegation Expenses: *									
Egypt							14,925.52		14,925.52
Ireland							3,367.49		3,367.49
Total			32,267.90				18,293.01		50,560.91

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR TOM CARPER,
Chairman, Committee on Environment & Public Works, Jan. 25, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Sally Laing:									
Thailand	Baht		997.28						997.28
United States	Dollar				18,146.97				18,146.97
Rachel Lang:									
Thailand	Baht		979.52						979.52
United States	Dollar				18,146.97				18,146.97
Mayur Patel:									
Thailand	Baht		954.59						954.59
United States	Dollar				18,146.97				18,146.97
Delegation Expense: *									
Thailand	Baht						2,371.03		2,371.03
Nomcebisi Ndlovu:									
Australia	Dollar		1,275.41						1,275.41
United States	Dollar				22,043.08				22,043.08
Virginia Lenahan:									
Australia	Dollar		1,231.51						1,231.51
United States	Dollar				22,043.08				22,043.08
Mayur Patel:									
Australia	Dollar		1,170.69						1,170.69
United States	Dollar				13,480.08				13,480.08
Delegation Expenses: *									
Australia	Dollar						1,137.00		1,137.00
Total			6,609.00		112,007.15		3,508.03		122,124.18

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RON WYDEN,
Chairman, Committee on Finance, Jan. 23, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator John Barrasso:									
Japan	Yen		5.00						5.00
United States	Dollar				13,492.38				13,492.38
Charles Ziegler:									
United States	Dollar				10,683.38				10,683.38
Senator Benjamin Cardin:									
Egypt	Pounds		3,817.00						3,817.00
Ireland	Euros		213.00						213.00
Debbie Yamada:									
Egypt	Pounds		3,767.00						3,767.00
Ireland	Euros		226.00						226.00
Joshua Klein:									
Egypt	Pounds		3,972.50						3,972.50
Ireland	Euros		219.60						219.60
Delegation Expenses: *									
Egypt	Pounds					5,597.05			5,597.05
Ireland	Euros					1,705.58			1,705.58
Senator Christopher Coons:									
Poland	Zloty		169.00						169.00
Netherlands	Euro		331.97						331.97
Ukraine	Dollar		151.77						151.77
United States	Dollar				14,395.68				14,395.68
Elizabeth O'Bagy:									
Poland	Zloty		76.00						76.00
Netherlands	Euro		331.97						331.97
Ukraine	Dollar		151.77						151.77
United States	Dollar				11,284.38				11,284.38
Delegation Expenses: *									
Poland	Zloty					2,285.20			2,285.20
Ukraine	Dollar					429.68			429.68
Senator Tim Kaine:									
Costa Rica	Colon		34.33						34.33
Panama	US Dollar		214.38						214.38
Dominican Republic	Dominican Peso		451.85						451.85
United States	Dollar				3,560.40				3,560.40
Jinanshu Jain:									
Costa Rica	Colon		210.25						210.25
Panama	US Dollar		264.78						264.78
Dominican Republic	Dominican Peso		451.85						451.85
United States	Dollar				3,560.40				3,560.40
Delegation Expenses: *									
Costa Rica	Colon					4,009.68			4,009.68
Panama	US Dollar					2,290.00			2,290.00
Dominican Republic	Dominican Peso					2,615.00			2,615.00
Senator Robert Menendez:									
Colombia	Peso		665.90						665.90
Ecuador	Dollar		2,063.99						2,063.99
Argentina	Peso		656.75						656.75
Damian Murphy:									
Colombia	Peso		616.54						616.54
Ecuador	Dollar		2,019.14						2,019.14
Argentina	Peso		866.07						866.07
Robert Kelly:									
Colombia	Peso		644.22						644.22
Ecuador	Dollar		2,191.75						2,191.75
Argentina	Peso		936.56						936.56
Brandon Yoder:									
Colombia	Peso		642.39						642.39
Ecuador	Dollar		2,322.30						2,322.30
Argentina	Peso		740.00						740.00
Senator Rob Portman:									
Colombia	Peso		696.49						696.49
Ecuador	Dollar		2,025.27						2,025.27
Argentina	Peso		717.39						717.39
Delegation Expenses: *									
Colombia	Peso					2,513.95			2,513.95
Ecuador	Dollar					20,649.84			20,649.84
Argentina	Peso					2,898.73			2,898.73
Senator Robert Menendez:									
The Netherlands	Euro		722.26						722.26
United Kingdom	British Pound		1,046.58						1,046.58
Delegation Expenses: *									
The Netherlands	Euro					161.33			161.33
United Kingdom	British Pound					477.28			477.28
Senator Robert Menendez:									
Kuwait	Dinar		603.00						603.00
Qatar	Riyal		3,296.41						3,296.41
United States	Dollar				15,609.58				15,609.58
Elisa Catalano Ewers:									
Kuwait	Riyal		240.00						240.00
Qatar	Riyal		506.00						506.00
United States	Dollar				17,071.08				17,071.08
Delegation Expenses: *									
Kuwait	Dinar					3,814.52			3,814.52
Qatar	Riyal					1,470.81			1,470.81
Senator Christopher Murphy:									
Poland	Zloty		414.46						414.46
United States	Dollar				7,998.27				7,998.27
Jessica Elledge:									
Poland	Zloty		496.46						496.46
United States	Dollar				8,177.87				8,177.87
Delegation Expenses: *									
Poland	Zloty					692.54			692.54
Senator Christopher Murphy:									
Qatar	Riyal		3,370.00						3,370.00
United States	Dollar				14,573.58				14,573.58
Jessica Elledge:									
Qatar	Riyal		3,764.00						3,764.00
United States	Dollar				9,661.17				9,661.17
Senator Todd Young:									
Qatar	Riyal		3,033.00						3,033.00
United States	Dollar				6,483.78				6,483.78
Brandt Anderson:									
Qatar	Riyal		3,224.00						3,224.00
United States	Dollar				4,151.88				4,151.88

