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No. 206

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 30, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES P. MCGOVERN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rear Admiral Brent Scott, Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Navy, Arlington, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we begin this afternoon in the privilege of prayer, thankful for our Nation, a people gathered from every tongue and Tribe, bound together through the more noble ideals of liberty, justice, and equality, formed and favored as one Nation under God. We ask Your help as we all work to safeguard this more perfect Union.

We pray for this House of the people and implore You to inspire every Member to lead by their own example of reconciliation and deference, to rebuild our Nation's confidence in justice, and to restore our sense of equality to more powerfully serve as a body of and by and for the people.

We intercede this afternoon for the men and women who wear our Nation's cloth, and especially the Navy Chaplain Corps on this their 246th anniversary. Bless these faithful servants of God and country who build and sustain the warrior spirit with faith, hope, and love in every corner and clime of the globe. Give them peace as they bring peace to this troubled world.

We pray in Your holy Name.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

AMERICA IS FACING A DRUG CRISIS

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we speak today, America is facing a drug crisis that is crippling our communities.

During the month of October, over 800 pounds of fentanyl were seized at our southern border. The drug crisis of our Nation and what we are experiencing is a direct result of the failed border policies that have been put in place by the Biden administration.

Recently, I spoke with the Chambersburg police chief, Ron Camacho, who said more and more deadly drugs like fentanyl are responsible for overdoses in our Pennsylvania communities.

In my district alone, we saw a 30 percent rise in overdose deaths between 2019 and 2020, and sadly, that number is

on the rise again. Now is the time for Congress to take swift and decisive action.

We must ensure that law enforcement has the tools that they need to save lives, protect our communities and keep this lethal drug off of our streets.

HONORING PASTOR JAMES D. CORBETT

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a heartfelt tribute to Pastor James D. Corbett of Greenville, North Carolina, to honor his long and illustrious service to God and to his country.

In his younger years, Pastor Corbett served this great Nation of ours in the United States Army. He then left military service to begin his ministry.

In 1984, Pastor Corbett and the late Pastor Delores Corbett founded Greenville Community Christian Church. God gave him a vision to minister to the whole man: spirit, soul and body.

Pastor Corbett also currently serves as the Eastern Regional Director and Trustee for the International Convention of Faith Ministries. Their vision includes reaching communities with the Gospel and taking the message of Jesus Christ around the whole world.

Lives are saved, healed, and delivered by the power of God through his ministry. I have personally been blessed by his wonderful services and sermons for many years now.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the accomplishments of a wonderful man, a caring father, grandfather, and leader of his flock, Pastor James D. Corbett, and recognizing all that he has done for his community.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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PRESIDENT BIDEN IS LEAVING YOU BEHIND

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of all Americans who feel that they are being abandoned by the current administration. I share this sentiment.

To be clear, President Biden is the President of now leaving you behind. He will leave you behind in Afghanistan. He will leave your job behind if you don't comply with his mandates. He will leave our borders behind in favor of illegal immigrants. He will leave our economy behind for China to surpass. He plain old leads from behind.

I propose we leave President Biden's dangerous policies behind before our children's futures are ultimately destroyed. It is time for our leaders to put America first by securing our border, keeping our Nation's promises to veterans and overseas allies, and in ending the senseless Washington spending addiction.

PRESIDENT BIDEN IS LEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, President Biden is leading this country in the right direction. He is moving us forward, but the Republicans refuse to see it.

The Build Back Better bill will help middle class families, produce more jobs, reduce taxes, and make costs less on prescription drugs, on home healthcare for seniors, on childcare for working mothers, and give them an opportunity to participate in America's economy.

President Biden led us on the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Bipartisan? Yeah, not much. There were 17 Republicans in the Senate, maybe 16, only 13 in the House. There is nothing partisan about getting goods to market, about speeding up the supply chain, which happens when you get good roads and the opportunity for trucks to travel on them, trains to proceed, and airplanes to deliver their cargo.

President Biden is leading us in the right direction. We just have to hope that the Senate and the Republicans here will help us in this last month as we try to raise the debt ceiling to pay for Trump's tax scam and to pass a budget.

BUILD BACK BROKE

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

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the most expen-

sive bill and largest tax increase in American history, the recently passed build back broke bill.

The legislation reads like a far-left Christmas wish list that isn't completely paid for. It is filled with more than 150 social programs and budget gimmicks that make these expensive programs appear less costly on paper, although Democrats intend to make them permanent.

Some of these include \$7.4 billion for electric bicycles, a SALT tax cut of \$25,900 for millionaires, \$80 billion to the IRS, and \$100 billion toward amnesty for illegal immigrants.

What is equally concerning is what is not in the bill. Within the 2,000 pages, there is not a single mention of border control, China, or Afghanistan. This year especially, with record-breaking southern border apprehensions, Chinese missile testing, and the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, Congress should prioritize investing in our country's safety and security.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats have doubled down on failed policies and irresponsible spending. It is simply out of touch with the desires of the American people.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S ENERGY CRISIS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's energy crisis is the Christmas gift that nobody asked for.

The national average for a gallon of gas reached \$3.39 as of last Friday, the most Americans have paid at the pump since the Obama-Biden administration.

Home heating costs are projected to rise as much as 54 percent for some households this winter. House Democrats are even pushing a "heat your home tax" just in time for the holidays.

If Americans thought Thanksgiving cost an arm and a leg, just wait until President Biden's failed policies torpedo Christmas entirely. At this rate, the only things Americans will find under their Christmas trees and in their stockings are more bills, not presents.

Mr. Speaker, this lunacy must end.

HONORING AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN FIRST CLASS JOSHUA GAETA

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a military servicemember from my district for his historic and heroic actions that saved over 30 lives.

Earlier this year, Joshua Gaeta of Muscatine and his Coast Guard crew were successful in a daring search and rescue operation involving 31 fishermen

stranded on a ship that caught fire 200 miles off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada.

Facing winds of over 50 miles an hour, waves 30-feet high, and freezing cold temperatures, our Coast Guard, with Gaeta on board, bravely flew their helicopters to the scene and were able to save all 31 crew members.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Aviation Maintenance Technician First Class Gaeta and all our servicemembers for all that they do to keep our country safe.

CONGRESS HAS A CHOICE TO MAKE

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, we have a choice to make this week. We have a choice to make whether we are going to fund the United States Government and to fund the executive branch when that executive branch is carrying out often unlawful, unconstitutional, but certainly, unhelpful and foolish mandates that are crushing small businesses and causing people to lose their jobs, forcing our members of the military to lose their ability to serve, forcing members of the Border Patrol, DEA, and hospitals across this country to lose workers because of these mandates.

Why would anybody in this Chamber vote to fund a government that is going to mandate that people have to lose their jobs through these unlawful orders?

And the second thing we have got to decide is whether we are going to vote for a National Defense Authorization Act that, for the first time in history, will add women, 18-year-old girls, to the draft, without so much as a debate in this Chamber.

I think we have an easy call, but we have got to make that call this week and decide what we are going to do.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1531

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH) at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules

on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

MATERNAL VACCINATION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 951) to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national campaign to increase awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their children, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 951

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 “Maternal Vaccination Act”.

SEC. 2. MATERNAL VACCINATION AWARENESS AND EQUITY CAMPAIGN.

(a) CAMPAIGN.—Section 313 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 245) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting “and among pregnant and postpartum individuals,” after “low rates of vaccination,”;

(2) in subsection (c)(3), by striking “prenatal and pediatric” and inserting “prenatal, obstetric, and pediatric”;

(3) in subsection (d)(4)(B), by inserting “pregnant and postpartum individuals and” after “including”; and

(4) in subsection (g), by striking “\$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025” and inserting “\$17,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026”.

(b) ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES.—Section 317(k)(1)(E) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b(k)(1)(E)) is amended—

(1) in clause (v), by striking “and” at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following clause:

“(vii) increase vaccination rates of pregnant and postpartum individuals, including individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups, and their children; and”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 951.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, we are continuing our work to combat the maternal mortality and morbidity crisis facing our country. The legislation before us will help ensure that pregnant women and their healthcare providers are aware of the benefits and availability of safe and effective vaccines.

Tragically, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that about 700 women die each year in the United States as a result of pregnancy or delivery complications.

While there is no one cause of pregnancy-related death or health complications, we know that some illnesses like flu, pertussis, and COVID-19 can cause serious harm to pregnant women, including early labor and delivery and other complications. Vaccines prevent these illnesses and can save the lives of pregnant and postpartum women and their children.

However, despite strong evidence of vaccines’ safety and efficacy, vaccine uptake among pregnant women is far below targeted goals.

We can and should do more to increase the vaccination rate of pregnant women. H.R. 951, the Maternal Vaccination Act, will ensure that our vaccination outreach and awareness campaigns and public health grant programs include outreach to obstetric healthcare providers, as well as pregnant and postpartum women. The legislation will also ensure that we are reaching women from racial and ethnic groups and their children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this commonsense public health effort, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, current data clearly suggests that vaccinations for women during pregnancy can protect mothers and newborns against infectious diseases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has long recommended various vaccinations for pregnant women to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.

Despite these recommendations, vaccination rates among pregnant women remain relatively low. But according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, when a vaccine recommendation comes directly from a patient’s own OB-GYN, the likelihood of accepting that vaccine could be up to 50 times higher.

The Maternal Vaccination Act requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to include obstetric providers in existing vaccination public awareness campaign programs to help increase vaccinations among pregnant and postpartum women.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in proud support of H.R. 951 “The Maternal Vaccination Act.”

I would like to thank Congresswoman SEWELL for introducing this legislation.

This bill establishes a national campaign to raise awareness and increase rates of maternal vaccinations and calls for the CDC to consult with various stakeholders to carry out this campaign.

In addition, the CDC must focus on increasing vaccination rates among communities with

historically high rates of unvaccinated individuals.

The CDC must also make publicly available any materials and resources developed for the campaign.

In addition, H.R. 951 would instruct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to broaden a public awareness campaign on vaccinations to include pregnant and postpartum individuals and require the campaign to disseminate vaccine information to providers and facilities that provide obstetric care.

The bill would also authorize an additional \$2 million annually from 2021 through 2025 for the vaccination awareness campaign.

This bill would put pregnant women at the focus of the fight to combat COVID-19.

As the Chair of the Congressional Coronavirus Task Force, I have used every means possible to sound the alarm about the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus.

On February 10, 2020, I held the first press conference on the issue of COVID-19 at Houston Intercontinental Airport.

I then held a second press conference on February 24th to continue efforts to raise public knowledge of the impending threat.

On February 26th, I wrote the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security requesting to be briefed by Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf regarding the preparedness of the Department of Homeland Security to address a possible pandemic.

On March 19th, I announced an innovative partnership with United Methodist Medical Center (UMMC) to open the first drive-through Coronavirus Test Screening facility in the Greater Houston area, which proved beneficial to everyone in the Greater Houston area, as with UMMC’s help we have opened multiple sites that are located within high-risk communities in the Greater Houston area, to reduce the need for travel to get access to COVID-19 testing.

Since the start of this pandemic, I have sought to proactively address the critical issues and concerns tied to the COVID-19 virus.

As I stated at the beginning of this pandemic, “We must not panic, but prepare.”

I am pleased to see that this bill is not a panic-induced response, but a well-thought-out proposal to further protect our citizens.

When pregnant women get vaccinated, they not only build their immune system to the virus, they also create antibodies for their unborn child.

Throughout history the vaccination of pregnant mothers has shown to be beneficial when it comes to viruses like tetanus, influenza, pertussis.

With this bill we can help newborn children who have not yet developed their immune systems fight off a deadly virus such as COVID-19.

This also gives mothers piece of mind that they’ll be safe as they advance in their pregnancy.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in proud support of H.R. 951, the Maternal Vaccination Act.

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With this bill we can help newborn children who have not yet developed their immune systems fight off a deadly virus such as COVID-19.

This also gives mothers piece of mind that they'll be safe as they advance in their pregnancy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 951, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING RESOURCES TO EXPAND VACCINATION, EDUCATION, AND NEW TREATMENTS FOR HPV CANCERS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1550) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to human papillomavirus, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1550

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 "Promoting Resources to Expand Vaccination, Education, and New Treatments for HPV Cancers Act of 2021" or the "PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. PREVENTING HPV AND HPV-ASSOCIATED CANCERS; JOHANNA'S LAW.

Section 317P of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247b-17) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking "cervical";

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (D) by striking "other" and all that follows through "cancer." and inserting "recommended diagnostics for early intervention for, and prevention of, HPV-associated cancers; and"; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(E) the importance of recommended vaccines for prevention of HPV and HPV-associated cancers, including for males;" and

(2) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) JOHANNA'S LAW.—

"(1) NATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a national campaign to increase the awareness and knowledge of health care providers and individuals with respect to gynecologic cancers, HPV, and HPV-associated cancers, and the importance of HPV vaccines in preventing HPV and HPV-associated cancers.

"(B) WRITTEN MATERIALS.—Activities under the national campaign under subparagraph (A) shall include—

"(i) maintaining a supply of written materials that provide information to the public on gynecologic cancers, HPV, and HPV-associated cancers; and

"(ii) distributing the materials to members of the public upon request.

"(C) PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Activities under the national campaign under subparagraph (A) shall, in accordance with applicable law and regulations, include publishing materials in digital or print form, public engagement, and developing and placing public service announcements intended to encourage individuals to discuss with their physicians—

"(i) their risk of gynecologic cancers and HPV-associated cancers; and

"(ii) the importance of HPV vaccines in preventing HPV and HPV-associated cancers.

"(D) TARGETED POPULATIONS.—Activities under the national campaign under subparagraph (A) shall include culturally and linguistically competent public service announcements

and other forms of communication and public engagement under subparagraph (C) targeted to—

"(i) specific higher-risk populations of individuals based on race, ethnicity, level of acculturation, and family history, including African-American and Ashkenazi Jewish individuals;

"(ii) communities with high rates of unvaccinated individuals, including males;

"(iii) rural communities;

"(iv) populations affected by increasing rates of oropharynx cancers;

"(v) health care providers specializing in assisting survivors of sexual assault; and

"(vi) such other communities as the Secretary determines appropriate.

"(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the national campaign under this section, the Secretary shall consult with—

"(A) health care providers;

"(B) nonprofit organizations (including gynecologic cancer organizations and organizations that represent communities and individuals most affected by HPV-associated cancers and low vaccination rates);

"(C) State and local public health departments; and

"(D) elementary and secondary education organizations and institutions of higher education.

"(3) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS REGARDING OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRATEGIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—

"(i) PROGRAM.—The Secretary may carry out a program to award grants or contracts to public or nonprofit private entities for the purpose of carrying out demonstration projects to test, compare, and evaluate different evidence-based outreach and education strategies to increase the awareness and knowledge of women, their families, physicians, nurses, and other key health professionals with respect to gynecologic cancers, including with respect to early warning signs, risk factors, prevention, screening, and treatment options.

"(ii) SCIENCE-BASED RESOURCES.—In making awards under clause (i), the Secretary shall encourage awardees to use science-based resources such as the Inside Knowledge About Gynecologic Cancer education campaign of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"(B) PREFERENCES IN AWARDED GRANTS OR CONTRACTS.—In making awards under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall give preference to—

"(i) applicants with demonstrated expertise in gynecologic cancer education or treatment or in working with groups of women who are at increased risk of gynecologic cancers; and

"(ii) applicants that, in the demonstration project funded by the grant or contract, will establish linkages between physicians, nurses, other key health professionals, health profession students, hospitals, payers, and State health departments.

"(C) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant or contract under subparagraph (A), an entity shall submit an application to the Secretary in such form, in such manner, and containing such agreements, assurances, and information as the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this paragraph.

"(D) CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS.—In making awards under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall—

"(i) make awards, as practicable, to not fewer than five applicants; and

"(ii) ensure that information provided through demonstration projects under this paragraph is consistent with the best available medical information.

"(E) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 24 months after the date of the enactment of the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report that—

“(i) summarizes the activities of demonstration projects under subparagraph (A);

“(ii) evaluates the extent to which the projects were effective in increasing awareness and knowledge of risk factors and early warning signs in the populations to which the projects were directed; and

“(iii) identifies barriers to early detection and appropriate treatment of such cancers.

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this subsection, there is authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1550.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1550, the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act. This bill will help prevent cancer in thousands of individuals by stepping up our outreach and education to ensure that we are reaching people eligible for human papillomavirus, or HPV vaccines.

HPV causes nearly 36,000 cases of cancer in men and women each year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found that nearly 33,000 of these cases can be prevented through vaccination.

The HPV vaccine has been shown to be highly effective in most forms of HPV, and in turn, preventing cancer caused by the virus. For example, women who have been vaccinated against HPV have been shown to be 90 percent less likely to be diagnosed with cervical cancer.

Mr. Speaker, despite the high efficacy of the vaccines and increased vaccination rates, the rates are still below CDC targets and far lower for HPV than for other recommended vaccines. And while cervical cancer rates have gone down, other types of HPV-associated cancers, including head and neck cancers, have been on the rise.