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Delegation Expenses: *									
Qatar	Riyal						1,319.23		1,319.23
Senator James E. Risch:									
Canada	Dollar		820.47						820.47
Christopher Socha:									
Canada	Dollar		820.47						820.47
Hannah Thoburn:									
Canada	Dollar		820.47						820.47
Suzanne Wrasse:									
Canada	Dollar		820.47						820.47
Amy English:									
Canada	Dollar		524.47						524.47
Delegation Expenses: *									
Canada	Dollar						7,234.41		7,234.41
Senator Jeanne Shaheen:									
Albania	Lek		186.00						186.00
Bosnia and Herzegov	Mark		421.50						421.50
United Kingdom	Pound		158.50						158.50
United States	Dollar				11,295.77				11,295.77
Amy English:									
Albania	Lek		123.00						123.00
Bosnia and Herzegov	Mark		462.50						462.50
United Kingdom	Pound		307.50						307.50
United States	Dollar				11,091.87				11,091.87
Delegation Expenses: *									
Albania	Lek						389.10		389.10
Bosnia and Herzegov	Mark						3,985.31		3,985.31
United Kingdom	Pound						2,217.26		2,217.26
Katherine Abrames:									
Romania	Leu		1,025.06						1,025.06
United States	Dollar				1,999.30				1,999.30
Delegation Expenses: *									
Romania	Leu						76.11		76.11
Tyler Brace:									
Czech Republic	Koruna		1,690.00						1,690.00
United States	Dollar				5,978.68				5,978.68
Colin Brooks:									
Bahrain	Dinar		976.01						976.01
United States	Dollar				6,252.98				6,252.98
Delegation Expenses: *									
Bahrain	Dinar						208.00		208.00
United Arab Emirates	Dirham						211.54		211.54
Lara Crouch:									
Japan	Yen		844.38						844.38
Philippines	Peso		1,281.65						1,281.65
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar		1,325.02						1,325.02
United States	Dollar				10,908.58				10,908.58
Delegation Expenses: *									
Japan	Yen						2,148.88		2,148.88
Philippines	Peso						332.10		332.10
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar						474.81		474.81
Heather Flynn:									
Mali	CFA Franc		488.00						488.00
France	Euro		953.00						953.00
Niger	CFA Franc		590.00						590.00
Chad	CFA Franc		363.00						363.00
United States	Dollar						10,758.58		10,758.58
Delegation Expenses: *									
Mali	CFA						423.00		423.00
France	Euro						1,036.00		1,036.00
Niger	CFA						700.00		700.00
Chad	CFA						971.54		971.54
Charlotte Oldham Moore:									
United Arab Emirates	Dirham		1,093.00						1,093.00
Sri Lanka	Rupee		1,000.54						1,000.54
United States	Dollar				6,177.00				6,177.00
Molly Barlow:									
United Arab Emirates	Dirham		1,065.65						1,065.65
Sri Lanka	Rupee		871.55						871.55
United States	Dollar				6,177.00				6,177.00
Andrew Hanna:									
United Arab Emirates	Dirham		965.00						965.00
Sri Lanka	Rupee		871.55						871.55
United States	Dollar				6,177.00				6,177.00
Delegation Expenses: *									
United Arab Emirates	Dirham						323.21		323.21
Sri Lanka	Rupee						5,089.01		5,089.01
Andrew Olson:									
South Korea	Won		926.27						926.27
Mongolia	Tugrik		714.00						714.00
United States	Dollar				6,576.98				6,576.98
Audra Kinney:									
South Korea	Won		962.77						962.77
Mongolia	Tugrik		705.00						705.00
United States	Dollar				8,686.88				8,686.88
Ann Kowalewski:									
South Korea	Won		798.00						798.00
Mongolia	Tugrik		818.27						818.27
United States	Dollar				8,686.88				8,686.88
Delegation Expenses: *									
Korea	Won						2,049.20		2,049.20
Mongolia	Tugrik						117.79		117.79
Lowell Schwartz:									
United Kingdom	British Pound		883.74						883.74
Belgium	Euro		667.43						667.43
Austria	Euro		551.00						551.00
United States	Dollar				6,878.27				6,878.27
Thomas Hanley:									
United Kingdom	British Pound		851.63						851.63
Belgium	Euro		662.51						662.51
Austria	Euro		549.40						549.40
United States	Dollar				6,878.27				6,878.27
Delegation Expenses: *									
United Kingdom	British Pound						68.86		68.86
Christopher Socha:									
Fiji	U.S. Dollar		553.00						553.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Dol		1,158.00						1,158.00
United States	Dollar				13,648.98				13,648.98
Joan Condon:									
Fiji	U.S. Dollar		553.00						553.00
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Dol		1,158.00						1,158.00
United States	Dollar				9,376.50				9,376.50
Delegation Expenses: *									
Fiji	U.S. Dollar						291.00		291.00
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Dol						291.00		291.00
Sarah Trister:									
Bangladesh	Taka		369.18						369.18
Thailand	Baht		384.74						384.74
Vietnam	Dong		765.00						765.00
United States	Dollar				6,336.58				6,336.58
Amy English:									
Bangladesh	Taka		463.22						463.22
Thailand	Baht		388.12						388.12
Vietnam	Dong		648.00						648.00
United States	Dollar				6,542.93				6,542.93
Daphne McCurdy:									
Bangladesh	Taka		457.17						457.17
Thailand	Baht		384.74						384.74
Vietnam	Dong		670.10						670.10
United States	Dollar				6,542.93				6,542.93
Samantha Schiffrin:									
Bangladesh	Taka		388.36						388.36
Thailand	Baht		384.74						384.74
Vietnam	Dong		733.00						733.00
United States	Dollar				6,500.00				6,500.00
Delegation Expenses: *									
Bangladesh	Taka						6,713.37		6,713.37
Thailand	Baht						231.67		231.67
Vietnam	Dong						480.00		480.00
Total			92,998.10		293,417.21		99,752.17		486,167.48

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, Jan. 25, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Rob Portman:									
United States	Dollar				11,322.00				11,322.00
Poland	Zloty		177.00						177.00
Ukraine	Hryvnia		152.00						152.00
Netherlands	Euro		360.00						360.00
Michael Callesen:									
United States	Dollar				12,665.00				12,665.00
Poland	Zloty		164.00						164.00
Ukraine	Hryvnia		152.00						152.00
Netherlands	Euro		401.00						401.00
Delegation Expenses: *									
Poland	Zloty						2,285.00		2,285.00
Ukraine	Hryvnia						430.00		430.00
Netherlands	Euro								
Total			1,406.00		23,987.00		2,715.00		28,108.00