We must do more to improve our outreach to teens and young adults, and this bill does that by creating a national campaign to educate health providers and the public on HPV, HPV-associated cancers, and the importance of HPV vaccines in preventing these cancers.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan legislation passed unanimously out of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. It deserves our support here on the floor, so please join me in preventing cancer and supporting this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the human papillomavirus, or HPV, is a common virus in the United States, infecting about 13 million Americans each year. While 9 out of 10 HPV infections are benign, in some circumstances, HPV can cause cancer. Records from the CDC indicate about 36,000 cases of cancer each year are caused by this virus. Sadly, many of these infections and cancer diagnoses can be prevented by the HPV vaccine.

H.R. 1550 would carry out a national campaign to increase awareness for healthcare providers and patients regarding these cancers. Additionally, the campaign will highlight the benefits associated with HPV vaccines in preventing HPV and HPV-related cancers.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), the sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan legislation with Representative KIM Schrier, the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act.

Mr. Speaker, if Dr. Francis Collins, the head of the NIH, called a press conference today and announced that we had found a cure for cancer, there would be cause for celebration.

Well, since 2006, there has been a safe and effective vaccine that prevents six types of cancer, including HPV-related cancers, including cervical cancer and throat cancer. It has been a remarkable development. The problem is that with these HPV-related cancers, there are no screening tests for many of these cancers, other than cervical cancer, for which there is a screening test. So you have to rely on prevention in order to avoid ever contracting these types of cancers.

The other problem is that during the pandemic, there has been a dramatic drop-off in childhood vaccinations. It is very troubling. All childhood vaccinations have fallen way off, but particularly with the cancer-preventing HPV vaccine.

According to data from CDC, HPV vaccinations fell by almost 64 percent for children ages 9 to 12, and they fell 71 percent for young people ages 13 to 17 compared to the previous two years. Last year alone, more than 1 million doses were missed.

Mr. Speaker, here is what is also troubling, the trends that are here: There is a distinct rise among men and HPV-related cancers. Four out of ten HPV-related cancers occur among men: a lot of throat cancer. There are now 14,000 men annually being diagnosed with HPV-related cancers. That is a five-fold increase over the past 20 years.

We can tackle this problem by helping educate families and parents all

across America to avoid these catastrophic diagnoses and save lives in doing it.

The PREVENT HPV Cancers Act builds on work the CDC is already doing to raise awareness about gynecological cancers through Johanna's Law and includes HPV and HPV-related cancers in the national public awareness campaign to educate providers, parents, and the general public about the lifesaving HPV vaccine. This is especially important in rural areas where there has also been a very dramatic drop-off.

I thank my friends back home at the Moffitt Cancer Center, Florida's only NCI-designated cancer center, Dr. Anna Giuliano, who is an expert in the field, for educating me, and for bringing together advocates across the country.

I thank Chairman PALLONE, Chair ESHOO, Ranking Member McMORRIS RODGERS, and Chairman GUTHRIE very much for their help, and Dr. BURGESS as well for his support. Thank you for making this a bipartisan effort.

I also thank Stephen Holland with the majority staff and Kristen Shatynski with the minority staff.

Mr. Speaker, to the parents and families, it is vitally important to know that you can prevent your children from ever contracting cancer through the HPV vaccine. It is safe and effective, and more parents need to understand the import of doing this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption, a “yes” vote on H.R. 1550, the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act.

□ 1545

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

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it was 16 years ago that we first authorized Johanna's Law, it was a long time ago. I was a fairly junior Member and Congresswoman DELAURO had worked on it for a number of years before that. It is something that today will easily be reauthorized—and America has been and will be better for—and seems easy. But it is never easy to begin the process of helping people understand what they don't know.

Misinformation or a failure to have information continues to cause young women to die of cancer needlessly: whether it is ovarian cancer, gynecological cancer of any sort, whether it is related to HPV, or some other fashion. The fact is, Johanna's Law, H.R. 1550, which it is merged with, in fact, is something that America needs to understand today and in the future.

When we originally passed Johanna's Law, we had 257 cosponsors and could have had more. More than 100 Republicans and Democrats signed on before we brought it to the floor. On that day, we said, if we can only get \$10 million to get the awareness. We passed the bill and then we went looking for the money.

Over time the money has increased. The fact is, Americans today, especially young women, are not as informed as they need to be. Reauthorizing both of these bills in one goes a step further to educating people about preventable death, preventable cancer.

The fact is, I am thrilled that Congress, in such a tumultuous time, from time to time, comes together across the aisle and does something so important.

These bills do not cost much, but the lives they save are precious and priceless. Mr. Speaker, I urge its support.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would urge support for this bipartisan and very important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in full support of H.R. 1550, the "PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021."

I would like to thank my colleagues Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR and Congresswoman KIM SCHRIER for introducing this important legislation.

The "Promoting Resources to Expand Vaccination, Education and New Treatments for HPV Cancers Act" or the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act has the ultimate goal of preventing HPV-related cancers.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common virus that causes six types of cancers, leading to nearly 36,000 cases of cancer in the United States every year, according to the CDC.

Nearly 42 million people are currently infected with HPV in the United States.

The HPV vaccine provides safe, effective, and lasting protection against the HPV infections that most commonly cause cancer.

This vaccine is so effective that the World Health Organization established a goal of total eradication of cervical cancer—and this legislation can be part of our nation's commitment to reaching that goal.

This vaccine can help prevent these cancers, and it is the goal of the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act to increase vaccination rates.

HPV-related cancers disproportionately affect individuals who are living on a lower income, have lower education levels, and are from a racial or ethnic minority group.

Increased public awareness and immunization initiatives would help improve vaccination rates in these underserved communities.

More comprehensive research on the HPV vaccine, as authorized in the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act, would also help better identify these disparities and ways to address them.

There is rampant societal mistrust and vaccine hesitancy, and while immunizations are one of the greatest public health tools we have, they work best when there is widespread use.

This legislation will spread awareness so that more people will be vaccinated against HPV, and fund research to help stop the largely preventable deaths caused by HPV linked cancers.

When we have the tools to prevent cancer, we should without a doubt utilize them.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in full support of H.R. 1550, the PREVENT HPV Cancers Act of 2021.

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When we have the tools to prevent cancer, we should without a doubt utilize them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1550, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IMMUNIZATION INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 550) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to immunization system data modernization and expansion, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 550

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 "Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION.

Subtitle C of title XXVIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–31 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 2824. IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION.

"(a) EXPANDING CDC AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT CAPABILITIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

"(A) conduct activities (including with respect to interoperability, population reporting, and bidirectional reporting) to expand, enhance, and improve immunization information systems that are administered by health departments or other agencies of State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and used by health care providers; and

"(B) award grants or cooperative agreements to the health departments, or such other governmental entities as administer immunization information systems, of State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, for the expansion, enhancement, and improvement of immunization information systems to assist public health departments in—

"(i) assessing current data infrastructure capabilities and gaps among health care providers to improve and increase consistency in patient matching, data collection, reporting, bidirectional exchange, and analysis of immunization-related information;

"(ii) providing for technical assistance and the efficient enrollment and training of health care providers, including at pharmacies and other settings where immunizations are being provided, such as long-term care facilities, specialty health care providers, community health centers, Federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, organizations serving adults 65 and older, and organizations serving homeless and incarcerated populations;

"(iii) improving secure data collection, transmission, bidirectional exchange, maintenance, and analysis of immunization information;

"(iv) improving the secure bidirectional exchange of immunization record data among Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governmental entities and non-governmental entities, including by—

"(I) improving such exchange among public health officials in multiple jurisdictions within a State, as appropriate; and

"(II) by simplifying and supporting electronic reporting by any health care provider;

"(v) supporting the standardization of immunization information systems to accelerate interoperability with health information technology, including with health information technology certified under section 3001(c)(5) or with health information networks;

"(vi) supporting adoption of the immunization information system functional standards of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the maintenance of security standards to protect individually identifiable health information;

"(vii) supporting and training immunization information system, data science, and informatics personnel;

"(viii) supporting real-time immunization record data exchange and reporting, to support rapid identification of immunization coverage gaps;

"(ix) improving completeness of data by facilitating the capability of immunization information systems to exchange data, directly or indirectly, with immunization information systems in other jurisdictions;

"(x) enhancing the capabilities of immunization information systems to evaluate, forecast, and operationalize clinical decision support tools in alignment with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices as approved by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

“(xi) supporting the development and implementation of policies that facilitate complete population-level capture, consolidation, and access to accurate immunization information;

“(xii) supporting the procurement and implementation of updated software, hardware, and cloud storage to adequately manage information volume and capabilities;

“(xiii) supporting expansion of capabilities within immunization information systems for outbreak response;

“(xiv) supporting activities within the applicable jurisdiction related to the management, distribution, and storage of vaccine doses and ancillary supplies;

“(xv) developing information related to the use and importance of immunization record data and disseminating such information to health care providers and other persons authorized under State law to access such information, including payors and health care facilities; or

“(xvi) supporting activities to improve the scheduling and administration of vaccinations.

“(2) DATA STANDARDS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(A) designate data and technology standards that must be followed by governmental entities with respect to use of immunization information systems as a condition of receiving an award under this section, with priority given to standards developed by—

“(i) consensus-based organizations with input from the public; and

“(ii) voluntary consensus-based standards bodies; and

“(B) support a means of independent verification of the standards used in carrying out paragraph (1).

“(3) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary may develop and utilize contracts and cooperative agreements for technical assistance, training, and related implementation support.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS.—The Secretary may not award a grant or cooperative agreement under subsection (a)(1)(B) unless the applicant uses and agrees to use standards adopted by the Secretary under section 3004.

“(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirement under paragraph (1) with respect to an applicant if the Secretary determines that the activities under subsection (a)(1)(B) cannot otherwise be carried out within the applicable jurisdiction.

“(3) APPLICATION.—A State, local, Tribal, or territorial health department applying for a grant or cooperative agreement under subsection (a)(1)(B) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require. Such application shall include information describing—

“(A) the activities that will be supported by the grant or cooperative agreement; and

“(B) how the modernization of the immunization information systems involved will support or impact the public health infrastructure of the health department, including a description of remaining gaps, if any, and the actions needed to address such gaps.

“(c) STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a coordinated strategy and an accompanying implementation plan that identifies and demonstrates the measures the Secretary will utilize to—

“(1) update and improve immunization information systems supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

“(2) carry out the activities described in this section to support the expansion, enhancement, and improvement of State, local, Tribal, and territorial immunization information systems.

“(d) CONSULTATION; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy and implementation plan under subsection (c), the Secretary shall consult with—

“(A) health departments, or such other governmental entities as administer immunization information systems, of State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments;

“(B) professional medical associations, public health associations, and associations representing pharmacists and pharmacies;

“(C) community health centers, long-term care facilities, and other appropriate entities that provide immunizations;

“(D) health information technology experts; and

“(E) other public or private entities, as appropriate.

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—In connection with consultation under paragraph (1), the Secretary may—

“(A) provide technical assistance, certification, and training related to the exchange of information by immunization information systems used by health care and public health entities at the local, State, Federal, Tribal, and territorial levels; and

“(B) develop and utilize public-private partnerships for implementation support applicable to this section.

“(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives that includes—

“(1) a description of any barriers to—

“(A) public health authorities implementing interoperable immunization information systems;

“(B) the exchange of information pursuant to immunization records; or

“(C) reporting by any health care professional authorized under State law, using such immunization information systems, as appropriate, and pursuant to State law; or

“(2) a description of barriers that hinder the effective establishment of a network to support immunization reporting and monitoring, including a list of recommendations to address such barriers; and

“(3) an assessment of immunization coverage and access to immunizations services and any disparities and gaps in such coverage and access for medically underserved, rural, and frontier areas.

“(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘immunization information system’ means a confidential, population-based, computerized database that records immunization doses administered by any health care provider to persons within the geographic area covered by that database.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$400,000,000, to remain available until expended.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 550.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 550, the Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act. This bill would authorize \$400 million for grants to expand, enhance, and improve immunization information systems administered by health departments and used by healthcare providers.

Immunization information systems, also known as IIS, or immunization registries, are confidential, population-based, computerized databases that record immunization doses administered by providers to patients. They are critical in our fight against COVID-19 and other public health threats like measles and influenza.

Local public health officials use IIS to collect, analyze, store, and view aggregated vaccination information, which is kept confidential and separate from identifiable patient information. This information helps them understand overall vaccination levels so they can better guide public health decisions for their communities.

IIS also helps patients and healthcare providers by allowing them to view a secure consolidated immunization history, helping them determine appropriate and necessary vaccinations, and reminding patients about vaccination schedules.

IIS have been critical in the COVID-19 pandemic. They have helped us understand where vaccines are getting to patients, and where we need to do more to reach people and provide access. They provided near real-time information sharing, allowing State officials and leadership at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to understand vaccination rates and where people are choosing to receive their vaccines.

Like all forms of infrastructure, IIS require maintenance and upgrades. As I mentioned, IIS have been an important tool in the fight against COVID-19, but the pandemic has also tested the ability of IIS to keep up with the pace of our massive vaccination efforts.

According to the American Immunization Registry Association, one State went from an average of 17,000 doses recorded in its IIS each day to over 500,000 this past spring. This dramatic increase required the State health department to nearly quadruple the number of digital servers used to host the data. These are not one-time costs. Going forward, these new servers and the new data collected during the pandemic will need to be maintained and secured.

State and local leaders have also told us that inconsistent and antiquated technology, incomplete provider participation, and faltering interoperability are areas where we must improve to ensure that we have useful and quality data.

It is important that the systems used by physicians are able to communicate with the State and local public health departments, and that these systems

can also communicate with other States and the CDC.

H.R. 550, the bill before us today, addresses these challenges by providing grants for technological upgrades, provider outreach and enrollment, policy development, and a skilled workforce to build and maintain these systems.

The legislation also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to create an implementation strategy and set clear data standards that must be followed by all grantees. And this should help ensure that States are coordinated going forward.

H.R. 550 will ensure all IIS are brought up to modern standards, help control disease outbreaks, and put our public health infrastructure on a solid foundation for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives Kuster and Bucshon for their bipartisan work on this bill. I urge all Members to support this important bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 550, the Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act, a bill introduced by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Ms. KUSTER and Mr. BUCSHON.

Immunization information systems, or IIS, are important tools in providing immunization care for patients by allowing providers to view a patient's comprehensive immunization history to determine the appropriate vaccinations throughout their life.

The Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct activities to improve immunization information systems. These activities include designating data and technology standards, developing public-private partnerships, and awarding grants or cooperative agreements to health departments to enhance their systems.

Modernizing our immunization infrastructure will give us a better understanding of our current vaccination efforts and will also help us determine which communities may need additional vaccination outreach—better targeting our efforts to improve health outcomes across the country.

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

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON).

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 550, the Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021.

Immunization information systems serve as a vital link between public health officials, community providers and individuals, not only in cases of disease outbreak or emergencies, but also during routine vaccination efforts.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear that our immunization information systems are in need of modernization.

Decisions in response to outbreaks must be based on science, and we must ensure our States and localities have access to meaningful data to make targeted decisions that lessen the spread and quickly reopen our economies.

H.R. 550 would repurpose previously appropriated funds to be spent through an existing grant program to improve and enhance the ability of immunization information systems to securely exchange real-time immunization record data between all public health programs.

As a doctor, I would take my patients' medical privacy very seriously. Therefore, I want to make clear that the immunization information systems are secure, confidential, population-based databases, and are completely deidentified.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative KUSTER for her partnership, and I urge a "yes" vote.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 550, the "Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021," which will improve our public health infrastructure and expand information-sharing between state and federal governments, as well as public and private health care providers, to ensure vaccines are being administered effectively and efficiently across all states and territories.

Mr. Speaker, public health agencies work every day to prevent disease and viruses, promote health, and prepare for and respond to both emergency situations and ongoing challenges—but they cannot do so without the ability to access the best available data and share information with other experts, and the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted this fact.

As the Chair of the Congressional Coronavirus Task Force, I have used every means possible to sound the alarm about the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus.

On February 10, 2020, I held the first press conference on the issue of COVID-19 at Houston Intercontinental Airport.

I then held a second press conference on February 24th to continue efforts to raise public knowledge of the impending threat.

On February 26th, I wrote the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security requesting to be briefed by Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf regarding the preparedness of the Department of Homeland Security to address a possible pandemic.

On March 19th, I announced an innovative partnership with United Methodist Medical Center (UMMC) to open the first drive-through Coronavirus Test Screening facility in the Greater Houston area, which proved beneficial to everyone in the Greater Houston area, as with UMMC's help we have opened multiple sites that are located within high-risk communities in the Greater Houston area, to reduce the need for travel to get access to COVID-19 testing.

Since the start of this pandemic, I have sought to proactively address the critical issues and concerns tied to the COVID-19 virus.

As I stated at the beginning of this pandemic, "We must not panic, but prepare."

I am pleased to see that this bill is not a panic-induced response, but a well-thought-out proposal to further protect our citizens.

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed a number of challenges for public health information systems, but worst among them is the limited capacity of existing state Immunization Information Systems.

The importance of these systems cannot be understated: they allow providers to keep vaccines and supplies in stock, prevent over—or under—vaccination, remind patients when they are due for a recommended vaccine, and identify areas with low vaccination rates to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines.