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR GARY C. PETERS,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,
Jan. 10, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Lindsay Graham:									
United Kingdom	Pound		696.58		180.44		296.84		1,173.86
Netherlands	Euro						141.16		141.16
Katherine Nikas:									
United Kingdom	Pound		696.58		180.44		296.84		1,173.86
Netherlands	Euro		815.77				141.16		956.93
Alice James:									
United Kingdom	Pound		696.58		180.44				877.02
Netherlands	Euro		815.77				141.16		956.93
Chris Homan:									
Philippines	Peso		530.15		337.74		166.75		1,034.64
Total			4,251.43		879.06		1,183.91		6,314.40

SENATOR DICK DURBIN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Feb. 2, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
David Cleary:									
United States	Dollar				13,300.67				13,300.67
Kenya	Shilling		1,319.75						1,319.75
Ghana	Cedi		868.29						868.29
Delegation Expenses:*									
Kenya	Shilling						218.25		218.25
Total			2,188.04		13,300.67		218.25		15,706.96

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS,
Chairman, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions,
Feb. 2, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Amy Klobuchar:									
United States	Dollar				7,233.37				7,233.37
Poland	Zloty		44.22						44.22
Ukraine	Hryvnia								
Keagan D. Buchanan:									
United States	Dollar				6,531.28				6,531.28
Poland	Zloty		44.22						44.22
Ukraine	Hryvnia								
Delegation Expenses:*									
Poland	Zloty						2,556.21		2,556.21
Ukraine	Hryvnia						798.45		798.45
Total			88.44		13,764.65		3,354.66		17,207.75

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR,
Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration, Feb. 1, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Nicolas Adams:									
.....			657.22						657.22
.....			460.00						460.00
.....			1,092.65						1,092.65
Delegation Expenses:*					14,133.57				14,133.57
Peter Metzger:							231.46		231.46
.....			460.00						460.00
.....			657.23						657.23
.....			1,114.30		14,043.57				1,114.30
Stephen Smith:									
.....			657.23						657.23
.....			460.00						460.00
.....			876.37						876.37
Maria Mahler-Haug:					14,043.57				14,043.57
.....			460.00						460.00
.....			657.23						657.23
.....			1,207.01						1,207.01
Total			8,759.24		56,459.28		231.46		65,449.98

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK R. WARNER,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Nov. 15, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Samantha Roberts:									
.....			1,199.00						1,199.00
Andrew Polesovsky:					2,101.29				2,101.29
.....			1,199.00						1,199.00
James Sauls:					2,101.29				2,101.29
.....			1,199.00						1,199.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Adam Martina:					2,101.29				2,101.29
			1,199.00						1,199.00
					2,514.29				2,514.29
Stephen Smith:			427.06						427.06
			1,240.52						1,240.52
					15,221.53				15,221.53
Nicolas Adams:			427.06						427.06
			1,327.51						1,327.51
					10,910.53				10,910.53
Peter Metzger:			427.06						427.06
			1,167.34						1,167.34
					15,221.53				15,221.53
Sarah Istel:			1,505.51						1,505.51
					15,437.51				15,437.51
Senator Mark Warner:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			148.00						148.00
					25,021.75				25,021.75
Delegation Expenses: *							19,266.00		19,266.00
Michael Pevzner:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			500.00						500.00
					20,032.88				20,032.88
Senator Angus King, Jr.:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			495.33						495.33
					19,884.68				19,884.68
Stephen Smith:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			500.00						500.00
					20,099.18				20,099.18
Jennifer Barrett:			148.00						148.00
					35.00				35.00
Nicolas Adams:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			500.00						500.00
					19,997.18				19,997.18
Rafi Martina:			2,806.00						2,806.00
			500.00						500.00
					17,129.09				17,129.09
Senator John Cornyn:			2,561.00						2,561.00
			500.00						500.00
					20,010.68				20,010.68
James Sauls:			395.06						395.06
					6,203.58				6,203.58
Andrew Polesovsky:			395.06						395.06
					6,203.58				6,203.58
Stephen Smith:			1,342.22						1,342.22
					13,722.08				13,722.08
James Sauls:			1,553.13						1,553.13
					11,997.08				11,997.08
Andrew Polesovsky:			1,553.13						1,553.13
					11,997.08				11,997.08
Tri Nguyen:			871.58						871.58
			387.16						387.16
					7,260.78				7,260.78
Senator Richard Burr:			1,046.58						1,046.58
			815.77						815.77
Tri Nguyen:			997.65						997.65
					3,563.78				3,563.78
Senator Richard Burr:			771.05						771.05
			2,497.30						2,497.30
			890.40						890.40
Senator Ben Sasse:			771.05						771.05
			2,497.30						2,497.30
			890.40						890.40
Total			51,681.23		268,767.68		19,266.00		339,714.91

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK WARNER,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Jan. 23, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem *		Transportation *		Miscellaneous *		Total *	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Lane Bodian: Egypt	Egyptian Pound		4,266.00						4,266.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem *		Transportation *		Miscellaneous *		Total *	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	US Dollar				2,709.96				2,709.96
Adrian Deveny:									
Egypt	Egyptian Pound		4,518.60						4,518.60
United States	US Dollar				2,709.96				2,709.96
Timothy Ryder:									
Egypt	Egyptian Pound		9,240.30						9,240.30
United States	US Dollar				1,679.15				1,679.15
Delegation Expenses:**							6,750.00		6,750.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound								
Total			18,024.90		7,099.07		6,750.00		31,873.97

* Note: All values are United States Dollar Equivalent.

** Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, Jan. 23, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER AND REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem *		Transportation *		Miscellaneous *		Total *	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Robert Duncan:									
Belgium	Euro		1,774.68		103.75				1,878.43
France	Euro		1,195.50						1,195.50
United States	US Dollar				2,434.47				2,434.47
Elizabeth McDonough:									
Belgium	Euro		1,740.68		103.75				1,844.43
France	Euro		1,161.50						1,161.50
United States	US Dollar				2,432.47				2,432.47
Gary Myrick:									
Belgium	Euro		1,803.18		103.75				1,906.93
France	Euro		1,224.00						1,224.00
United States	US Dollar				2,434.47				2,434.47
Leigh Hildebrand:									
Belgium	Euro		1,745.43		103.75				1,849.18
France	Euro		1,166.25						1,166.25
United States	US Dollar				2,432.47				2,432.47
Gerard Petrella:									
Belgium	Euro		1,803.18		103.75				1,906.93
France	Euro		1,224.00						1,224.00
United States	US Dollar				3,075.47				3,075.47
Kenneth Scott Raab:									
Belgium	Euro		1,571.18		103.75				1,674.93
France	Euro		992.00						992.00
United States	US Dollar				3,075.47				3,075.47
Delegation Expenses:**							2,443.50		2,443.50
Belgium	Euro						3,712.00		3,712.00
France	Euro								
Total			17,401.58		16,507.32		6,155.50		40,064.40

* Note: All values are United States Dollar Equivalent.

** Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER, Majority Leader,
SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL, Republican Leader,
Jan. 23 through 24, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22
U.S.C. 1754(b), REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM OCT. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem *		Transportation *		Miscellaneous *		Total *	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Robert Karem:									
Germany	Euro		885.00				145.00		1,030.00
United States	US Dollar				9,448.80				9,448.80
Total			885.00		9,448.80		145.00		10,478.80

* Note: All values are United States Dollar Equivalent.

SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL,
Republican Leader, Jan. 24, 2023.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117-263, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on the Future of the

Navy: Thomas W. “Tommy” Ross of Virginia:

NATIONAL ELIZABETH PERATROVICH DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 77, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 77) designating February 16, 2023, as "National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 77) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTHORIZING THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE TO CONDUCT QUARTERLY BLOOD DONATION DRIVES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 78, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 78) authorizing the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate to conduct quarterly blood donation drives.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion 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. 78) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, as if in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations: all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy; that the nominations be considered 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 actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

AIR FORCE

PN213 AIR FORCE nomination of Natalie D. Richardson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN214 AIR FORCE nomination of Jonathan M. Bise, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN215 AIR FORCE nomination of Nathan K. Aiken, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN216 AIR FORCE nomination of Jovan A. Williams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN217 AIR FORCE nomination of Bryan W. Sixkiller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN218 AIR FORCE nomination of Lacresha A. Merkle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN220 AIR FORCE nomination of Justin T. Schneider, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN295 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeffrey S. Clark, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN296 AIR FORCE nomination of Alicia K. Premo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN297 AIR FORCE nominations (143) beginning DAVID A. ALT, and ending RICHARD M. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN298 AIR FORCE nominations (365) beginning BRANT ADAMS, and ending JESSICA E. ZHEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN299 AIR FORCE nominations (36) beginning PHILLIP C. BARRAS, and ending MARITA N. ZGURI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN300 AIR FORCE nominations (60) beginning KHASHAYAR AZIMI, and ending YANGDI ZHOU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

IN THE ARMY

PN101 ARMY nomination of William T. Johnson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 3, 2023.

PN102 ARMY nomination of Eric J. Kunkle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 3, 2023.

PN103 ARMY nomination of William E. McCarville, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 3, 2023.

PN104 ARMY nomination of Leslie A. McCampbell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 3, 2023.

PN105 ARMY nomination of Hardy P. Merrill, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 3, 2023.

PN221 ARMY nomination of D011285, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN222 ARMY nominations (2) beginning LAJOHNNE A. MORRIS, and ending JENNIFER A. PARKER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN223 ARMY nomination of Yulang Tsou, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN224 ARMY nomination of Blaire R. Griffin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN225 ARMY nomination of Timothy J. Maki, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN226 ARMY nomination of Russell W. Vanderlugt, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN227 ARMY nomination of Brian J. Slotnick, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN228 ARMY nomination of Jessica L. Horne, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN229 ARMY nomination of John R. Taylor, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN230 ARMY nomination of Jason L. Norquist, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN231 ARMY nominations (7) beginning QUESCHAE B. BLUE-CLARK, and ending VINCENT P. WOLFF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN232 ARMY nomination of Michael B. Cohen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN233 ARMY nomination of Irene Garcia, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN234 ARMY nomination of Yong J. Lee, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN235 ARMY nomination of Mahealani N. McFarland, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN236 ARMY nomination of Clayton A. Sutton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN237 ARMY nominations (58) beginning KEVIN M. ADAMS, and ending D016440, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN239 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CHRISTOPHER M. KIENTZ, and ending VICTOR A. MERCADO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN240 ARMY nominations (26) beginning ADAM D. AKERS, and ending STACEY N. WUCHTER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN241 ARMY nominations (10) beginning JESSE R. CHAPIN, and ending JOHN R. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN242 ARMY nomination of Brendan T. McShea, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN243 ARMY nomination of Matthew R. Burmeister, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN244 ARMY nomination of Jessica K. Smyth, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN245 ARMY nominations (2) beginning MEGAN L. JIMENEZ, and ending STEVE B. LOUVET, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN246 ARMY nomination of Brendon M. Esquibel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN301 ARMY nomination of Apoorv Vohra, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

PN302 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CHRISTOPHER W. SWIECKI, and ending JOEL C. WEBB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN248 MARINE CORPS nominations (7) beginning ROBERT J. BELL, JR., and ending TREVOR C. THIBODEAU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN250 MARINE CORPS nomination of John C. Jarvis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN251 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning ANDRES J. AGRAMONTE, and ending TIMOTHY G. OTTO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN252 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning ROBERT A. LIEN, and ending TIMOTHY E. SAPP, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN253 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning KEVIN F. CHAMPAIGNE, and ending EDWIN E. RODRIGUEZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN254 MARINE CORPS nomination of Duane A. Gumbs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN255 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning RICHARD P. CHAREST, and ending KEITH C. DATIZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN256 MARINE CORPS nomination of Aaron S. Ellis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN258 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning MICHAEL P. RUEGGER, and ending TODD J. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN259 MARINE CORPS nominations (645) beginning PATRICK J. ABBOTT, and ending JOSEPH C. ZWIERZYNSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN260 MARINE CORPS nominations (5) beginning ADALBERTO CASTRO, II, and ending JUSTIN W. REHM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN261 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning VINCENT S. GINESTRA, and ending JOHN M. RYDMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN262 MARINE CORPS nominations (5) beginning JONATHAN J. BUTLER, and ending JOSHUA O. STEWART, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN263 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning DUSTIN A. HAMM, and ending LUCAS A. TUNING, II, which nominations

were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN264 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning Scott M. Carter, and ending James P. Otto, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN265 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning BRANDEN D. PALMER, and ending BRYANT WALL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN266 MARINE CORPS nominations (7) beginning JOSHUA ADORNORIVERA, and ending MATTHEW J. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN267 MARINE CORPS nomination of Jeffrey Tang, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN268 MARINE CORPS nomination of Robert W. Kreuger, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN269 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning DAVID K. COKER, and ending JESSY W. PHILLIPS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN270 MARINE CORPS nominations (6) beginning JAMES D. BALLARD, JR., and ending CRAIG A. ROOTH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN271 MARINE CORPS nominations (6) beginning FADI S. ABDELHALIM, and ending JOSEPH A. ORTIZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN272 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning Bradley C. Kirby, and ending Bryan D. Stinger, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN273 MARINE CORPS nomination of William D. Hawkins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN274 MARINE CORPS nominations (309) beginning JOUSSEF J. ABCHIDONADO, and ending ADAM T. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

IN THE NAVY

PN275 NAVY nominations (2) beginning Michael Holifield, and ending Stuart Kirkby, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN276 NAVY nomination of Martin L. Leonard, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN277 NAVY nomination of James E. Hammond, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN278 NAVY nomination of Mario J. Cardoso, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN279 NAVY nomination of Brett W. Sadowski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN280 NAVY nomination of Leland H. Sebring, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN281 NAVY nomination of Beau D. Hufstetler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN282 NAVY nomination of Kimberly Francis, which was received by the Senate

and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 26, 2023.

PN303 NAVY nomination of Wisdom K. Henyo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 2, 2023.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023, THROUGH MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, 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, February 17, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, February 21, at 11 a.m.; Thursday, February 23, at 9:30 a.m.; further, that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, February 23, it next convene at 3 p.m. on Monday, February 27; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and Senator LANKFORD be recognized to deliver Washington's Farewell Address, as provided under the previous order; that following his remarks, morning business be closed and the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Walker nomination; and that the cloture motion filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MURPHY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

UKRAINE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I rise today to offer some words in support of Ukraine as we approach the 1-year anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion.

Although the U.S. Government made public warnings about this premeditated attack for months in advance, it is still, frankly, shocking, in retrospect, when you think about what has occurred over the last 12 months: Russia trying to expand its borders through invasion.

Now, maybe we were naive to think that this practice went by the wayside after World War II. It was common practice for powers for centuries beforehand, but the world has seen a level of brutality and devastation that is hard to contemplate. How unthinkable it was that in 2022 a major power would

launch a land war, a war of aggression, in the middle of Europe.

Now, pundits and analysts, right, said that Kyiv would fall within a matter of days. That was the expectation. But the Ukrainian people had different plans. They fought back bravely, and we watched in awe—we still watch in awe—as President Zelenskyy stayed in Kyiv and rallied his country in defiance of Russia's attempt to recolonize Ukraine.

The world responded, practically overnight, thanks to President Biden, who saw this coming, who rallied the world to Ukraine's defense, getting them the aid that they needed, especially in those early days, and treating Russia like a global pariah.

It was clear from the beginning that Russia's aggressions was not going to be able to be rationalized or minimized. We didn't have the luxury as the United States, the world's preeminent power, of sitting on the sidelines. The American people got this then, and they still get it now. Across the political spectrum in this country, progressives, moderates, and conservatives understand how much is at stake in Ukraine, both morally and strategically.

Because what have we seen? We have seen Russia launch this unprovoked barbaric war of conquest against its democratic neighbor. We have watched how they deliberately target apartment buildings, hospitals, churches, electricity grids, to try to bring the maximum amount of misery to Ukrainian families; how the Russian military uses murder, rape, and torture as systematic tools against the Ukrainian civilian population; and how Russian propagandists boast of kidnapping Ukrainian children and threaten to wipe out Ukrainian language and culture.

There are 40 camps with upward of 6,000 children who have literally been kidnapped out of Ukraine and brought to Russia.

The scale of this barbarity is hard to explain. The images that we have seen from Bucha and Mariupol are seared into our collective conscience.

Americans also—I really think this—understand the strategic consequences that would come to America if Russia was just allowed to crush Ukraine, if we hadn't stood in their way along with the Ukrainian people. What would have happened is that Putin would have been emboldened. It would have given him the green light to march on other NATO allies, potentially drawing the United States into a longer, far more costly war and putting American troops in harm's way.

That is what I believe, and that is what most Americans believe. But this is important stuff, right? This is war and peace. We are talking about tens of billions of American taxpayer dollars that are being sent to Ukraine for the defense of Ukraine. So, of course, those of us who support Ukraine should welcome a debate over whether the United States should be involved in this war.

But I am just going to tell you that the growing chorus of opposition to supporting Ukraine from Republicans—mostly radical Republicans in the House of Representatives—does not feel to me like on-the-level criticism of U.S. support for the war.

Listen, I am going to be honest with my colleagues. I think Democrats probably got too wound up in trying to figure out if Donald Trump was involved in some hidden conspiracy with Vladimir Putin. All of this focus on intrigue kind of made us blind to what was right in front of our face: that Donald Trump had this huge crush on Vladimir Putin and his authoritarian rule of Russia, and he still does.

Donald Trump wanted to turn himself into a quasi-dictator here in the United States. That is what January 6 was about. That is why the floor of the Senate was occupied by his supporters. And Trump was jealous when he watched how easy it was for Putin to stay in power permanently and what a hassle it was for Donald Trump to have to go through these pesky, free elections.

Now, Trump's admiration for Putin has turned into a collective rightwing obsession. Turn on Tucker Carlson virtually any night, and you are going to hear him lionizing Putin and pushing—often, line for line—Russian disinformation. Elon Musk uncritically blasts out Russian propaganda about the war to his 120 million plus followers. Steve Bannon says that Putin is the leader of the “anti-woke” fight globally. Donald Trump, Jr.—I follow him on social media—is relentlessly making fun of Zelenskyy online. QAnon sites say that Russia's war on Ukraine is righteous because it is just the next front in the war against these global sex traffickers that apparently are operating out of pizza parlors in northwest DC and Ukraine.