However, states lack modern, comprehensive information systems that can meet the challenges of COVID-19 and future public health threats through the secure exchange of real-time immunization data.

Consequently, many state systems struggled to accommodate additional demand, implement new functionalities, onboard immunization providers, support interoperable exchange with health care partners and enable timely reporting of immunization data to federal partners.

These issues are exactly what this legislation seeks to address.

Through H.R. 550, HHS will develop a strategy and a plan to improve immunization information systems and designate data and technology standards for use in these systems.

Additionally, HHS will award grants to health departments and other government agencies to improve their systems contingent upon meeting designated standards.

As the vaccine rollout continues and the time for boosters is upon us, immunization data systems will be a critical tool in the success of these efforts, and they are in need of modernization.

That is why I rise in ardent support of H.R. 550, and that is why the bill has strong bipartisan backing.

Lastly, I want to thank Congresswoman KUSTER and Congressman BUCSHON for introducing and shepherding this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 550, the "Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021," which will improve our public health infrastructure and expand information-sharing between state and federal governments, as well as public and private health care providers, to ensure vaccines are being administered effectively and efficiently across all states and territories.

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Lastly, I want to thank Congresswoman KUSTER and Congressman BUCSHON for introducing and shepherding this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 550, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

UNDERSTANDING CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE NETWORKS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2685) to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2685

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 "Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE SERVICE NETWORKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks and the vulnerability of such networks and mobile devices to cyberattacks and surveillance conducted by adversaries.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the degree to which providers of mobile service have addressed, are addressing, or have not addressed cybersecurity vulnerabilities (including vulnerabilities the exploitation of which could lead to surveillance conducted by adversaries) identified by academic and independent researchers, multistakeholder standards and technical organizations, industry experts, and Federal agencies, including in relevant reports of—

(A) the National Telecommunications and Information Administration;

(B) the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

(C) the Department of Homeland Security, including—

(i) the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency; and

(ii) the Science and Technology Directorate.

(2) A discussion of—

(A) the degree to which customers (including consumers, companies, and government agencies) consider cybersecurity as a factor when considering the purchase of mobile service and mobile devices; and

(B) the commercial availability of tools, frameworks, best practices, and other re-

sources for enabling such customers to evaluate cybersecurity risk and price trade-offs.

(3) A discussion of the degree to which providers of mobile service have implemented cybersecurity best practices and risk assessment frameworks.

(4) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence and efficacy of encryption and authentication algorithms and techniques used in each of the following:

(A) Mobile service.

(B) Mobile communications equipment or services.

(C) Commonly used mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(D) Commonly used mobile operating systems and communications software and applications.

(5) A discussion of the barriers for providers of mobile service to adopt more efficacious encryption and authentication algorithms and techniques and to prohibit the use of older encryption and authentication algorithms and techniques with established vulnerabilities in mobile service, mobile communications equipment or services, and mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(6) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence, usage, and availability of technologies that authenticate legitimate mobile service and mobile communications equipment or services to which mobile phones and other mobile devices are connected.

(7) An estimate and discussion of the prevalence, costs, commercial availability, and usage by adversaries in the United States of cell site simulators (often known as international mobile subscriber identity-catchers) and other mobile service surveillance and interception technologies.

(c) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report required by subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary shall, to the degree practicable, consult with—

(1) the Federal Communications Commission;

(2) the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(3) the intelligence community;

(4) the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security;

(5) the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security;

(6) academic and independent researchers with expertise in privacy, encryption, cybersecurity, and network threats;

(7) participants in multistakeholder standards and technical organizations (including the 3rd Generation Partnership Project and the Internet Engineering Task Force);

(8) international stakeholders, in coordination with the Department of State as appropriate;

(9) providers of mobile service, including small providers (or the representatives of such providers) and rural providers (or the representatives of such providers);

(10) manufacturers, operators, and providers of mobile communications equipment or services and mobile phones and other mobile devices;

(11) developers of mobile operating systems and communications software and applications; and

(12) other experts that the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) SCOPE OF REPORT.—The Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) limit the report required by subsection (a) to mobile service networks;

(2) exclude consideration of 5G protocols and networks in the report required by subsection (a);

(3) limit the assessment required by subsection (b)(1) to vulnerabilities that have been shown to be—

(A) exploited in non-laboratory settings; or
(B) feasibly and practicably exploitable in real-world conditions; and

(4) consider in the report required by subsection (a) vulnerabilities that have been effectively mitigated by manufacturers of mobile phones and other mobile devices.

(e) FORM OF REPORT.—

(1) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be produced in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

(2) POTENTIALLY EXPLOITABLE UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall redact potentially exploitable unclassified information from the report required by subsection (a) but shall provide an unredacted form of the report to the committees described in such subsection.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$500,000 for fiscal year 2022. Such amount is authorized to remain available through fiscal year 2023.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVERSARY.—The term “adversary” includes—

(A) any unauthorized hacker or other intruder into a mobile service network; and

(B) any foreign government or foreign non-government person engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and safety of United States persons.

(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

(3) ENTITY.—The term “entity” means a partnership, association, trust, joint venture, corporation, group, subgroup, or other organization.

(4) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

(5) MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term “mobile communications equipment or service” means any equipment or service that is essential to the provision of mobile service.

(6) MOBILE SERVICE.—The term “mobile service” means, to the extent provided to United States customers, either or both of the following services:

(A) Commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))).

(B) Commercial mobile data service (as defined in section 6001 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1401)).

(7) PERSON.—The term “person” means an individual or entity.

(8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) an individual who is a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; or

(C) any person in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2685.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2685, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act.

There is no shortage of concerning headlines about cybersecurity attacks on our critical infrastructure, including our communications networks. The reports range anywhere from a hacker looking for users' personal information to sophisticated intelligence gathering on U.S. officials by foreign adversaries.

The severe nature of these attacks coupled with the important information demands our attention. We must be vigilant in ensuring our networks are as secure as possible. That is the goal of H.R. 2685, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act. It will help us gain additional data and insights from experts to determine what more we can do to make that happen.

Specifically, Mr. Speaker, the legislation requires the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to lead a study with the Department of Homeland Security. This study will examine the cybersecurity of mobile service networks and the vulnerability of those networks and mobile devices to cyberattacks and surveillance by adversaries. It not only includes an assessment of what providers are doing to keep their networks secure, but also an examination of consumer expectations with respect to network security.

I am proud of the bipartisan work that the Energy and Commerce Committee has undertaken over the past several years to secure our communication networks. This is another important step toward that effort, and I applaud Representatives ESHOO and KINZINGER for their leadership on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2685, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act, which was introduced by Representatives ESHOO and KINZINGER.

Congress tasked the National Telecommunications and Information Administration with ensuring the national security of our Nation's telecommunications networks. In recent years we have seen large scale cybersecurity attacks that put Americans at risk.

□ 1600

While mobile service providers take numerous steps to address vulnerabilities in their networks and respond to

threats, we know that threats to our mobile networks continue to exist.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has focused on securing our communications supply chains, and today we are taking another step forward to understanding these challenges. This legislation requires NTIA to study the cybersecurity of mobile networks and the vulnerabilities of these networks and mobile devices to cyberattacks and surveillance conducted by our adversaries.

This report will not only help inform NTIA's cybersecurity activities, including its work on the Communications Supply Chain Risk Information Sharing Program, but will also help providers understand the risks their networks face so they can respond appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the majority for working with us on this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2685, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2685, the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act, bipartisan legislation I'm proud to have authored.

While all of us are inundated by advertisements for 5G, nearly all of our calls, texts, and mobile data traverse through 2G, 3G, and 4G networks today. We're moving toward a 5G world, but for the foreseeable future these older networks will handle most of our wireless communications.

Since cellphones became common in the 1990s, government agencies, academics, think tanks, industry associations, and independent researchers have discovered various cybersecurity vulnerabilities in our wireless networks. Wireless network companies, mobile devices manufacturers, and other companies have responded to many of these vulnerabilities, but recent cybersecurity developments depict that vulnerabilities continue to exist in mobile cybersecurity. For example, Stingray's cell site simulators continue to intercept calls, texts, and mobile data of unwitting victims; SIM swaps are increasing as a means of identity fraud; and mobile spyware made by NSO Group and others has threatened the safety of journalists, activists, dissidents, and government officials around the globe. In each of these instances companies have taken certain actions to mitigate threats, but we lack a sophisticated, comprehensive, and independent assessment of what vulnerabilities persist, what issues have been resolved, and where mobile cybersecurity policymaking should be focused.

H.R. 2685 solves this lack of information. The legislation requires the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to conduct a comprehensive study on the cybersecurity vulnerabilities of our 2G, 3G, and 4G networks.

Specifically, the study will include an assessment of responses to known vulnerabilities and deployment of best practices; an estimate of the prevalence of effective encryption and authentication techniques,

along with a discussion of barriers to adopting more efficacious techniques; a discussion of the prevalence, costs, availability, and usage of cell site simulators and other surveillance and interception technologies.

In addition to coordinating with DHS, the NTIA is required to consult the various federal agencies with relevant expertise, academic and independent researchers, multistakeholder and international organizations, and industry groups. While the report will be public, it will include a classified annex so details about vulnerabilities that could aid our adversaries are not publicized.

I first introduced the Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act last Congress with Rep. ADAM KINZINGER, and I thank him for his continued partnership on the legislation, and I thank Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman DOYLE and Ranking Member LATTA and the Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member RODGERS, for their support of this legislation.

I ask my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 2685.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2685, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

FUTURE USES OF TECHNOLOGY UPHOLDING RELIABLE AND ENHANCED NETWORKS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4045) to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the "6G Task Force", and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4045

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 "Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act" or the "FUTURE Networks Act".

SEC. 2. 6G TASK FORCE.

(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall establish a task force to be known as the "6G Task Force".*

(b) *MEMBERSHIP.—*

(1) *APPOINTMENT.—The members of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Chair.*

(2) *COMPOSITION.—To the extent practicable, the membership of the Task Force shall be composed of the following:*

(A) *Representatives of companies in the communications industry, except companies that are determined by the Chair to be not trusted.*

(B) *Representatives of public interest organizations or academic institutions, except public interest organizations or academic institutions that are determined by the Chair to be not trusted.*

(C) *Representatives of the Federal Government, State governments, local governments, or Tribal Governments, with at least one member representing each such type of government.*

(c) *REPORT.—*

(1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a), the Task Force shall publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Commission, and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, a report on sixth-generation wireless technology, including—*

(A) *the status of industry-led standards-setting bodies in setting standards for such technology;*

(B) *possible uses of such technology identified by industry-led standards-setting bodies that are setting standards for such technology;*

(C) *any limitations of such technology (including any supply chain or cybersecurity limitations) identified by industry-led standards-setting bodies that are setting standards for such technology; and*

(D) *how to best work with entities across the Federal Government, State governments, local governments, and Tribal Governments to leverage such technology, including with regard to siting, deployment, and adoption.*

(2) *DRAFT REPORT; PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Task Force shall—*

(A) *not later than 180 days after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a), publish in the Federal Register and on the website of the Commission a draft of the report required by paragraph (1); and*

(B) *accept public comments on such draft and take such comments into consideration in preparing the final version of such report.*

(d) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

(1) *CHAIR.—The term "Chair" means the Chair of the Commission.*

(2) *COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.*

(3) *NOT TRUSTED.—*

(A) *IN GENERAL.—The term "not trusted" means, with respect to an entity, that—*

(i) *the Chair has made a public determination that such entity is owned by, controlled by, or subject to the influence of a foreign adversary; or*

(ii) *the Chair otherwise determines that such entity poses a threat to the national security of the United States.*

(B) *CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION.—In making a determination under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Chair shall use the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 2(c) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601(c)), as appropriate.*

(4) *STATE.—The term "State" has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).*

(5) *TASK FORCE.—The term "Task Force" means the 6G Task Force established under subsection (a).*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4045.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4045, the FUTURE Networks Act. Even as we await the full deployment and utilization of fifth generation, or 5G, wireless networks, U.S. communications and technology companies are collaborating on the next generation of networks; specifically, 6G networks.

We may not be able to predict now the technological innovation that will come with these networks, but based on our Nation's experience to this point, we can foresee the issues that will need to be addressed to get 6G networks off the ground. Issues like supply chain availability, security, and equality in deployment and adoption will all need to be reviewed and resolved; and, therefore, it is not too early for government and relevant stakeholders to begin discussing these issues now. That is the goal of H.R. 4045, the FUTURE Networks Act.

This bipartisan legislation would require the FCC to convene a task force to examine relevant 6G issues. The task force will be made up of stakeholders from industry, public interest organizations, academic institutions, and relevant Federal, State, local, and Tribal Government representatives.

Finding agreed-upon approaches and solutions to these issues now will make for a smoother transition in the future.

I want to thank our Communications and Technology Subcommittee chairman, MIKE DOYLE, as well as Representatives JOHNSON and MCBATH, for their bipartisan leadership on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4045, the FUTURE Networks Act, which was introduced by Representatives DOYLE, JOHNSON, and MCBATH.

This legislation will establish a task force at the Federal Communications Commission to follow industry-led progress in the development of 6G. The task force will be required to publish a report on the status of industry-led standards development, possible use-cases of 6G technology, and how best to facilitate the siting and infrastructure deployment of 6G technology.

While many parts of our country are waiting to see the new use-cases that 5G will drive, trusted vendors—including American companies—are leading the way on the fundamental aspects that will inform 6G. As the private sector identifies the contours of what this next generation of technology will look like, we must make sure that our regulatory environment will facilitate investment and innovation.

Republicans on the Energy and Commerce Committee have been spearheading efforts to deploy mobile

broadband like 5G and eventually 6G across the country through the Boosting Broadband Connectivity Agenda. I appreciate the majority including provisions in this bill to support comprehensive broadband deployment solutions to expand connectivity and fuel wireless innovation.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE), who is the chairman of our Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FUTURE Networks Act, which is a bill that I have introduced, along with my friends, Representatives LUCY MCBATH and BILL JOHNSON.

Our Nation's wireless networks are constantly evolving, bringing more innovative services and connectivity to our constituents. Over my time in Congress, I have watched wireless networks transform from the first iterations of digital technology to 3G, then 4G, and now 5G networks with achievable speeds well over 1 gigabit.

While these innovations have been extraordinary, the benefits have not flowed to all Americans equally, and we have seen related policy issues that have necessitated congressional action and regulatory steps from the FCC. To ensure that all Americans benefit from the next generation of wireless technology, 6G, we need to be considering it now.

The FUTURE Networks Act will require the Federal Communications Commission to create a 6G task force with members appointed by the chair and comprising representatives from trusted companies, public interest groups, and government representatives at every level of government, including Tribes. The mandate of the task force would be to report on possible uses, strengths, and limitations of 6G, including any supply chain, cybersecurity, or other limitations that would need to be addressed as the wireless technology evolves.

This bill would lay the groundwork for the policy considerations that will certainly arise, and it is good, forward-looking governance.

I want to thank the cosponsors for their efforts on the bill, Representatives LUCY MCBATH and BILL JOHNSON, and my bipartisan colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for their input and support to strengthen this measure throughout the process.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support the FUTURE Networks Act.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge bipartisan support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4045, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

AMERICAN CYBERSECURITY LITERACY ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4055) to establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4055

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 "American Cybersecurity Literacy Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that the United States has a national security and economic interest in promoting cybersecurity literacy amongst the general public.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBERSECURITY LITERACY CAMPAIGN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall develop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign (which shall be available in multiple languages and formats, if practicable) to increase the knowledge and awareness of the American people of best practices to reduce cybersecurity risks.

(b) CAMPAIGN.—To reduce cybersecurity risks, the Assistant Secretary shall—

(1) educate the American people on how to prevent and mitigate cyberattacks and cybersecurity risks, including by—

(A) instructing the American people on how to identify—

(i) phishing emails and messages; and

(ii) secure websites;

(B) instructing the American people about the benefits of changing default passwords on hardware and software technology;

(C) encouraging the use of cybersecurity tools, including—

(i) multi-factor authentication;

(ii) complex passwords;

(iii) anti-virus software;

(iv) patching and updating software and applications; and

(v) virtual private networks;

(D) identifying the devices that could pose possible cybersecurity risks, including—

(i) personal computers;

(ii) smartphones;

(iii) tablets;

(iv) Wi-Fi routers;

(v) smart home appliances;

(vi) webcams;

(vii) internet-connected monitors; and

(viii) any other device that can be connected to the internet, including mobile devices other than smartphones and tablets;

(E) encouraging Americans to—

(i) regularly review mobile application permissions;

(ii) decline privilege requests from mobile applications that are unnecessary;

(iii) download applications only from trusted vendors or sources; and

(iv) consider a product's life cycle and the developer or manufacturer's commitment to providing security updates during a connected device's expected period of use; and

(F) identifying the potential cybersecurity risks of using publicly available Wi-Fi networks and the methods a user may utilize to limit such risks; and

(2) encourage the American people to use resources to help mitigate the cybersecurity risks identified in this subsection.

(c) ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEFINED.—In this section, the term "Assistant Secretary" means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4055.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4055, the American Cybersecurity Literacy Act. Cybersecurity threats targeting Americans are increasingly common, particularly since wireless devices proliferate our society.