I could go on and on, but you get it, right? And Putin, he gets it too. He is counting on the right wing to advance Russian propaganda and exploit our internal divisions.

It is not surprising or shocking. The hot new thinkers on the right aren't really for democracy any longer. The new right, the alt-right—whatever you want to call it—they think that democracy has outlived its usefulness and needs to be destroyed, replaced by something else, like a quasi-monarchy or a CEO-style government.

The conservative movement today is awash with proponents of doing away with participatory democracy, and so it is really no secret that there is a growing affection for the most prominent dictator in the world.

Now, I want to be careful about how I talk about this because, often, opponents of a war are accused of being anti-American or unpatriotic or parroting our enemies' talking points. But in this case, there is literally a wing of the Republican Party that is lifting up Putin as an example to follow and is claiming that he is involved in a righteous fight.

That same element of the Republican Party is trying to destroy American democracy. They are not hiding that fact. They are being transparent about it. Some of the most influential thinkers on the right today are literally monarchists.

And I guess a defense of the anti-Ukraine strain of Republican thinking today would be that their opposition to Ukraine is part of a coherent world view. I might not agree with that world view, but it would be a defense.

But the same Republicans who are trying to defund Ukraine are often the loudest voices clamoring for a confrontational and reckless approach to China. Many of them criticized President Biden mercilessly when he withdrew from Afghanistan. If their opposition to Ukraine was part of a broader theory of nonintervention, maybe it would look more on the level, but that is not what is happening here. Ukraine is being singled out, and all signs point to this rightwing Republican affection for Vladimir Putin as one of the primary reasons.

But here is the good news. The good news is that, in spite of this turn inside the Republican Party against Ukraine, support for Ukraine remains popular among the American people. Nearly two-thirds of Americans support the United States continuing to send aid to Ukraine. Seventy percent of Americans just supported the recent decision to send M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine, and less than 10 percent of Americans—a bigger number are of the Republican Party, but less than 10 percent of Americans—have a favorable view of Putin, showing, frankly, how deeply out of step Trump and these extreme MAGA Republicans are.

And while there are more Republican Senators questioning whether we should stick with Ukraine today than there might have been 6 months ago, it is still true that most Republicans in this body—in the U.S. Senate—still support Ukraine.

A year ago, nobody was predicting that Ukraine would still be standing today, beating back Russian forces out of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Kherson. It is equally difficult to predict what is going to happen in the year ahead, and we should all admit that.

But I will say this: We should be clear-eyed about the likelihood that either side is going to achieve all its political objectives on the battlefield.

Like most of my constituents in Connecticut, I would like nothing more than for this war to end and for diplomacy to secure a free Ukraine. But Ukraine can't negotiate a peace settlement with itself, and right now Vladimir Putin is not interested in negotiations or a peaceful settlement.

For those people telling Zelenskyy that he should sit down with Putin, today, any agreement they write wouldn't be worth the paper it is written on. The day may come when Putin judges that continued aggression no longer serves his personal interests,

and our job as the collective West is to convince him of that by demonstrating the limits of his power.

And that is essentially what I believe—that you have to show Putin, demonstrate for him, the limits of his power, and I just suspect that there is still some way to go before we reach that point. The new contemplated Russian offensive tells us that much.

So while there will come a time for diplomacy, right now Ukraine must fight for its existence, and, right now, despite what these pro-Putin Republicans say, it is in our interest to continue to support Ukraine.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 4:49 p.m., adjourned until Friday, February 17, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MICHAEL SFRAGA, OF ALASKA, TO BE AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR ARCTIC AFFAIRS.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. WILLIAM F. WILKERSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. EVELYN E. LAPTOOK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. RONALD R. RAGIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. BRANDON C. ANDERSON
COL. BETH A. BEHN
COL. MATTHEW W. BRAMAN
COL. KENNETH J. BURGESS
COL. THOMAS E. BURKE
COL. CHAD C. CHALFANT
COL. KENDALL J. CLARKE
COL. PATRICK M. COSTELLO
COL. RORY A. CROOKS
COL. TROY M. DENOMY
COL. SARA E. DUDLEY
COL. JOSEPH E. ESCANDON
COL. ALRIC L. FRANCIS
COL. GEORGE C. HACKLER
COL. WILLIAM C. HANNAN, JR.
COL. PETER G. HART
COL. GREGORY L. HOLDEN
COL. PAUL D. HOWARD
COL. JAMES G. KENT
COL. CURTIS W. KING
COL. JOHN P. LLOYD
COL. SHANNON M. LUCAS
COL. LANDIS C. MADDOX
COL. KAREEM P. MONTAGUE
COL. JOHN B. MOUNTFORD
COL. DAVID C. PHILLIPS
COL. KENNETH N. REDD
COL. JOHN W. SANNES
COL. ANDREW O. SASLAV
COL. CHARLONE E. STALLWORTH
COL. JENNIFER S. WALKAWICZ
COL. CAMILLA A. WHITE
COL. SCOTT D. WILKINSON
COL. JEREMY S. WILSON
COL. SCOTT C. WOODWARD
COL. JOSEPH W. WORTHAM II

COL. DAVID J. ZINN

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. DAVID R. EVERLY
COL. KELVIN W. GALLMAN
COL. ADOLFO GARCIA, JR.
COL. MATTHEW T. GOOD
COL. TREVOR HALL
COL. RICHARD D. JOYCE
COL. OMAR J. RANDALL
COL. ROBERT S. WEILER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. WALTER D. BRAFFORD
CAPT. ROBERT J. HAWKINS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. ERIC J. ANDUZE
CAPT. AMY N. BAUERNSCHMIDT
CAPT. MICHAEL B. DEVORE
CAPT. THOMAS A. DONOVAN
CAPT. FREDERIC C. GOLDHAMMER
CAPT. IAN L. JOHNSON
CAPT. NEIL A. KOPROWSKI
CAPT. PAUL J. LANZILOTTA
CAPT. JOSHUA LASKY
CAPT. DONALD W. MARKS
CAPT. CRAIG T. MATTINGLY
CAPT. ANDREW T. MILLER
CAPT. LINCOLN M. REIFSTECK
CAPT. FRANK A. RHODES IV
CAPT. THOMAS E. SHULTZ
CAPT. TODD E. WHALEN
CAPT. FORREST O. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. BRIAN J. ANDERSON
CAPT. JULIE M. TREANOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) CASEY J. MOTON
REAR ADM. (LH) STEPHEN R. TEDFORD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) RICK FREEDMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) KENNETH W. EPPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) STEPHEN D. BARNETT
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL W. BAZE
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD T. BROPHY, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) JOSEPH F. CAHILL III
REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY J. CZEREWKO
REAR ADM. (LH) BRIAN L. DAVIES
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL P. DONNELLY
REAR ADM. (LH) DANIEL P. MARTIN
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD E. SEIF, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) PAUL C. SPEDERO, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) DEREK A. TRINQUE
REAR ADM. (LH) DENNIS VELEZ
REAR ADM. (LH) DARRYL L. WALKER
REAR ADM. (LH) JEROMY B. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. FRANK G. SCHLERETH III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. JOSHUA C. HIMES
CAPT. KURTIS A. MOLE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. THOMAS J. DICKINSON