H.R. 4055, the American Cybersecurity Literacy Act, is intended to help Americans arm themselves with the information and tools they need to prevent being a victim of a cyberattack. The bipartisan legislation requires the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to create and conduct a cybersecurity campaign to increase the knowledge and awareness of best practices to avoid cyberattacks.

The bill also requires the campaign to, among other things, provide instructions about how to identify common problematic attacks like phishing emails and unsecure websites. The campaign will also highlight the benefits of changing default passwords and encouraging the use of cybersecurity tools like multifactor identification and complex passwords.

Finally, to ensure that as many Americans as possible can benefit from this information, the legislation requires the campaign to be in as many languages and formats as practicable.

This legislation will arm the American people with critical information that they need to ensure they are not the victim of a cyberattack. It is important to note that by passing this bill we are not shifting the burden of preventing cybersecurity attacks away from large, sophisticated companies and onto individuals. Companies still have the primary responsibility of preventing these attacks, and there is still

much work to do, but this legislation adds additional layers of protection by giving consumers the tools and information to protect themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I want to applaud Representatives KINZINGER, ESHOO, VEASEY, HOULAHAN, and BILIRAKIS for their work on this important bipartisan bill that continues our work of protecting consumers. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4055, the American Cybersecurity Literacy Act, which was introduced by Representatives KINZINGER and ESHOO.

The Cybersecurity Solarium Commission identified cyber hygiene as a key challenge affecting our readiness as a country. As many cybersecurity professionals will attest, there are common steps that Americans can take to prevent disruption to networks and the theft of personal information.

This legislation directs the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign to educate Americans on cybersecurity risks and best practices to reduce those risks. By increasing awareness of the simple steps that can be taken every day, we can reduce cybersecurity incidents. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, again, this is a very important piece of legislation. I have had about seven different cybersecurity events with the FBI in my district for my constituents. One of the things that they have always stressed is good hygiene, and over 80 percent is good hygiene, to prevent these cybersecurity attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support again for the bipartisan bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4055, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

OPIOID PRESCRIPTION VERIFICATION ACT OF 2021

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

(H.R. 2355) to facilitate responsible, informed dispensing of controlled substances and other prescribed medications, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2355

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 "Opioid Prescription Verification Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. MATERIALS FOR TRAINING PHARMACISTS ON CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH A PHARMACIST MAY DECLINE TO FILL A PRESCRIPTION.

(a) *UPDATES TO MATERIALS.*—Section 3212(a) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (21 U.S.C. 829 note) is amended by striking "Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall develop and disseminate" and inserting "The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall develop and disseminate not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and update periodically thereafter".

(b) *MATERIALS INCLUDED.*—Section 3212(b) of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (21 U.S.C. 829 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following new paragraph:

"(1) pharmacists on how to verify the identity of the patient;"

(c) *MATERIALS FOR TRAINING ON PATIENT VERIFICATION.*—Section 3212 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (21 U.S.C. 829 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) *MATERIALS FOR TRAINING ON VERIFICATION OF IDENTITY.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, after seeking stakeholder input in accordance with subsection (c), shall—

"(1) update the materials developed under subsection (a) to include information for pharmacists on how to verify the identity of the patient; and

"(2) disseminate, as appropriate, the updated materials."

SEC. 3. INCENTIVIZING STATES TO FACILITATE RESPONSIBLE, INFORMED DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 392A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

"(c) *PREFERENCE.*—In determining the amounts of grants awarded to States under subsections (a) and (b), the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may give preference to States in accordance with such criteria as the Director may specify and may choose to give preference to States that—

"(1) maintain a prescription drug monitoring program;

"(2) require prescribers of controlled substances in schedule II, III, or IV to issue such

prescriptions electronically, and make such requirement subject to exceptions in the cases listed in section 1860D-4(e)(7)(B) of the Social Security Act; and

"(3) require dispensers of such controlled substances to enter certain information about the purchase of such controlled substances into the respective State's prescription drug monitoring program, including—

"(A) the National Drug Code or, in the case of compounded medications, compound identifier;

"(B) the quantity dispensed;

"(C) the patient identifier; and

"(D) the date filled."

(b) *DEFINITIONS.*—Subsection (d) of section 392A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280b-1), as redesignated by subsection (a)(1), is amended to read as follows:

"(d) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

"(1) *CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.*—The term 'controlled substance' has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act.

"(2) *DISPENSER.*—The term 'dispenser' means a physician, pharmacist, or other person that dispenses a controlled substance to an ultimate user.

"(3) *INDIAN TRIBE.*—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2355.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, in April of this year, the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee held a hearing to discuss the dual threat of the concurrent COVID-19 pandemic and the opioid overdose crisis. In that hearing we considered a slate of bills targeted toward the opioid crisis including H.R. 2355, the Opioid Prescription Verification Act of 2021.

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We knew then, and we know now, that time was ticking. Millions of Americans were experiencing the deadly pandemic and simultaneously living through hard-hitting mental health and substance use issues. Tragically, we have lost over 750,000 Americans to COVID-19 and over 100,000 to drug overdoses during the pandemic.

H.R. 2355 seeks to reduce prescription opioid diversion by directing HHS, DEA, FDA, CDC, and SAMHSA to update and disseminate training materials to help pharmacists that dispense opioid medications verify the identity of the patient. To incentivize States to facilitate verification, the bill also authorizes the CDC to prioritize certain grant funding to States that maintain

prescription drug monitoring programs and require prescribers of controlled substances to issue prescriptions electronically.

Grant funding would also be prioritized for States that require pharmacists to enter certain information about controlled substance prescriptions into prescription drug monitoring programs, including the quantity dispensed, the date filed, and the patient identifier.

This bill received unanimous support in the Energy and Commerce Committee and is part of a series of bills the committee has worked on to help prevent diversion of opioids and reduce harmful opioid use.

I would like to thank the sponsors of this bill and my colleagues on the committee for their steadfast work in addressing the overdose crisis. We must continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to combat this crisis in order to keep our constituents safe.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2355, the Opioid Prescription Verification Act, a bill led by Representative RODNEY DAVIS along with Representatives BILIRAKIS and WAGNER.

The opioid epidemic continues to devastate communities across the country. According to the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, there were over 100,000 drug overdose deaths in the United States from April 2020 to April 2021. That is a 28.5 percent increase from the previous year.

The Opioid Prescription Verification Act directs Federal agencies to develop, disseminate, and periodically update training materials to help pharmacists identify and report potential cases of bad actors who attempt to buy and sell controlled substances for illicit use.

The bill also incentivizes States to utilize prescription drug monitoring programs and requires certain controlled substances to be prescribed electronically. Additionally, this bill includes data entry requirements that help reduce the potential diversion of prescription drugs.

This bill will help stop criminals who perpetuate the vicious cycle of addiction. It is a crucial step toward ending the opioid epidemic and making our communities safer. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional Members who wish to speak, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), my good friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much and want to thank the ranking member and, of course, the chairman of the committee as well. I won't take all of the 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2355, the Opioid Prescription Verification Act. I want to thank my colleague and good friend RODNEY DAVIS for sponsoring this legislation, which I was proud to colead in the Energy and Commerce Committee.

This bill, as amended, will allow HHS to give grant preference to States that require their practitioners to transmit prescriptions electronically in accordance with a prescription drug monitoring program. I can add that the great State of Florida does this.

This bill expands on the work we did in the SUPPORT Act with Medicare's prescription drug programs to help prevent opioid abuse. We have a mental health and addiction problem in our Nation, Mr. Speaker, and I know the gentleman is aware of that. We must all stand together to enact meaningful changes to help combat this ongoing crisis. This bill does just that, Mr. Speaker, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky, the Speaker pro tempore from Kentucky, and also my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for their work. I would like to thank Mr. PALLONE and Ranking Member MCMORRIS RODGERS for allowing this piece of legislation to come to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 2355, the Opioid Prescription Verification Act of 2021. As my good friend Mr. BILIRAKIS just said a few minutes ago, this bill builds on the successes in the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act that was signed into law by President Trump in 2018. Our bill adds to this success by incentivizing electronic prescribing of opioids.

This bill also encourages the full use of States' existing prescription drug monitoring programs to help facilitate informed and responsible dispensing of controlled substances.

My bill will ultimately help doctors and pharmacists track the prescriptions a patient has received and ensure they cannot be altered or copied and used multiple times in an illicit manner. This will help reduce prescription shopping and curb illegal sales that result in unprescribed use of opioids, which have tragically led to millions of overdose deaths.

This idea actually came from a meeting I had with local law enforcement in the Bloomington-Normal area in central Illinois. I have to thank Chief Bleichner and also Sergeant Kapchinske for coming up with the idea because they had to track down some illicit opioid pill shoppers in their communities. By the time they

figured out this group was shopping for opioid pills, the criminals were able to secure over 300 pills that would have been sold on the black market and could have added to our death tolls.

The dramatic increase in overdoses during the COVID-19 pandemic has also shown that we must be doing more to prevent opioid abuse. The Opioid Prescription Verification Act is an important tool in our fight against the opioid epidemic.

The original concept of this bill was to encourage States to implement protocols for opioid prescriptions similar to the federally mandated ID check on Sudafed-type drugs that has been in Federal law since 2005 because they can simply be used to illegally manufacture deadly methamphetamines.

While I believe a Federal mandate for manual checks for opioids would stop a significant number of bad actors, expanded use of e-prescribing will be an important and effective tool to combat the abuse.

I thank, again, Chairman PALLONE, Ranking Member MCMORRIS RODGERS, and also Ranking Member GUTHRIE; my good friend Mr. BILIRAKIS; and also Congresswoman WAGNER for helping move this bill and finding this good, principled compromise today. I also encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important bill.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time as I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, our beloved home State has areas that have been really affected by the opioid epidemic. We also know that our colleagues back home who serve in our general assembly have spent an enormous amount of time trying to get verification through prescription programs and other programs moving forward.

There is so much to do and so much we need to do through treatment and through other methods, but this is an important tool that will help our pharmacists realize when people are going around trying to get different prescriptions.

I strongly support this bill and thank my friends for working on this: Representatives DAVIS, BILIRAKIS, and WAGNER. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues, again, to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2355, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

SYNTHETIC OPIOID DANGER AWARENESS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2364) to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide for a public education campaign to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2364

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 “Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act”.

SEC. 2. SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 317U (42 U.S.C. 247b-23) the following new section:

“SEC. 317V. SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall provide for the planning and implementation of a public education campaign to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids (including fentanyl and its analogues). Such campaign shall include the dissemination of information that—

“(1) promotes awareness about the potency and dangers of fentanyl and its analogues and other synthetic opioids;

“(2) explains services provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (and any entity providing such services under a contract entered into with such agencies) with respect to the misuse of opioids, particularly as such services relate to the provision of alternative, non-opioid pain management treatments; and

“(3) relates generally to opioid use and pain management.

“(b) USE OF MEDIA.—The campaign under subsection (a) may be implemented through the use of television, radio, internet, in-person public communications, and other commercial marketing venues and may be targeted to specific age groups.

“(c) CONSIDERATION OF REPORT FINDINGS.—In planning and implementing the public education campaign under subsection (a), the Secretary shall take into consideration the findings of the report required under section 7001 of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115-271).

“(d) CONSULTATION.—In coordinating the campaign under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use to provide ongoing advice on the effectiveness of information disseminated through the campaign.

“(e) REQUIREMENT OF CAMPAIGN.—The campaign implemented under subsection (a) shall not be duplicative of any other Federal efforts relating to eliminating the misuse of opioids.

“(f) EVALUATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the campaign implemented under

subsection (a) is subject to an independent evaluation, beginning 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section, and every 2 years thereafter.

“(2) MEASURES AND BENCHMARKS.—For purposes of an evaluation conducted pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

“(A) establish baseline measures and benchmarks to quantitatively evaluate the impact of the campaign under this section; and

“(B) conduct qualitative assessments regarding the effectiveness of strategies employed under this section.

“(g) REPORT.—The Secretary shall, beginning 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section, and every 2 years thereafter, submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of the campaign implemented under subsection (a) towards meeting the measures and benchmarks established under subsection (e)(2).

“(h) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION THROUGH PROVIDERS.—The Secretary shall develop and implement a plan for the dissemination of information related to synthetic opioids, to health care providers who participate in Federal programs, including programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Indian Health Service, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, and the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and the Medicaid program under title XIX of such Act.”.

SEC. 3. TRAINING GUIDE AND OUTREACH ON SYNTHETIC OPIOID EXPOSURE PREVENTION.

(a) TRAINING GUIDE.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall design, publish, and make publicly available on the internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services, a training guide and webinar for first responders and other individuals who also may be at high risk of exposure to synthetic opioids that details measures to prevent that exposure.

(b) OUTREACH.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall also conduct outreach about the availability of the training guide and webinar published under subsection (a) to—

- (1) police and fire managements;
- (2) sheriff deputies in city and county jails;
- (3) ambulance transport and hospital emergency room personnel;
- (4) clinicians; and
- (5) other high-risk occupations, as identified by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on H.R. 2364.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, we have hit a tragic milestone in our battle against the

opioid overdose crisis. From April 2020 to April 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that over 100,000 people died due to drug overdoses, no doubt exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Synthetic opioids like fentanyl and fentanyl analogs significantly contributed to overdose deaths. In 2019, the CDC estimated that more than half of overdose deaths involved synthetic opioids and drugs mixed with synthetic opioids, such as methamphetamine and cocaine mixed with fentanyl.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has worked throughout the pandemic to address this crisis. The American Rescue Plan, passed and signed into law earlier this year, included the largest-ever funding boost of over \$3 billion for mental health and substance abuse block grants to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, or SAMHSA. That \$3 billion in funding has gone to critical services for addiction treatment, prevention, harm reduction, and recovery.

H.R. 2364, the Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act, provides an additional tool to address one piece of the opioid crisis. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to launch a public education campaign on the health risks associated with synthetic opioids and services available to address misuse of these products. Further, HHS would be required to disseminate information regarding synthetic opioids to healthcare providers.

The bill also directs HHS to produce training materials for first responders and other professionals at a higher occupational risk of coming into contact with synthetic opioids. It also requires the agency to conduct outreach about the availability of these materials in order to help those on the front lines be aware of the risks associated with synthetic opioids.

The bill is another step the Energy and Commerce Committee has taken to address the opioid crisis and protect the health and safety of our communities. The committee passed this legislation with unanimous, bipartisan support in July.

I want to thank my New Jersey delegation colleague, Representative KIM, and Representative PAPPAS of New Hampshire for leading this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2364, the Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2364, the Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act. Synthetic opioids, including fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances, have been the primary drivers of the rise in overdose deaths that we have seen over the past year and beyond.

H.R. 2364 requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to implement a public education campaign related to synthetic opioids. Additionally, the Secretary is required to publish a training guidance and webinar for first responders and other individuals to better understand synthetic opioid exposure prevention. This campaign will promote awareness around the dangers of synthetic opioids and provide information about available services to address synthetic opioid abuse.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2364, the "Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act", which will require several federal agencies to provide education and training related to synthetic opioids, including fentanyl and its analogues.

The CDC reports that more than 93,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2020, an almost 30 percent increase from 2019.

Regardless of income, race, gender, education, or other demographics, America's opiate problem has morphed into a full-blown public health crisis.

Synthetic opioids contribute greatly to this drug crisis and are a serious threat to fire fighters and emergency medical responders who are susceptible to encountering these deadly substances.

Increased rates of opiate usage impact the types and volume of calls the fire service responds to and the dangers they encounter when they arrive on the scene, both of which stretch already limited resources even thinner.

A 2021 Statista study found that nearly two-thirds of all fire department responses are for medical aid.

When firefighters or EMS personnel come in contact with opioids—either through direct contact or secondary contamination—this creates a unique, and often unknown, risk for these individuals because many opioids can be ingested either by skin contact (namely fentanyl) or via inhalation, making it challenging to help the victim.

Firefighters must be properly trained on how to safely respond to these life-threatening emergencies in a way that both helps the victim and minimizes risk to their health and safety.

The Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act would require the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to produce training materials to prevent exposure to synthetic opioids for first responders and others who are at high risk of exposure.

In addition, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will be required to disseminate the mentioned training materials to ambulance transport personnel, local sheriff deputies, and other first responders and individuals in high-risk occupations.

H.R. 2364 would also direct the CDC to conduct a public education campaign that raises public awareness of the dangers of synthetic opioids and explains the services available, with respect to opioid treatment.

The health of American citizens is one of the most pressing issues facing this country.

Continuing education on fentanyl and synthetic opioids is essential for ensuring the health and safety of fire fighters and paramedics.

Passing the Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act is a step towards ensuring the health and wellness of American citizens and reducing the impact synthetic opioids impose on American communities.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill and I thank Congressman ANDY KIM for introducing such an important piece of legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2364, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

□ 1630

SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND THE REAGAN-UDALL FOUNDATION FOR THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3743) to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3743

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 "Supporting the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration Act".

SEC. 2. REAGAN-UDALL FOUNDATION AND FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.

(a) REAGAN-UDALL FOUNDATION FOR THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION.—Section 770(n) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379dd(n)) is amended by striking "\$500,000 and not more than \$1,250,000" and inserting "\$1,250,000 and not more than \$5,000,000".