CAPT. KEVIN R. SMITH
CAPT. TODD S. WEEKS
CAPT. DIANNA WOLFSON

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 16, 2023:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

LESTER MARTINEZ-LOPEZ, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

THE JUDICIARY

DANIEL J. CALABRETTA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JILL E. STEINBERG, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF NATALIE D. RICHARDSON, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JONATHAN M. BISE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF NATHAN K. AIKEN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JOVON A. WILLIAMS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF BRYAN W. SIXKILLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF LACRESHA A. MERKLE, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JUSTIN T. SCHNEIDER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JEFFREY S. CLARK, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ALICIA K. PREMO, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID A. ALT AND ENDING WITH RICHARD M. WOOD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRANT ADAMS AND ENDING WITH JESSICA E. ZHEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PHILLIP C. BARRAS AND ENDING WITH MARITA N. ZGURI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KHASHAYAR AZIMI AND ENDING WITH YANGDI ZHOU, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERIC J. KUNKLE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF WILLIAM E. MCCARVILLE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF LESLIE A. MCCAMPBELL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF HARDY P. MERRILL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF D01285, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LAJOHNNE A. MORRIS AND ENDING WITH JENNIFER A. PARKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF YULANG TSOU, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BLAIRE R. GRIFFIN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY J. MAKI, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RUSSELL W. VANDERLUGT, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIAN J. SLOTNICK, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JESSICA L. HORNE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN R. TAYLOR, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JASON L. NORQUIST, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH QUESCHAE B. BLUE-CLARK AND ENDING WITH VINCENT P. WOLFF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL B. COHEN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF IRENE GARCIA, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF YONG J. LEE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MAHEALANI N. MCFARLAND, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CLAYTON A. SUTTON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEVIN M. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH D016440, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER M. KIENZ AND ENDING WITH VICTOR A. MERCADO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ADAM D. AKERS AND ENDING WITH STACEY N. WUCHTER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSE R. CHAPIN AND ENDING WITH JOHN R. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRENDAN T. MCSHEA, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MATTHEW R. BURMEISTER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JESSICA K. SMYTH, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MEGAN L. JIMENEZ AND ENDING WITH STEVE B. LOUVET, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRENDON M. ESQUIBEL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF APOORV VOHRA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER W. SWIECKI AND ENDING WITH JOEL C. WEBB, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT J. BELL, JR. AND ENDING WITH TREVOR C. THIBODEAU, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOHN C. JARVIS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANDRES J. AGRAMONTE AND ENDING WITH TIMOTHY G. OTTO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT A. LIEN AND ENDING WITH TIMOTHY E. SAPP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEVIN F. CHAMPAIGNE AND ENDING WITH EDWIN E. RODRIGUEZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE

SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF DUANE A. GUMBS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD P. CHAREST AND ENDING WITH KEITH C. DATIZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF AARON S. ELLIS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL P. RUEGGER AND ENDING WITH TODD J. WHITE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PATRICK J. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH C. ZWIERZYNSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ADALBERTO CASTRO II AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN W. REHM, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT S. GINESTRA AND ENDING WITH JOHN M. RYDMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONATHAN J. BUTLER AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA O. STEWART, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DUSTIN A. HAMM AND ENDING WITH LUCAS A. TUNING II, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT M. CARTER AND ENDING WITH JAMES P. OTTO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRANDEN D. PALMER AND ENDING WITH BRYANT WALL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSHUA ADORNORIVERA AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW J. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JEFFREY TANG, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF ROBERT W. KREUGER III, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID K. COKER AND ENDING WITH JESSY W. PHILLIPS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES D. BALLARD, JR. AND ENDING WITH CRAIG A. ROUTH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FADI S. ABDELHALIM AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH A. ORTIZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRADLEY C. KIRBY AND ENDING WITH BRYAN D. STINGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF WILLIAM D. HAWKINS, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOUSSEF J. ABCHIDONADO AND ENDING WITH ADAM T. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL HOLIFIELD AND ENDING WITH STUART KIRKBY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JANUARY 26, 2023.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MARTIN L. LEONARD, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JAMES E. HAMMOND, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MARIO J. CARDOSO, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRETT W. SADOWSKI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF LELAND H. SEBRING III, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BEAU D. HUFSTETTLER, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF KIMBERLY FRANCIS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF WISDOM K. HENYO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S433–S480

Measures Introduced: Sixty-six bills and thirteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 461–526, S.J. Res. 14–17, S. Res. 71–78, and S. Con. Res. 4.

Pages S455–58

Measures Passed:

Congratulating the Kansas City Chiefs: Senate agreed to S. Res. 71, congratulating the Kansas City Chiefs on their victory in Super Bowl LVII.

Pages S436–37

National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 77, designating February 16, 2023, as “National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day”.

Pages S475–76

Authorizing Senate blood drives: Senate agreed to S. Res. 78, authorizing the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate to conduct quarterly blood donation drives.

Page S476

Appointments:

Commission on the Future of the Navy: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117–263, announced the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Commission on the Future of the Navy: Thomas W. “Tommy” Ross of Virginia.

Page S475

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate convene for pro forma sessions, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times: Friday, February 17, 2023, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 11 a.m.; Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, February 23, 2023, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2023.

Page S477

Walker Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jamar K. Walker, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Page S438

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the

Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, February 16, 2023, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2023.