(b) FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.—Section 499(l) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290b(l)) is amended by striking "\$500,000 and not more than \$1,250,000" and inserting "\$1,250,000 and not more than \$5,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3743.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3743, the Supporting the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration Act.

The Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA is an independent nonprofit organization established by Congress in 2007 to advance the mission of the FDA to modernize medical product development, accelerate innovation, and enhance safety.

Likewise, the Foundation for the NIH is an independent nonprofit organization established by Congress in 1990 to develop private-public partnerships that advance biomedical research, domestically and globally.

Both organizations work to advance the missions of the NIH and the FDA and have played important roles in our Nation's fight against COVID-19. For example, the Foundation for the NIH has worked to coordinate the ACTIV program that is strategizing our research and prioritizing and speeding development of the most promising COVID-19 vaccines and treatment. Likewise, the Reagan-Udall Foundation's COVID-19 Diagnostics Evidence Accelerator has brought stakeholders together to collect and evaluate real-world data in a way that is scientifically useful and meets the FDA standards so we can understand the efficacy of COVID-19 diagnostics in the real world.

Mr. Speaker, the FDA and the NIH are currently authorized to transfer funding to their respective foundations within a statutory limit that has not been increased since 2007.

H.R. 3743 would increase the transfer authority for both foundations from up to \$1.25 million to up to \$5 million. This legislation will allow the agencies to increase their support consistent with the increasing costs of medical product research and development.

This bipartisan bill received unanimous support in the Energy and Commerce Committee. I would like to thank my colleagues, Representative HUDSON and Health Subcommittee Chairwoman ESHOO, for their outstanding leadership on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3743, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3743, Supporting the Foundation for the National Institutes of

Health and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration Act, led by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Representative HUDSON and Representative ESHOO.

Empowering biomedical innovation in the United States is critical to protecting our global competitiveness. We saw how important it was to invest in creating new treatments during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we need to carry that momentum into the future.

H.R. 3743 authorizes increased transfer authorities from the FDA and the NIH to both the Reagan-Udall Foundation and the Foundation for the NIH, respectively.

Allowing FDA and NIH to provide increased funding to these public-private partnerships will give the Reagan-Udall Foundation and the Foundation for the NIH more flexibility to meet the growing research demands and to ultimately accelerate future medical innovations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no Members who wish to speak at this time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON).

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3743, Supporting the Foundation for the NIH and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA Act.

I introduced this bipartisan bill along with my friend, Chairwoman ANNA ESHOO, to build on our success of public-private partnerships that have produced lifesaving medical breakthroughs.

The Foundation for the NIH and the Reagan-Udall Foundation were created by Congress to support the NIH and the FDA by forging partnerships between the Federal Government and private industry experts.

Providing additional support to these organizations would further accelerate research into novel vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, and other innovations, helping us prepare for future emergencies.

Due to partnerships such as these, we have already seen the success of the ACTIV program in speeding developments of COVID-19 vaccines and treatments.

It should be noted that we would not be where we are today without the innovation seen in Operation Warp Speed. This public-private partnership has not received the credit it deserves for creating, developing, and manufacturing life-saving vaccines in record time.

Through my legislation, we can build on these successes and enhance partnerships across the healthcare industry.

I thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member GUTHRIE for their

support, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3743.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

COLLECTING AND ANALYZING RESOURCES INTEGRAL AND NECESSARY FOR GUIDANCE FOR SOCIAL DETERMINANTS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3894) to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue and disseminate guidance to States to clarify strategies to address social determinants of health under the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3894

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 "Collecting and Analyzing Resources Integral and Necessary for Guidance for Social Determinants Act of 2021" or the "CARING for Social Determinants Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO ISSUE GUIDANCE TO CLARIFY STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH IN THE MEDICAID PROGRAM AND THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than once every 3 years thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall update the State Health Office letter 21-001, issued on January 7, 2021, to clarify strategies to address social determinants of health under the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Such update shall include the following:

(1) Guidance to State Medicaid agencies regarding the strategies that States can implement under authorities in existence as of such update under title XIX of the Social Security Act, title XXI of such Act, or section 1115 of such Act to address social determinants of health in the provision of health care, including strategies specifically targeting children receiving medical assistance under a State plan under title XIX of such Act (or a waiver of such plan) or child health assistance under a State child health plan under title XXI of such Act.

(2) Guidance on how States can encourage and incentivize managed care entities to address

social determinants of health through contracts with such entities.

(3) Updated examples from States with respect to how States are addressing social determinants of health in the provision of health care under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act and the Children's Health Insurance Program under title XXI of such Act, including through payment models.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3894.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, environmental factors can have a tremendous effect on an individual's health. Where a person lives, their level of education, their food security, and many other aspects of a person's life, can affect their health and well-being. These are often called the social determinants of health.

Healthcare providers and insurance plans are looking more and more at addressing some of these social determinants in order to improve individual health. State Medicaid programs have been especially engaged on this front.

Unfortunately, it can sometimes be difficult for States and insurance plans to understand the various authorities available in Medicaid to address the social determinants of health. Likewise, it can also be difficult to see how other States are using those authorities in creative new ways.

H.R. 3894, the Collecting and Analyzing Resources Integral and Necessary for Guidance for Social Determinants Act, will give States a valuable new resource to ensure that they are able to use Medicaid to the fullest extent possible.

H.R. 3894 will ensure that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regularly updates its guidance to States on how they can use Medicaid to address the social determinants of health. It will also require CMS to provide examples of how other States are using Medicaid to address the social and environmental factors that can affect people's health.

I want to thank Representatives BLUNT ROCHESTER and BURGESS for their work on this important bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3894, the CARING for Social Determinants Act of 2021, a bill led by

Representatives BLUNT ROCHESTER and BILIRAKIS.

Research shows that socioeconomic conditions, such as job loss, lack of transportation, inadequate housing, among others, can contribute to poor health outcomes.

The Trump administration took a key step at the beginning of this year by releasing guidance to States on how to better utilize Medicaid to support social determinants of health. It provided real-world examples that States are taking to improve outcomes for beneficiaries.

For example, Medicaid managed care plans in my home State of Kentucky are leading the way by using care coordinators to connect vulnerable beneficiaries to social support services like food pantries and daycare services.

The CARING for Social Determinants Act would require HHS to update this guidance every 3 years in order to drive future innovation in State Medicaid programs.

I am proud of the important steps this bill takes to improve health outcomes for some of our most vulnerable populations.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no Members who wish to speak, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and the chairman of the committee and, of course, the ranking member of the full committee, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for their work on this bill.

I am honored to be here today to speak in support of H.R. 3894 and would like to thank my colleague and friend, Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, for sponsoring this important piece of legislation. This is a really good bill.

I also want to thank my esteemed colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for their continued bipartisan efforts to benefit American patients under innovative delivery models through increased data.

The CARING for Social Determinants Act, which I proudly co-lead, would provide routine guidance and strategies to States to address the social determinants of health under the Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP program.

This bill also solidifies States' authority to continue innovative waiver payment models, which consequently improves Medicaid beneficiaries' health outcomes.

This is really a great bill, Mr. Speaker, and I want to thank the chairman. We truly do work in a bipartisan fashion in this committee, in most cases.

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3894, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH DATA ANALYSIS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4026) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4026

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 "Social Determinants of Health Data Analysis Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO ADDRESS SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this section referred to as the "Secretary") to address social determinants of health. Such report shall include the following:

(1) An analysis of how any data collection undertaken by the Secretary in furtherance of such actions complies with Federal and State privacy laws and regulations.

(2) A description of any coordination undertaken by the Secretary with other relevant Federal agencies and State and local authorities as part of such actions.

(3) An identification of any potential for duplication of such actions or other barriers to such actions.

(4) Recommendations on how to foster private-public partnerships, as well as how best to leverage private sector efforts, to address social determinants of health.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4026.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, social determinants, or social drivers, of health affect every single person in our communities. They are aspects of our daily living, such as the conditions in the places where we live, learn, work, and play, which can positively or negatively affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes.

Through our healthcare system, social determinants of health are being examined as part of a holistic view of a person's healthcare.

A noted example was highlighted by The New England Journal of Medicine linking the loop that determinants can play throughout a person's life. Poor health or lack of education can impact employment opportunities which, in turn, constrains income. Low incomes reduce access to healthcare and nutritious food and overall increase hardship. Hardship causes stress which, in turn, promotes unhealthy coping mechanisms, such as substance abuse and poor nutrition choices. And poor nutrition increases risk factors for heart disease, obesity, and diabetes.

When not given an equal opportunity to thrive, these social factors can compound and snowball to negatively impact a person and their community. Fortunately, States are becoming innovative in addressing social needs in the communities to improve health and decrease costs.

□ 1645

Today, we are taking another step in the right direction by considering H.R. 4026, the Social Determinants of Health Data Analysis Act of 2021. This bipartisan legislation requires a report on programs undertaken by the Department of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health. The report would include recommendations to foster private-public partnerships and include an analysis of privacy measures as part of social determinants of health data collection.

The report and research, Mr. Speaker, will help inform our future work on social determinants, and, therefore, it is important that we pass this bill.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4026, the Social Determinants of Health Data Analysis Act of 2021, led by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) and the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues.

Social determinants of health impact the quality of an individual's life and

can drive health outcomes. These determinants are not routinely collected or utilized by healthcare providers to help address patients' health conditions and improve their quality of life.

The Social Determinants of Health Data Analysis Act requires the GAO to submit a report to Congress on existing actions taken by the Department of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health. This legislation would, therefore, allow us to better understand existing Federal initiatives to address social determinants of health.

It will also inform us of potential future interventions that would be most effective in fully addressing these needs in our communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4026.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE BRITISH-AMERICAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following Members on the part of the House to the British-American Inter-parliamentary Group:

Mr. MEEKS, New York
Ms. DELBENE, Washington
Mr. KILMER, Washington
Mr. CROW, Colorado
Mr. GOMEZ, California
Mr. JEFFRIES, New York

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following individual on the part of the House to the

Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Ms. Maria Zoe Dunning, Oakland, California

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, November 22, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On October 14, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
November 29, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On October 21, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

On October 22, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

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

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH DATA ANALYSIS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4026) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 399, nays 28, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 387]

YEAS—399

Adams	Castor (FL)	Fischbach
Aderholt	Castro (TX)	Fitzgerald
Aguilar	Chabot	Fitzpatrick
Allen	Cheney	Fleischmann
Allred	Chu	Fletcher
Amodei	Cicilline	Fortenberry
Armstrong	Clark (MA)	Foster
Arrington	Clarke (NY)	Fox
Auchincloss	Cleaver	Frankel, Lois
Axne	Cloud	Franklin, C.
Bacon	Clyburn	Scott
Baird	Clyde	Fulcher
Balderson	Cohen	Gallagher
Banks	Cole	Gallego
Barr	Comer	Garamendi
Barragán	Connolly	Garbarino
Bass	Cooper	Garcia (CA)
Beatty	Correa	Gibbs
Bentz	Costa	Gimenez
Bera	Courtney	Golden
Bergman	Craig	Gomez
Beyer	Crawford	Gonzales, Tony
Bice (OK)	Crenshaw	Gonzalez (OH)
Bilirakis	Crist	Gottheimer
Bishop (GA)	Crow	Granger
Blumenauer	Cuellar	Graves (LA)
Blunt Rochester	Curtis	Graves (MO)
Bonamici	David (KS)	Green (TN)
Bost	Davis, Danny K.	Green, Al (TX)
Bourdeaux	Davis, Rodney	Griffith
Bowman	Dean	Grijalva
Boyle, Brendan	DeFazio	Grothman
F.	DeGette	Guest
Brown (MD)	DeLauro	Guthrie
Brown (OH)	DelBene	Hagedorn
Brownley	Delgado	Harder (CA)
Buchanan	Demings	Harris
Bucshon	DeSaulnier	Harshbarger
Burchett	DesJarlais	Hartzler
Burgess	Deutch	Hayes
Bush	Diaz-Balart	Hern
Bustos	Doggett	Herrell
Butterfield	Donalds	Herrera Beutler
Calvert	Doyle, Michael	Hice (GA)
Cammack	F.	Higgins (LA)
Carbajal	Duncan	Higgins (NY)
Cárdenas	Dunn	Hill
Carey	Ellzey	Himes
Carl	Emmer	Hinson
Carson	Eshoo	Hollingsworth
Carter (GA)	Españillat	Horsford
Carter (LA)	Estes	Houlahan
Carter (TX)	Evans	Hoyer
Cartwright	Fallon	Hudson
Case	Feenstra	Huffman

Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahale
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern

McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obornolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyn
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—28

Babin
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buck
Budd
Casten
Cawthorn
Cline
Davidson
Escobar
Ferguson
Gaetz
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar

NOT VOTING—6

Brady
Dingell
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Kinzinger

Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyn
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

□ 1904

Messrs. GARCÍA of Illinois, BUDD, BABIN, CAWTHORN, BUCK, and GOODEN of Texas changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Barragán (Beyer)	Johnson (TX)	Posey
Bustos	(Jeffries)	(Cammack)
(Brownley)	Kahale (Moulton)	Ruiz (Aguilar)
Cárdenas (Soto)	LaTurner (Mann)	Rush (Quigley)
Carter (TX)	Lawrence	Ryan (Kildee)
(Nehls)	(Johnson (GA))	Schneider
Casten (Foster)	Lawson (FL)	(Wasserman)
Craig (Jacobs	(Evans)	Schultz)
(CA))	Lesko (Joyce	Stewart (Curtis)
Crist	(PA)	Swalwell
(Wasserman	Long (Crawford)	(Gomez)
Schultz)	McCollum	Thompson (PA)
DeFazio	(DeGette)	(Reschenthaler)
(Carbajal)	McHenry (Banks)	Tiffany
Fletcher (Allred)	Meng (Clark	(Arrington)
Fulcher (Johnson	(MA))	Titus (Connolly)
(OH))	Miller (WV)	Underwood
Graves (MO)	(Cammack)	(Quigley)
(Crawford)	Palazzo	Vela (Gomez)
Grijalva	(Fleischmann)	Watson Coleman
(Stanton)	Payne (Pallone)	(Norcross)
Hagedorn	Phillips (Jacobs	Wilson (FL)
(Moolenaar)	(CA))	(Hayes)
Jacobs (NY)	Porter (Wexton)	
(Garbarino)		

IMMUNIZATION INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 550) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to immunization system data modernization and expansion, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 294, nays 130, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 388]

YEAS—294

Adams	Boyle, Brendan	Cheney
Aguilar	F.	Chu
Allred	Brown (MD)	Ciilline
Auchincloss	Brown (OH)	Clark (MA)
Axne	Brownley	Clarke (NY)
Bacon	Bucshon	Cleaver
Baird	Burgess	Clyburn
Banks	Bush	Cohen
Barr	Bustos	Cole
Barragán	Butterfield	Comer
Bass	Carbajal	Connolly
Beatty	Cárdenas	Cooper
Bera	Carl	Correa
Beyer	Carson	Costa
Bilirakis	Carter (GA)	Courtney
Bishop (GA)	Carter (LA)	Craig
Blumenauer	Carter (TX)	Crenshaw
Blunt Rochester	Cartwright	Crist
Case	Case	Crow
Bonamici	Casten	Cuellar
Bourdeaux	Castor (FL)	Curtis
Bowman	Castro (TX)	Davids (KS)

Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Dunn
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gottheimer
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahale
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi

Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
Lamb
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Schiff
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)

NAYS—130

Aderholt	Calvert	Fischbach
Allen	Cammack	Fitzgerald
Amodei	Carey	Fox
Armstrong	Cawthorn	Franklin, C.
Arrington	Chabot	Scott
Babin	Cline	Fulcher
Balderson	Cloud	Gaetz
Bentz	Clyde	Gallagher
Bergman	Crawford	Garbarino
Bice (OK)	Davidson	Garcia (CA)
Biggs	DesJarlais	Gibbs
Bishop (NC)	Donalds	Gohmert
Boebert	Duncan	Good (VA)
Bost	Ellzey	Gooden (TX)
Brooks	Emmer	Gosar
Buchanan	Estes	Granger
Buck	Fallon	Graves (LA)
Budd	Feenstra	Green (TN)
Burchett	Ferguson	Greene (GA)

Griffith	Mann	Sessions
Grothman	Massie	Simpson
Guest	Mast	Smith (MO)
Hagedorn	McClintock	Smith (NE)
Harris	Meuser	Spartz
Harshbarger	Miller (IL)	Steel
Hartzler	Miller (WV)	Stefanik
Hern	Moolenaar	Steil
Herrell	Mooney	Steube
Hice (GA)	Moore (AL)	Taylor
Higgins (LA)	Mullin	Tenney
Hollingsworth	Nehls	Tiffany
Issa	Norman	Timmons
Jackson	Nunes	Valadao
Johnson (LA)	Obernolte	Van Drew
Johnson (SD)	Perry	Van Duyne
Jordan	Pfluger	Walberg
Kelly (MS)	Posey	Walorski
Kelly (PA)	Rice (SC)	Waltz
LaMalfa	Rose	Weber (TX)
Lamborn	Rosendale	Webster (FL)
Latta	Rouzer	Williams (TX)
LaTurner	Roy	Wittman
Mace	Rutherford	Zeldin
Malliotakis	Scott, Austin	

NOT VOTING—9

Brady	Gonzalez	Scalise
DeGette	Vicente	Slotkin
Dingell	Larsen (WA)	Speier
	Loudermilk	

□ 1924

Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GRIFFITH, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. MEUSER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. MCCARTHY and Mrs. KIM of California changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Barragan (Beyer)	Johnson (TX)	Posey
Bustos	(Jeffries)	(Cammack)
(Brownley)	Kahele (Moulton)	Ruiz (Aguilar)
Cárdenas (Soto)	LaTurner (Mann)	Rush (Quigley)
Carter (TX)	Lawrence	Ryan (Kildee)
(Nehls)	(Johnson (GA))	Schneider
Casten (Foster)	Lawson (FL)	(Wasserman
Craig (Jacobs	(Evans)	Schultz)
(CA))	Lesko (Joyce	Stewart (Curtis)
Crist	(PA))	Swalwell
(Wasserman	Long (Crawford)	(Gomez)
Schultz)	McCollum	Thompson (PA)
DeFazio	(DeGette)	(Reschenthaler)
(Carbajal)	McHenry (Banks)	Tiffany
Fletcher (Allred)	Meng (Clark	(Arrington)
Fulcher (Johnson	(MA))	Titus (Connolly)
(OH))	Miller (WV)	Underwood
Graves (MO)	(Cammack)	(Quigley)
(Crawford)	Palazzo	Vela (Gomez)
Grijalva	(Fleischmann)	Watson Coleman
(Stanton)	Payne (Pallone)	(Norcross)
Hagedorn	Phillips (Jacobs	Wilson (FL)
(Moolenaar)	(CA))	(Hayes)
Jacobs (NY)	Porter (Wexton)	
(Garbarino)		

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR
OF THOSE WHO SUFFERED IN
THE VIOLENCE AT THE
WAUKESHA CHRISTMAS PARADE
ON NOVEMBER 21, 2021

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

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I am joined by my colleagues, Congressman KIND, Congressman POCAN, Congressman STEIL, and Congressman GROTHMAN. We are from Wisconsin, and we are here to request a moment of si-

lence and pay respects to those who suffered in the senseless violence at the Waukesha Christmas parade last week on November 21, 2021.

The attack left a devastating impact on our friends and our neighbors in the community. Anyone who regularly attends the Waukesha Christmas parade will tell you how joyous a celebration this parade typically is. It brings the community together.

It is then inconceivable that an individual would shatter lives and uproot our community in this horrific way.

We are grateful for the firefighters, police officers, healthcare professionals, and volunteers who immediately answered the call for help that evening and who continue to help those who remain in serious condition.

I know the people of Waukesha; they are tough and kind. I know that we will get through this unspeakable difficulty together as a community. I pray for healing and peace for all those who were affected. May love and strength lead us forward in the face of this evil.

Madam Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in observing a moment of silence in honor of Virginia Sorenson, Leanna Owen, Tamara Durand, Wilhelm Hospel, Jane Kulich, and Jackson Sparks, as well as those still in critical condition and those suffering from trauma following this tragedy.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House observe a moment of silence.

□ 1930

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER
AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1440

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove myself as a cosponsor of H.R. 1440.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BUSH). The gentleman's request is accepted.

HONORING CHIEF MASTER
SERGEANT RONNIE MCGHEE

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Chief Master Sergeant Ronnie McGhee as Tennessee's Second District's Veteran of the Month. He served in the Air National Guard during the Gulf war.

Chief Master Sergeant McGhee was born and raised in Anderson County, Tennessee, and graduated from Oliver Springs High School in 1963. Two years later, he enlisted in the Air National Guard and joined the 119th Aircraft Warning and Control Squadron as an administration specialist and personnel specialist. When the 228th Combat Communication Squadron opened at the Tyson Air National Guard Base in Alcoa, he joined them as the communications training manager.

In 1990, Chief Master Sergeant McGhee volunteered to go with the

228th when it was deployed to Qatar in support of the Gulf war. While he was there, he participated in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

Following his time in Qatar, he was deployed to Germany and Italy before settling in Nashville where he served as the command chief at State headquarters. After more than 37 years of military service, he retired in 2002.

Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces, Madam Speaker, not famous musicians, not athletes, and not actors. I am grateful to Chief Master Sergeant McGhee for his service and sacrifice to our great country.

REMEMBERING ROBERT JOSEPH
“JOE” ALLEN

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Joe Allen from Folkston, Georgia, who sadly passed away on November 13 at the age of 74. After graduating from Charlton County High School in 1965, Joe earned a bachelor of science in forestry at the University of Georgia.

Following his graduation, Joe began a successful career in the forestry and logging industry where he served as a strong advocate for the industry in southeast Georgia. During his time as the executive director of Southeastern Wood Producers, Joe played a vital role in shaping legislation that benefited loggers throughout the United States. A faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Folkston, Joe served as head deacon and a dedicated Sunday school teacher.

Known as a reliable friend with exceptional character and unwavering faith, Joe's service to his community is truly remarkable. I am grateful for Joe's service, and I know his memory will always be cherished.

My thoughts and prayers are with all who knew him during this most difficult time.

RECOGNIZING AMY BREWER ON
HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to recognize and thank for her 32 years of public service, Lebanon, Ohio's, retiring mayor, Amy Brewer.

I had the pleasure of working with Amy on issues both large and small for 10 years now since Lebanon became part of my congressional district.

Mayor Brewer has been a tireless advocate for all things Lebanon since she was first elected to city council there in 1989. After serving on council for 12 years, she was elected mayor and has served in that capacity for the last 20 years.

Anyone who knows Amy knows that she is a bundle of energy and that she puts that enthusiasm to work for the people of, in my opinion, one of the most picturesque, welcoming, and family-oriented communities not only in Ohio, but in America.

Although saddened by Amy's retirement, the citizens of Lebanon have benefited in so many ways from her leadership, from the overall quality of life to improvements in the downtown landscape.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mayor Brewer for sharing the last 32 years of her remarkable life with the good people of Lebanon, Ohio.

TEXAS 24 HOMETOWN HERO OF THE WEEK, JEFF SPIVEY

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

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our Texas 24 Hometown Hero of the Week, my hometown hero, Irving Chief of Police, Jeff Spivey.

Chief Spivey will be retiring this year after selflessly serving our community for 35 years working to strengthen community relations and serving in roles from patrol to criminal investigation. Irving is a better, safer city because of his dedication. He pioneered peer support services, formed a mental health response unit, and led a departmental reorganization.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chief Spivey for his service and the lasting impact he has made on our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEXAS SCOTTISH RITE FOR CHILDREN

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

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate the Texas Scottish Rite for Children on their 100 years of pediatric orthopedic excellence.

Founded by a group of Texas Masons, Scottish Rite for Children first opened its doors on October 10, 1921, with the mission of providing free medical care to children with polio.

The success of the hospital would not have been possible without the help of volunteers, staff members, friends, and others who have a shared commitment to improving the lives of the children they serve.

Consistently recognized as a top-performing children's hospital, it is no surprise Scottish Rite has been consistently ranked among the top orthopedic programs in the Nation.

Now as we recognize Scottish Rite for Children on this milestone occasion, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring 100 years of exemplary care and innovation.

RESPECTING THE DIGNITY OF THE UNBORN

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as the Supreme Court hears oral arguments in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, I stand before the House to proclaim strongly my commitment to being pro-life.

Three years ago Mississippi passed a law by an overwhelming majority to limit abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy with reasonable exceptions. The State legislature and then-Governor Phil Bryant supported this bill to protect the life of mothers and the dignity of the unborn. Abortion precedents established in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* have prevented States from passing laws to protect unborn babies before viability—the age at which a child could survive outside the womb.

Medical advancements like ultrasounds and prenatal surgeries have shown the humanity of the unborn which points to the value of life from the moment of conception. Unborn babies have a heartbeat as early as 5 weeks, and by 15 weeks they can taste, make facial expressions, and, of course, feel pain.

Confronted by a culture that continues to take human lives for granted, I applaud the State of Mississippi for their pro-life stance and their challenge of outdated precedent that prevents protections for the unborn.

Madam Speaker, I will always stand for life.

OUTRAGEOUS SPEECH

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I have been in the House for a very long time, and I have grown to love the dignity, the power, and the respect of this body, not for individuals but for the respect of the United States of America.

On November 17, 2021, a Member of the House from Colorado called another Member the jihad squad member from Minnesota. These words have continued on. It is in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. It was when we were leaving for a beautiful reflection of thanksgiving. So the words were not pulled down.

Over the past couple of days, it has been one attack after another, such as in an elevator: I thought this person, this Member from Minnesota, was a terrorist.

Don't we understand that the world watches this body?

Besides those words having needed to be taken down, and they were not at that time, the world wonders: Is America viewing the more than 1 billion-

plus Muslims around the world, obviously, every one as terrorists; the mothers and fathers, the doctors and lawyers, the countries that we seek to interact with, to collaborate with, and to be developing into democracies those that are not?

It is outrageous when we use this place with such discourse or when we have a medical doctor who says the Omicron is used by Democrats. It is outrageous.

Let us act as if God we trust, and let us act as if there is dignity in this place. Let us act as if we are leaders for the world.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Madam Speaker, before I begin, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, in 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared the week of Thanksgiving to be National Bible Week. While facing a world entering a great war and a nation exiting a Great Depression, FDR led us to recognize that the Bible is a foundational building block of Western Civilization—the Judeo-Christian heritage.

The ideas and principles that shaped the thinking of America's foundation and Founding Fathers were found in the Bible. Today, 80 years later, we celebrate a book that is no less relevant and foundational than it was in 1941, or 1776, or 2,000 years ago.

Amidst worldwide pandemics that have shaken the foundations of education, economy, healthcare, and every other source of personal and national security instability, we find that the Bible stands as the only foundation that can never be shaken.

At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said:

Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds came and beat on that house and it did not fall for it was founded on the rock.

It is a great honor for me to come to the House floor tonight to commemorate National Bible Week. I am so thankful and blessed to live in a country where we have the freedom to worship and read the holy Scriptures without fear. Many people across the globe live in countries where such freedoms do not exist. Our very Declaration of Independence confesses God's truth that is self-evident:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

As a personal testimony for myself, the Bible has had a profound impact on my life and my family as it has on millions of Americans and people all over the world.

□ 1945

God's Word is so valuable to me because it has shaped my thinking and deeply influenced my relationship with God. The Bible has, indeed, been a source of guidance, wisdom, joy, and light in every area of my life. I agree with what King David said: "O, how I love Your law. It is my meditation all the day."

In this hour, we will hear Members of Congress from various faith traditions and denominations and from all over the United States speak about what the Bible means to them and their constituents. We are here, in keeping with tradition, to recognize National Bible Week.

I would first like to yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER), my good friend and inspiration to so many of us.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for holding this Special Order tonight so that we can recognize the book that means so much to many of us and certainly our Nation, and that is the Bible. We are blessed to live in a nation that is founded on the truths of the Bible.

Many people don't know this, but of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, nearly half held seminary or Bible school degrees. These Founders had a very deep religious conviction and faith in Jesus Christ, and it was based on the Bible.

The following quotes from our Founding Fathers provide a window into the strong moral and spiritual convictions which helped form the foundations of our nation and our government.

George Washington, our first President said: "While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian." That was George Washington.

John Quincy Adams was our sixth President, and he said:

In the chain of human events, the birthday of the Nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior. The Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity.

That is very clearly saying that our Nation was founded on Christianity and the Bible.

And our fourth President, James Madison, recorded 10 different references to Scripture at the Constitutional Convention, which was the piv-

otal event in our Nation's history that codified our freedom and our God-given rights. So, our Founders quoted Scripture.

Like the Constitution that it inspired, the Bible is timeless and impacts us still today. The Bible is the inspired Word of God.

I started reading the Bible every day at age 13. I went to Youth for Christ camp and learned that this was a great opportunity to have God be able to speak to you every day and to start your day.

It has been a source of encouragement when I was down, a source of guidance when I needed direction, and a source of comfort during life's struggles. The Bible speaks to every situation that people encounter, and it shows the path to blessings.

Psalm 33:12 is really relevant today. It says: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Powerful for us to remember that.

Psalm 1 says:

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord and who meditates on it day and night. That person is like a tree planted by the streams of water which shields its fruit and season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever they do prospers.

Good words. But the Bible also tells us the good news that we celebrate this season.

Luke 2 says:

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord."

And the greatest news of all is summarized in John 3:16-17:

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it but to save the world through him.

So as we commemorate this National Bible Week, I would encourage all of us to pick up that Bible, dust it off, or download an app on your phone, read it, and receive the blessing it contains for us as individuals and as a nation.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for her comments.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my friend and colleague.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my good friend from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for having this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to stand in this sacred Chamber each year during National Bible Week to express the importance of a book that has influenced my life more than any other. Without a doubt and without fault, the Bible has been my comfort in sorrow, my counsel in decisionmaking, and my unwavering companion in day-to-day life.

From running my dental practice to raising my family to serving the good

people of Texas' 36th Congressional District, God's Word has always been the central hub that everything else revolves around, and it continues to mold and shape my life for the better each day.

But the Scripture's reach is much further than the life of one Texas Congressman. If you take a single glance at a U.S. history book, you will see its footprint immediately. During our Nation's birth, the Bible was perhaps the most accessible book to our Founding Fathers, and in its pages, they learned valuable insights about human nature, civic virtue, and the rights of our citizens.

Biblical influence can also be seen in our founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, which states that "all men are created equal, that they are all endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights."

We are living in uncertain and perilous times, and I pray daily that we as a country find our way back to the teachings of the Scripture. May we never forget that it was God's divine providence and written word that provided the fortitude to those responsible for creating this grand experiment of America.

Keeping His hand in all we do is the only way that we can preserve it. I will close with one of my favorite passages of encouragement and hope and life everlasting from the Bible, Job 19:25-27:

For I know that my redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the Earth. And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh, I shall see God whom I shall see for myself. And my eyes shall behold Him and not another. How my heart yearns within me.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Here we are in the Halls of Congress, and many things have happened here over the years. When you look back on what our country was like at the founding of our country, some things have changed. Many of the early American settlers came to the New World with the expressed purpose of living out their life with faith in God and His Word, according to their own consciences. One of Congress' first acts in the infancy of our Nation was the authorization of an American-published Bible.

The Revolutionary War with the British had cut off a lot of shipments of Bibles from England, and there was a shortage. So in 1782, Congress passed this resolution: "Resolved, that the United States in Congress assembled highly approve the pious and laudable undertaking of Mr. Aitken, as subservient to the interest of religion, as well as an instance of the progress of arts in this country, and being satisfied from the above report of his care and accuracy in the execution of the work, they recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States, and hereby authorize him to publish this recommendation in the manner he shall think proper."

Boy, can you imagine doing that today, the House of Representatives approving the printing of the Bible? Our country has changed over the years and not always necessarily for the better.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Bible Week and in celebration of my faith and of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the living God.

Last week, we got to spend time with our families as we celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday, and I was able to use that time for reflection. Recently, my family had the privilege of welcoming our sixth grandchild into the family. On October 28, Mary Emma Carter was born.

Psalm 127:3 tells us that “children are a gift from the Lord; they are reward from Him.”

Spending time with my grandchildren is my opportunity for me to witness true innocence, untouched by the evils of the world, as well as unconditional love. In moments such as these, we are reconnected with the true beauty and splendor of our Lord in His grand design.

In Matthew 19:14, Jesus tells an audience: “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these.”

We are called to love one another as children do, to emulate this mindset, especially when it is difficult to do so.

This past year has been difficult for many Americans. In this time of struggle, discourse, and many disagreements, I find comfort in the Bible, which serves as a reminder of God’s love for all of His children. It is this love that guided our Nation through the darkest days of the pandemic, where nurses and doctors selflessly sacrificed their own safety for their neighbor’s health and protection.

It is this love that drives our men and women in blue to risk their lives to defend, to protect ourselves and others. And it is this love that will fill our homes this Christmas as we gather to celebrate the Savior of the world and His ultimate sacrifice for our salvation. Mary Margaret, Adalay, Christopher, Bennett, Catherine, and Mary Emma, I love you, your Mamie loves you, and God loves you.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I now yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The Bible, wow, what a book. You know, Billy Graham said in the 1950s in one of his early books called “Peace with God,” he said:

There is one thing that has never changed since day one of creation. The truth has always been the truth, and it always will be. There is only one place to go to find that truth, and that is in God’s Holy Word, the Bible.

You know, I think our Founders understood that nearly 2,000 years before Billy Graham ever spoke those words on the floor of the Constitutional Convention. Benjamin Franklin, in a moment of frustration because they were at an impasse trying to write the Constitution of the United States, brought focus to what was happening on the Convention floor. He was recognized by the President of the Convention, George Washington, and he stood up and said these words:

I have lived long, sir, and the longer I live and the more I see, the more convincing proof I see of this truth that God deals in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow can’t fall from the sky without His notice, how do we think it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?