Page S438

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S438

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S438

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2023, Senator Lankford be recognized to deliver Washington’s Farewell Address, as provided under the previous order of Tuesday, January 31, 2023; and that following his remarks, Senate resume consideration of the nomination, and that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, February 16, 2023, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, February 27, 2023.

Page S477

Whitehead Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jamal N. Whitehead, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Page S438

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jamar K. Walker, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Page S438

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S438

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S438

Martinez-Olguin Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Araceli Martinez-Olguin, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Page S438

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jamal N. Whitehead, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington. **Page S438**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S438**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S438**

Guzman Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Margaret R. Guzman, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Pages S438–41

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Araceli Martinez-Olguin, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California. **Page S438**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S438**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S438**

Kahn Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit. **Pages S441–51**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 24), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S441**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time be considered expired on the nomination and the vote on confirmation of the nomination be at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader. **Page S451**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 22), Daniel J. Calabretta, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Page S437

By 61 yeas to 34 nays (Vote No. EX. 23), Lester Martinez-Lopez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. **Pages S433–36, S437–38**

Jill E. Steinberg, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years. **Page S451**

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S476–77**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Michael Sfraga, of Alaska, to be Ambassador at Large for Arctic Affairs.

40 Army nominations in the rank of general.

8 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

46 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Page S479

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S455**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S458–59**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S459–65**

Additional Statements: **Page S455**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S465**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—24) **Pages S437–38, S441**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:49 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Friday, February 17, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S477.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignment for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management, and Trade: Senators Smith (Chair), Gillibrand, Durbin, Booker, Warnock, Fetterman, Hyde-Smith, McConnell, Ernst, Tuberville, and Grassley.

Subcommittee on Rural Development and Energy: Senators Welch (Chair), Klobuchar, Bennet, Smith, Durbin, Luján, Tuberville, Ernst, Braun, Grassley, and Fischer.

Subcommittee on Conservation, Climate, Forestry, and Natural Resources: Senators Bennet (Chair), Klobuchar, Smith, Luján, Warnock, Welch, Marshall, McConnell, Hoeven, Hyde-Smith, and Thune.

Subcommittee on Food and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Organics, and Research: Senators Fetterman (Chair), Brown, Klobuchar, Gillibrand, Booker, Warnock, Braun, McConnell, Ernst, Marshall, and Tuberville.

Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Local Food Systems, and Food Safety and Security: Senators Gillibrand (Chair), Brown, Durbin, Booker, Luján, Welch, Hoeven, Hyde-Smith, Marshall, Thune, and Fischer.

Senators Stabenow and Boozman serve as ex officio members of all subcommittees.

FARM BILL

Committee on Agriculture: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on nutrition programs, after receiving testimony from Cindy Long, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, and Stacy Dean, Deputy Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, both of the Department of Agriculture.

PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine bringing transparency and accountability to pharmacy benefit managers, after receiving testimony from Senator Grassley; Ryan Oftebro, Kelley-Ross Pharmacy Group, Seattle, Washington; Debra Patt, Texas Oncology, Austin; Erin Trish, University of Southern California Mann School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Los Angeles; and Casey B. Mulligan, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

GLOBAL ENERGY SECURITY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the impact of the Russian Federation's war in Ukraine on European and global energy security one year after the invasion, after receiving testimony from Andrew Light, Assistant Secretary of Energy, Office of International Affairs; Ditte Juul Jorgensen, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium; and Anna B. Mikulska, Rice University Baker Institute for Public Policy, Houston, Texas.

TRADE AND LABOR

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ending trade that cheats American workers by modernizing trade laws and enforcement, fighting forced labor, eliminating counterfeits, and leveling the playing field, after receiving testimony from Cindy Allen, FedEx Logistics, Memphis, Tennessee; Andy Meserve, United Steelworkers, Owensboro, Tennessee; Scott Nova, Workers Rights Consortium, and John Pickel, National Foreign Trade Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and Brenda B. Smith, Expeditors International of Washington, Inc., Glen Burnie, Maryland.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Richard R. Verma, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cardin, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine health care workforce shortages, after receiving testimony from James D. Herbert, University of New England, Biddeford, Maine; James E.K. Hildreth, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee; Sarah L. Szanton, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Baltimore, Maryland; Leonardo Seoane, Ochsner Health, New Orleans, Louisiana; and Douglas O. Staiger, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Kate E. Brubacher, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas, and Ismail J. Ramsey, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California, all of the Department of Justice.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights: Senators Klobuchar (Chair), Whitehouse, Coons, Blumenthal, Hirono, Booker, Welch, Lee, Grassley, Hawley, Cotton, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety: Senators Padilla (Chair), Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Coons, Hirono, Booker, Welch, Cornyn, Grassley, Cruz, Cotton, Tillis, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on the Constitution: Senators Feinstein (Chair), Blumenthal, Booker, Ossoff, Cruz, Cornyn, and Lee.

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism: Senators Booker (Chair), Feinstein, Whitehouse, Klobuchar, Coons, Padilla, Ossoff, Cotton, Grassley, Cornyn, Lee, Cruz, and Kennedy.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property: Senators Coons (Chair), Hirono, Padilla, Ossoff, Welch, Tillis, Cornyn, Cotton, and Blackburn.

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights: Senators Whitehouse (Chair), Feinstein, Blumenthal, Hirono, Booker, Padilla, Welch, Kennedy, Grassley, Lee, Cruz, Tillis, and Hawley.

Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law: Senators Ossoff (Chair), Feinstein, Blumenthal, Welch, Blackburn, Kennedy, and Hawley.

Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law: Senators Blumenthal (Chair), Klobuchar, Coons, Hirono, Padilla, Ossoff, Hawley, Kennedy, Blackburn, Lee, and Cornyn.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Joshua David Jacobs, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for

Benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Murray, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 10, to improve the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 30, to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2023, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 106, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to States to improve outreach to veterans, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 112, to amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida;

S. 132, to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 141, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 185, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the program for direct housing loans made to Native American veterans;

S. 216, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the family caregiver program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include services related to mental health and neurological disorders; and

S. 326, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and post-traumatic stress disorder.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House will meet at 10 a.m. on Friday, February 17, 2023.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Friday, February 17

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, February 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.



Congressional Record

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