Other Founders understood where the truth was to be found. John Adams went on to say:

The Constitution of the United States is a document designed to govern a moral and religious people, and it is wholly inadequate for any other.

I believe that is because our Founders understood that to be a self-governing people, we had to be grounded in our faith. We had to be self-responsible people and that there were no more self-responsible people on the planet than those who lived by the truth contained in the Scriptures.

My prayer for our country and for each of us today is that we would live by the prayer that Paul prayed to the church in Ephesus:

That God would send His Holy Spirit to give us His wisdom and His revelation that we might know Him better because it is only knowing God better that we can understand the truths that lie in that precious book, the Bible.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for doing this very important work that we are doing here tonight.

As a born-again Christian, I am proud to let everyone know that the most important thing in my life is my faith. When I ran for Congress a year ago, I identified as a Biblical and constitutional conservative and was told I was too conservative to win. I start each day very early in the morning—I am a 4:30 riser—with 30 minutes in God’s Word before I spend my time in prayer from there.

□ 2000

Why did FDR declare it National Bible Week 80 years ago on the eve of the entrance of the U.S. into the greatest existential crisis that it would ever face, World War II?

Because the Bible is the source of all truth, containing God’s complete revelation of all that He wanted us to know, everything pertaining to this life and next.

There is a reason why it is the number one, all-time best seller, with far more original manuscript evidence than any publication in human history,

despite the efforts by oppressive regimes to try to ban it and stamp it out.

The Bible is God’s love letter to us. The Bible is God’s guidebook to us on how to live. The Bible is our map on how to get to heaven and how to have eternal life. It contains the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ and His death and resurrection that makes salvation possible.

It is the Bible that tells us that we are created in God’s image, male and female, that He knows us in the womb, even before our mother knows we are there, and He has unique plans for each one of us.

It is the Bible that tells us of God’s laws and design for morality, for marriage, for the family, the very foundations of our society.

Having been written between 2,000 and 4,000 years ago, the Bible is still the tool that God uses to change lives today. It contains a story of a man named Jesus, born 2,000 years ago, who had no formal education, never traveled more than a few miles from His hometown, never held public office, had no media or social media to help Him get His message out, and was executed at age 33 after 3 short years of public ministry.

He had a small group of disciples, all of whom were martyred for their faith and their personal witness to what they saw Him do, including His resurrection from the dead.

And this Jesus has hundreds of millions of followers around the world today because they were introduced to Him through the Bible, God’s Holy Word.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, if you go to the discoveries that archeology has made over the years, they have always validated Biblical accounts.

Time and time again, Biblical personalities, locations, and events actually existed in time and space as proven by archeology.

Claims by some critics that a Biblical statement was simply made up have always been debunked by later discoveries, many more times than we could cite here tonight.

For instance, the Dead Sea Scrolls proved the credibility and authority of Scriptures. Jewish archeologist Nelson Glueck has said: “It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted,” or contradicted, “a Biblical reference.”

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, John Adams said that the Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people and totally unfit for any other kind.

How are we to know what John Adams meant by a “moral and religious people”?

In the 1600s, Massachusetts school children were required to study the Bible. I don’t think this was unusual for people who lived prior to the time of the Revolution.

I am going to quote a little bit here from three of our Founders to see what they felt about the Bible.

George Washington, "It is impossible to govern the world without God and the Bible. Of all of the dispositions and habits that lead to political prosperity, our religion and morality are the indispensable supporters."

John Jay, the original Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. I wonder if the Chief Justice would say this today. "The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the Word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts."

I will go back to John Adams one more time. "Suppose a Nation in some distant region should take the Bible for their only law book, and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited. Every member would be obliged in conscience, to temperance, frugality, and industry; to justice, kindness, and charity towards his fellow men; and to piety, love, and reverence toward Almighty God . . . What a Eutopia, what a paradise would this region be."

It is primarily important to read the Bible to understand the history of the world, the commandments we are to live by, and also the life of Jesus Christ.

I may also point out, in particular, we should pay attention to the books of the Old Testament in learning lessons that God taught Israel.

We cannot understand our Constitution without a thorough reading of the Bible, and, therefore, I don't think you can be a decent congressman without a thorough reading of the Bible, which is why we have National Bible Week today. I hope as many Members as possible read the Bible themselves.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), my friend and colleague.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Congressman LAMBORN, for hosting this wonderful Special Order this evening.

It is fitting that we commemorate the Bible's central role in moral, educated, and free societies and that we get to celebrate the freedom that we have in this country to own, to share, and to speak about the Bible.

Bible reading has been a great encouragement and comfort to people throughout history and has contributed to the spiritual, moral, and social fiber of our Nation.

Millions of Americans have been impacted by the Bible. It is especially important to my constituents back in the 15th Congressional District of Illinois.

It is a priority of our home. We have daily Bible reading and scripture memory, and we raised our children that way.

John Quincy Adams said, "So great is my veneration for the Bible that the earlier my children begin to read it,

the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country and respectable members of society."

I do have to agree with Congressman BABIN when he said we live in perilous times. I would like to suggest that maybe we shouldn't have neglected in recent times the Scriptures and maybe we need to give more earnest heed to the Bible and what it says.

The Bible is the book above all others, to be read at all ages and in all conditions of human life. The Psalms say, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

It answers all the great questions of life: Where did we come from? Why am I here? How shall I live? What is good and evil? What is the remedy for my sin? And where is our destiny?

May those of us who read and reverence the Holy Scriptures be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER), another one of our great freshmen Members.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and holding this Special Order hour tonight.

Let me start with a couple of questions that people might have about the Bible.

What is the Bible? It is 66 different books composed by different people in three different languages written in different circumstances.

The writers were from different social ranks: statesmen, peasants, herdsmen, fishermen, kings, priests, tax collectors, tentmakers, physicians. They were educated and uneducated, Jews and gentiles. Most of them were unknown to each other, writing during various periods over 1,600 years, and yet it is one book about one subject. That subject is about mankind's redemption.

The Bible is inspired by God. It is without error and does not misrepresent the facts. It is trustworthy and the final authority for everything it teaches.

The next question is: Why would God give us the Bible? He did it to tell us the story of His infinite love and redemption for you and for me; to give us the amazing truth that the Lord not only offers forgiveness for our sins but also, He gives us the power to obey His law.

Every problem you face has already been answered in the Bible. It says nothing is new under the Sun, and that is true.

I have learned by reading God's Word that there is an answer to every question, if we just take the time to look in the Scriptures.

God desires an intimate relationship with each one of His creations, and it should be our goal as Christians to be obedient to God's Word, because obedience is better than sacrifice.

God gives us that little bit of faith to believe that He loved us enough to die

for us so we can live again with Him in Heaven.

He already knows the desires of our heart before we even ask. Reading the Scriptures has taught me that nothing is wasted that happens in a person's life. Our steps are ordered, and God has a plan for our lives.

My prayer is this: That God would keep His hand on this great Nation.

I am asking my fellow Christians to help me pray for our country that God's will be done; that God will uncover what men or women try to deceitfully cover up; that God will raise up men and women to serve in all places in the government throughout the world and will call upon His name and pray according to His will and faith, believing in the name of Jesus Christ.

We should remember this: Our enemies are defenseless against our prayers.

I want to encourage America that there are Congressmen and Congresswomen who meet every Wednesday at 7 o'clock to pray for our Nation, and I implore them to help us pray.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

That is what I pray for America.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I would like to tell you my story real briefly.

When I was a freshman in college years ago, I was asked if I knew what the Bible was about. I said, yeah, I know what it is about. But I had never read it for myself, which was actually pretty presumptuous.

Madam Speaker, I wonder if this might be true for anyone else who is listening here today?

The only honest thing I could do when I was confronted with that question was to actually read the Bible for myself. I started with the Gospel of John.

When I read it, I discovered that I didn't know what was in it at all. I had all of these preconceived ideas, but yet I discovered things like Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." So I ended up discovering a personal relationship with Jesus Christ who became my Lord and Savior.

Madam Speaker, I speak from personal experience when I say that it is better to read the Bible for one's self and not just take someone else's word for what it says. My life has been transformed by the truth that it contains. The message of the good news of Jesus is still transforming many lives today.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life," John 3:16.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for holding this Special Order.

As I was listening to him, I was reminded of the Museum of the Bible that we all went to 4 years ago when it opened up. I asked one of the leaders there: What is the theme of the Museum of the Bible? What is the overriding thing that you want the Museum of the Bible to ascend to?

I will never forget his words. He said, Read the Bible. He said, It does not need any guardian; it does not need any interpretation. Read the Bible. It will change your life. That is what I have found to be true and what is so needed today in America.

Madam Speaker, it is such an honor to come before you today to celebrate National Bible Week. What better place to celebrate the Bible than in what is called the people's House but what is ultimately God's house.

As has been said, in 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued a national proclamation to celebrate the impact of the Bible on our Nation. The Bible has been a light for so many and a source of hope in the darkest of times, and its influence on this Nation is unmistakable.

In this Chamber, Moses, the messenger of the Ten Commandments and witness of God in all of His glory upon the mountaintop, watches over this body from above the gallery doors each time we gather to conduct business.

However, it is not merely the multitudes of honorary monuments and portraits of Biblical figures and passages that exemplify the importance of Scripture to all Americans, but it is the impressions of our social fabric, so evident in our actions, which speaks volumes.

This Nation was founded upon Judeo-Christian principles. A stroll past any of the extraordinary monuments here in Washington, D.C., makes that abundantly clear. Our commitment to the principles enshrined in the written Word has sustained us throughout our rich history during the highest of times and during the lowest of times. The profound impact of the Bible, and particularly the Gospels, changed my life and continues to guide me as a public servant today.

I believe that if we continue to turn to God in all of what we do and love each other as God loves us, our best is yet to come. If we fail to do so, the worst is yet to come.

Despite our political differences and well-known imperfections, God never fails us. An annual celebration of His Word and unending love is the perfect reminder for us to unite with the common goal of humbly serving our Creator and encouraging this Nation to do the same.

□ 2015

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Georgia (Mr. HICE).

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. LAMBORN for organizing

this Special Order. The Scripture tells us in Psalm 100 that God is good, that His mercies are everlasting, that His truth endures to all generations, and that truth is revealed to us in God's Word.

This week we will see communities and churches and leaders all across the country celebrating National Bible Week for its importance in the role and life of our country and us as individuals.

I believe that we, as political leaders, have the responsibility to remind America and our citizens of the significance of the Bible in our history, our life, and our culture. It is impossible to accurately describe the history of America without including the history of the Bible and its impact on our Founders and the impact it can have on us today.

I think of all the magnificent truths of God's Word, which I begin every day in, all the incredible things, the wisdom, the splendor of it all, but I think the most important thing ever that has transformed my life is how God took my sins away.

The Scripture describes for us in Isaiah 53 that all of us, like sheep, had gone astray, that all of us had sin, heaped upon sin, but that God laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. That is the story of the great love and the mercy of God, where He who was sinless took upon Himself our sins and made the pathway for us to have forgiveness and peace with God, both now and forever more.

I urge my colleagues to be open and receptive to the love of God, to the forgiveness of God. I urge our country to be receptive to the Word of God, the truth of God. The blessings of God await us as a Nation as we return to the truths of His Word.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman LAMBORN for organizing tonight's Special Order, as we honor the 80th anniversary of National Bible Week.

We are a divided Nation, we are a divided Congress. In fact, the church is having much division right now. Jesus, in the Scriptures, said it would be like this. That is why we recognize the importance of God's Word, which addresses every issue that divides us, and it also has the power to unite us.

Jesus prayed for us in John 17:21, "that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you." Why did he pray that? He prayed that, and He said, "so that they would know that You sent me." That is how important unity is.

The Bible is God's incredible gift to each of us, providing guidance during times of joy and hardship. We are without excuse.

Over 21 years ago, as I was going through a time of trying to really decide what my faith would look like—and actually this is a Bible that we are

currently reading here in Congress. It is called the Change Your Life Daily Bible. We have a number of Members who read it. In fact, if you want to know what your Member of Congress reads every day, you can get one of these Change Your Life Study Bibles.

Today's reading was exactly what I was going through at that time 21 years ago. He says: "If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth, but if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that His Word has no place in our hearts." That is today's reading from I John 1:8-10.

That cut through me like butter 21 years ago, and I made a covenant with God. I said, You have forgiven my sins. And I prayed that He would forgive my sins on that day, and I told God that I would make him priority one.

What that means, there are about five disciplines. One of them, of course, is reading the Scriptures, meditating on the Scriptures. In doing so, I learned that all of my strength and wisdom doesn't come from me, but through Him and His spirit.

Now could you imagine what this Congress and this Nation would look like if we all learned that our talent and wisdom is a gift from God to serve a purpose and to honor Him and glorify Him? We would have the power in this place to come together as one in truth.

I will leave you with this: There are many promises in the Bible, but God's instructions to us in Joshua 1:8, He said, do not let this Book of Law depart from your lips. Be careful to do what it says, meditate on it night and day, and you will be prosperous and successful.

That is what the American people want. As Members of Congress, I pray that we will come together, that we will share in His Word, that we will test every piece of legislation with His Word; we will pray over every piece of legislation, and that it would be pleasing and a blessing to God.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, former President Ronald Reagan once said, "Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face."

The answers in the Bible have provided our Nation with valuable wisdom over the course of history. In times of fear, God's Word has provided encouragement; in times of joy, it has supplied words of praise; and in times of uncertainty, it has offered peace.

My hope is that all Americans will continue to live by the truth and the wisdom of the Word of God.

As we face the future, we must never forget that our Nation was divinely inspired on biblical principles. We must recognize that we are blessed to live in a country where we can worship freely, and we must work to see that we always remain one nation under God.

But perhaps most important to our challenges today is to heed the greatest commandment, love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might, and love your neighbor as yourself.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those words.

I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY), my friend and colleague.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. LAMBORN for organizing this Special Order hour tonight to talk about the Bible.

When we have so much reverence for the Bible—and even though from this very city we have been ridiculed for clinging to our guns and our Bibles—I find it so unusual in a country that has been so blessed, a Nation that has been so blessed by God that we would actually at times ridicule His Word.

President Franklin Roosevelt, as we have been told, first declared National Bible Week in 1941. Why did he do that? It was on the eve of World War II. Throughout history, the Bible has been our source of hope, inspiration, and strength for many. In times of peril, adversity, and tragedy, its words provide even greater comfort.

President Lincoln said, “I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.”

And that is when we turn to our Bibles, that is when we fall to our knees. That is when we know, as men, we are not able on our own to change the things that need to be changed, and we have to cling to our Bibles. That is where we find solace. That is where we find faith. That is where we find trust.

What a wonderful opportunity not only for this House but for the people of the United States of America to stop and take survey of where we are and where we are going, and then go back and reference in the greatest book ever written to find out what it is that we need to do.

It is when we turn away from God that America fails, and it is when we do fall to our knees when it seems like there is no other place to go that we find great solace, great faith, and great confidence in our God, through the Bible.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. LAMBORN for what he did tonight. This is the time for the United States of America to open her Bibles and follow what is written there. It comes directly from God.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. KELLY for his heartfelt words.

I now yield to the gentleman from the great State of Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for yielding and for claiming

the time this evening to acknowledge the significance of honoring God's Word.

Madam Speaker, as we gather tonight to recognize the 80th celebration of National Bible Week, I am reminded of Matthew 18:20, “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

When the Pilgrims landed in the New World, they made a covenant with God that they would serve the Lord. When the Founding Fathers crafted our Constitution, they remembered the principles set forth in the Word of God.

As a child growing up in the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee, we used to begin each day at school with prayer and Bible reading. We would also stand, place our hand over our heart, and proudly recite the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, which describes our Republic as one nation under God.

But as a nation today, we are moving further away from these Godly principles. We live in a culture and society that says the way we have always done things has to change. We are told to bend tradition, bend the truth, and bend conviction to accommodate the radical message of the day. And if we refuse, we run the risk of being targeted by the cancel culture.

Although it is often difficult to stand against societal trends such as those I describe, I believe it is better to walk with God's truth, the truth which is found within the pages of the Holy Bible.

As Christians, we are filled with the truth and hope found in God's Word. In a time of uncertainty, where woke news and social media organizations malign those of us who espouse these traditional values, giving us less hope for a bright future, God's Word remains the same. Our God is faithful, and He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

In America, freedom is something we often take for granted. We are free to speak, we are free to worship, and we are free to read the Holy Book, and we are free to spread the gospel to all the world and to all generations without fear of persecution. But all these freedoms today are under attack like never before.

It is in that that I was encouraged earlier today when a good friend of mine, David Fox, and his granddaughter, Audrey Jane Bowman, called as they were studying her fourth grade civics lessons. So I was encouraged to know that they are espousing and continuing. Mr. Fox is an elder in my church.

As a devoted Christian, I am proud to recognize National Bible Week and usher in renewal of religious liberty in America. I pray to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob for the fortitude and humility to properly represent David Fox and Audrey Jane Bowman, and all of the good people of the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee; and that through this Word, I will be able to help bring more souls to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

May God continue to bless our great nation and bless each one of us.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), my good friend and colleague.

□ 2030

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN) for hosting this very special hour.

Now, the Apostle Paul, when he was in prison and was persecuted for his faith and was awaiting execution for it, he wrote to his young mentee, Timothy. He wrote in the original Koine Greek, which was the trade language of the day, and he penned these words: “kyruxon ton logon.” That is, again, Greek, but the English translation would be “preach the word.” It is 2 Timothy 4:2, and it is the motto of my alma mater, Dallas Theological Seminary.

The verse goes on to say: “be ready in season and out of season.”

There are moments when the Word of God is popular and people want to hear it. Now it seems there are increasingly frequent moments when it is unpopular and out of season to preach the Word.

Friends, colleagues, Madam Speaker, social trends, they come and go, and as the prophet Isaiah and then again the Apostle Peter hundreds of years later tells us, “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord,” the very one we honor this week and in this hour, the Word of God stands forever. Peter closes out that chapter by saying: “And this Word is the good news that was preached to you.”

So as we approach this Christmas season, might we do something a little out of season in this day and age. Might we turn to the Scriptures, whether it is the Old Testament that prophesies forward to the first Christmas, or to Matthew and Luke's account of that first Christmas, or to the rest of the Scriptures that show our saving response to that first Christmas, that first Good Friday and the very first Easter, resurrection Sunday.

Friends, the Word of God stands forever in these tenuous times, and in these tenuous times, access to the eternal is really what we need. The apostle Peter closes out this chapter and this verse that I referred to earlier and he says, “And this Word is the good news that was preached to you.” And, friends, good news it is.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his kind words and for his heartfelt remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for hosting this Special Order in honor of National Bible Week.

To my father who preached the Word as a minister of the Gospel, tonight, papa, you can hear me directly.

Through our Nation's history, from the earliest 17th century settlements to the War of Independence and to the

establishment of democracy, the Bible and its principles are intricately woven into our national fabric. This great experiment that is democracy has been undoubtedly buttressed by the Bible for now over two centuries.

It was because of their devotion to the Word of God that settlers rejected the oppressive rule of the Church of England and pursued a government free from religious tyranny.

On September 7, 1774, when the first Congress met together, what was their first action? It was reading the Bible followed by prayer. And what did they read? It was Psalm 35, and the first three verses of Psalm 35 say: "Contend, Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take up shield and armor; arise and come to my aid. Brandish spear and javelin against those who pursue me. Say to me, 'I am your salvation.'"

The British had just attacked and occupied Boston, and these Representatives were seeking counsel from their creator.

The Bible was also crucial to the unity and success of our Founding Fathers. In 1813, John Adams wrote in a letter to Thomas Jefferson that "the general principles on which the Fathers achieved independence" were the "general principles of Christianity, in which all those sects were united and the general principles of English and American liberty."

The role of the Bible is evident in our Nation's founding and so, too, will the Bible play a pivotal role in our Nation's preservation. The infallible Word of God not only proclaims God's redemptive plan for mankind, but it acts as a moral compass for society and government that exceeds the bounds of time.

Tomorrow is December 1, and we are now in the Christmas season. Over 2,000 years ago, the prophet Isaiah spoke one of the greatest proclamations ever made in Isaiah 9:6, where the prophet says: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

This prophecy was fulfilled with the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. This is the Bible, the Word of God come alive, and the government shall be on his shoulder. He shall be the support and underpinning of the Government, a government whose foundation is built on God, and his Word is a government that will have peace, freedom, and liberty. Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection are what enables us to proclaim joy to the world because he is the prince of peace.

As we celebrate Christmas, let us reflect on the Biblical principles that united and guided our Founding Fathers, and let us strive to maintain those principles every day by reading the most important book on Earth, the book of God's Word, the Bible. *Soli Deo gloria.*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD), my friend and colleague.

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. LAMBORN for his leadership in putting this Special Order together. It is appropriate. It is right. It is certainly fitting for us to come here on the 80th anniversary of National Bible Week and talk about the Bible's immense importance to our identity as a Nation.

George Washington said that religion and morality are indispensable supports of our Nation. Benjamin Franklin said that only a virtuous people are capable of freedom.

Benjamin Rush said that without religion there can be no virtue; without virtue there can be no liberty; and liberty is the object of all republican governments.

Thomas Jefferson warned us when he said:

Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people, that these liberties are a gift of God? They are not to be violated, but with his wrath I indeed tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just and that his justice cannot sleep forever.

Indeed, even in this Chamber just outside the realm of the C-SPAN cameras, this Chamber is circled by lawmakers. It is notable that Moses is the only lawmaker that is full faced; the rest are profile. Such is the importance of Scripture in this Nation's foundation and understanding of the rule of law.

When I was sworn in, we had the Bible open in the ceremony to Proverbs 14:3 that said that righteousness exalts a Nation. For me, it was a reminder to keep the important work that we do here in perspective because we can pass perfect laws, but if the hearts of the people are corrupt, we still have a poor Nation.

So we need to do our best effort to do right by the people and to pass good laws, but we also need to acknowledge that God is the hope of this Nation.

Our form of government, that thing that protects freedom and liberty, only works for people who have a respect for a moral framework. Indeed, John Adams said: "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

It is reading through Scripture that gives us also an understanding of things like Romans 3:23 that says: "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." That Scripture is what helps us to begin the path to find personal forgiveness and salvation, but it also helps us especially in times like we find ourselves in our Nation right now not to ignore our differences but to be able to look past them, to find the humility, to discuss and to embrace each other and to work toward a path of unity and healing in our Nation.

This book is still packed with wisdom for us as a Nation. We have often

as a Nation turned to it in times when we needed comfort. May we now continue to turn to it at a time when we desperately need guidance.

As Abraham Lincoln said: "I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day."

Let's turn to Scripture, and may God bless this Nation.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I remember the time Mr. GOHMERT and I went to Israel together. That was a very special and, you can say, life-changing experience.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding the time and for managing it.

This is very important. We take 1 week a year to acknowledge the importance of the Bible in America. The Bible was at the foundation of the great awakening in the first half of the 1700s, the second great awakening in the first half of the 1800s, the 1700s. Many attribute that to leading to the liberty that drove the Revolution.

The second great awakening leading to the desire for liberty that brought a war that ended slavery, no country had ever done that before. Fight a war? Lose 500,000, 600,000, 700,000 people in a war that would free people who were called slaves at the time?

It took this Bible at the basis of an ordained Christian minister named Dr. King fighting for civil rights that brought us more freedom, that brought the Constitution into a fuller embrace of what this country is supposed to be about.

C.S. Lewis talked about in this world, as the Bible teaches, that the prince of this world is not God. But Lewis said imagine being behind enemy lines and you get messages from your home headquarters, and you don't pick them up and read them. Well, we have a book of messages from our home headquarters. You don't have to believe that. We have the freedom to believe or not to believe so long as we don't run this out of American society.

This has to be the basis of morality. Otherwise, we lose the rights that are afforded us under our Constitution.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for holding this Special Order to highlight the importance of prayer as we work in the 117th Congress.

As we speak today, we know that God and not man has the final authority. If Congress is going to govern successfully, then we must rely on Him to do so.

Perhaps one of our Founding Fathers from Pennsylvania said it best. At the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin

Franklin asked rhetorically: "If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?"

That question has the same implications today as it did in Philadelphia those 200-plus years ago. We know that those who build without the Lord, they labor in vain.

In this body, we must strive to ensure that we are asking for God's guidance as we work to solve the difficult issues that we face here every day.

Just yesterday, I spoke with Pastor Gary Dull, from the Faith Baptist Church of Altoona, who said if we are going to know the will of God for our Nation, we must go to Him in prayer. In everything that we do, we must seek his will.

As we begin the final month, let us remember, let us together humbly pray.

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

SHORTAGES IN FOOD CHAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, prior to talking about the reconciliation bill that passed last time we were here, I want to spend just a second to talk about possible shortages in the food chain that have been brought to my attention. I am not sure the administration is doing enough to deal with the problem.

As with so many other things in today's world economy, critical ingredients, including glucosaminide, are produced abroad in China and Europe. These chemicals, including other things such as potash fertilizer, are sitting in ships and not available for the United States.

□ 2045

Our farmers only have one time a year to plant their crops. It is not like a factory when something is not available, you can just start up the factory again in 3 months. And we have real problems out there that I think have some farmers very concerned and some feed co-ops very concerned. I have not heard about this a lot. Though, whenever I tour my manufacturers, I hear the same thing.

It is not unusual that some of these chemicals, which are very important to today's agriculture, have gone up five times over what they were this time last year. Well, you can see what that is going to do to the cost of food, even if we get stuff. But I strongly encourage the Biden administration to educate themselves on shortages, which are hurting agriculture right now, to do something at the docks, to see if he could bring Congress in to maybe change the laws or do something about the draconian new laws they passed in California, making it more difficult to get these chemicals on trucks.

But I do this just to warn people, in case anybody is listening from the Biden administration, and we will send them letters as well, if you want to avoid possible food shortages, dramatic increases in the cost of food, you have got to act now because farmers who are producing the corn and producing the soybeans are getting worried. And as far as I can see, rightfully so.

VITAMIN D

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, the next issue that I am going to bring up is concerning vitamin D.

I haven't talked about vitamin D from this platform for quite a while. I know some people are worried that if you talk about it, it might discourage people from getting a vaccine, but I know somebody else who passed away in the last few weeks and I don't believe they were taking the amount of vitamin D that is recommended.

Vitamin D is very important for a variety of things: Bone health, preventing a variety of diseases. But the evidence suggests it could be very important in reducing both the severity and the amount of COVID. The number of Americans who are vitamin D deficient is very high. I don't normally like to talk about racial things, but I want to read some statistics that some people back home can take.

Right now, there is disagreement as to the appropriate amount of vitamin D a person should have in their system, the number of nanograms per milliliter. Some people feel it is 20. Some people feel it is 30. But let's assume, for the sake of an argument, that it should be 30. Right now, 65 percent of the White population of this country would be considered vitamin D deficient; 80 percent of the Hispanic population would be considered vitamin D deficient; and 96 percent of the Black population would be considered vitamin D deficient.

It is my opinion, and the opinion of the experts, that one reason certain groups have more people dying of this horrible disease is because of the much-elevated vitamin D deficiency. The way to handle it is simple: You should be taking vitamin D on a daily basis. We are told that Anthony Fauci takes 6,000 units a day. I don't know if that is true or not. I wish he would talk about it a lot more, if he does.

But you have to remember, when you begin to take vitamin D, it doesn't get in your system right away. If you begin to take vitamin D today, it may get in your system 4 weeks from now. It may not get in your system until 30 weeks from now.

There is a more expensive form of vitamin D called calcifediol, which works in hours, not weeks or months. Unfortunately, that formula, which is readily available, I am told, in Australia, is quite expensive. I would encourage people who are interested in it to familiarize themselves with how to get ahold of it and educate their own doctors as to how to get ahold of it, because if you do get COVID, a lot of

times doctors now are prescribing vitamin D for people. But despite prescribing it for people, if they give them like 5,000 units a day, you are not going to have that kick in for a month. So you should familiarize yourself with how to get this fast-acting vitamin D, which will help people quite a bit quicker.

There are a couple things I will point out to the public health establishment that the experts in vitamin D can't understand. First of all, if you come in for an annual checkup, particularly an older person, you ought to be tested for vitamin D to find out whether you are deficient or not. It is not that expensive. It is something that should be done automatically. And if you are diagnosed with COVID, again, you should right away be tested for vitamin D deficiency, because if you are deficient, things can be done. People suggest taking as many as 50,000 units in a week if it is determined you are vitamin D deficient.

But in any event, I would strongly encourage the CDC and NIH to do more research regarding vitamin D. Again, I would strongly encourage them to make a vitamin D test both in the annual checkup and it is something all hospitals should be doing if people come in and they find out they are COVID positive.

I will also point out, we do not know yet whether this omicron variant, there are indications that it is going to be a little bit more difficult to be taken care of with a vaccine. And it is another reason why people ought to be paying more attention to vitamin D.

It is my personal opinion—nobody knows the amount of lives that can be saved, but depending upon who the experts are that you are talking to, to guess maybe on the low side, maybe 25 percent; on the high side, over 50 percent. And the fact that this relatively cheap vitamin has been out there for 2 years and has been left relatively untouched by the public health establishment is, I think, a scandal. But I would strongly encourage anybody that is listening today to familiarize yourself with vitamin D, talk it over with your doctor, and get a vitamin D test.

RECONCILIATION BILL

Mr. GROTHMAN. Now, the reason I originally asked to speak today was with regard to the reconciliation bill. I think it is something that Americans should be paying attention to, not because of the cost, though the cost is horrific, and it is going to result in still more inflation and still more destruction of the value of the dollar. I think there are three areas that would permanently change America. I hope it is something that the public can bring up prior to the Senate taking up the bill.

The number one issue is immigration. We are at a time where, depending on the month, over 100,000 people can come cross our southern border. The bill responds by changing the law and making up to 7 million people who

are currently in this country illegally, setting them on a path to citizenship. It is changing things so it will be more difficult to deport felons, even felons who have committed felonies.

My goodness, if you are not going to deport a felon who has committed a felony, who are you going to deport? You are taking away the flexibility as to whether you can deport them or not.

In this bill, we are giving free Pell grants, which are the grants we give to people to go to college. We are giving these away to illegal immigrants. I think this is such a bizarre decision because it is not difficult to find Americans who are \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000 in debt because they are regular, middle-class, hardworking families, but we are giving the people who come here illegally free college.

I just think that it is such a bizarre decision, but it goes to the apparent attempt of the Biden administration and the majority party to do all they can to get as many people here as possible. I will point out, in this bill there was no money for new Border Patrol agents, which is another green light to have more people come here.

Right now, the drug gangs will use this information, perhaps on ads on Central American television, to tell people now is the time to give the drug gangs \$3,000, \$5,000, \$8,000 to come to the United States.

A couple other comments on what is going on at the border: Last time I was down there, I saw on the path leading to this country, thrown-away identifications—like driver's licenses being thrown away.

You have to ask yourselves, if people are coming to this country and throwing away their identification from Honduras, from Venezuela, from Brazil, wherever, why are they doing that? Why do you not want people to know what name you operated under in your prior country is? I can only think because you are running away from something in the past. This is common among the people that are coming here now.

There are two other things I am going to point out for America, one is: They should weigh in with Congress on this significant bill. We are having the government take care of all the three- and four-year-olds.

As I said before, insofar as we have flaws in our education system, it is more in the middle-school area, not the preschool area. Traditionally, in this country we are supposed to be a country of strong families in which parents raise their children. It is a fundamental change, I think, in the role of government for Congress to pass a law saying from here on out it is up to the government to take care of the three- and four-year-olds.

The other thing I want America to look out for is 85,000 IRS agents. That is such a massive amount. I used to do taxes. I am somewhat familiar with audits. It is not going to be pleasant for Americans, and at a time when every

business I can think of—manufacturing, tourism, agriculture, medical field—everybody is short of people to work.

And how are we responding? Let's take 85,000 people and have them work for the IRS. Manufacturing needs those people. Hospitals need those people. Why in the world, 85,000 IRS agents? And, of course, the amount of jobs that will be necessary is multiplied because if you have more IRS agents poking around the businesses, you have to hire more accountants to deal with the IRS agents.

So that is a very strange decision. But to me, it shows that this administration wants to be the surveillance administration. And that is another fundamental change in the way I think our forefathers imagined this country or the way this country should be.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-2753. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Screening the Ready Reserve [Docket ID: DOD-2020-OS-0041] (RIN: 0790-AL00) received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2754. A letter from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's advisory opinion — Fair Credit Reporting; Name-Only Matching Procedures received November 4, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2755. A letter from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and Qualified Mortgages) received November 4, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2756. A letter from the General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Regulatory Capital Rules: Tier 1/Tier 2 Framework (RIN: 3052-AD27) received October 1, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2757. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Performance-Based Investment Advisory Fees [Release No.: IA-5904] received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-2758. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Office of General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final regulations — Rulemaking and Guidance Procedures [Docket ID: ED-2020-OGC-0150] (RIN: 1801-AA22) received November 4, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2759. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits received October 1, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-2760. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Clothes Dryers [EERE-2014-BT-TP-0034] (RIN: 1904-AD46) received October 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2761. A letter from the Acting Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environment Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Arizona; Maricopa County Air Quality Department [EPA-R09-OAR-2021-0369; FRL-8996-02-R9] received September 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2762. A letter from the Associate Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Change of Submissions for CERCLA Section 103 Continuous Release Reports to the Appropriate EPA Headquarters Office [EPA-HQ-SFUND-1990-0005; FRL-9115-01-OLEM] received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2763. A letter from the Associate Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; AK; Eagle River Second 10-Year PM10 Limited Maintenance Plan [EPA-R10-OAR-2020-0648; FRL-8787-02-R10] received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2764. A letter from the Associate Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Department's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Colorado; Control of Emissions From Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills [EPA-R08-OAR-2021-0004; FRL-8789-02-R8] received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2765. A letter from the Associate Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Calcium Bisulfate; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-

2021-0326; FRL-9180-01-OCSPP] received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2766. A letter from the Acting Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Health and Safety Data Reporting; Addition of 20 High-Priority Substances and 30 Organohalogen Flame Retardants; Extension of Submission Deadline [EPA-EQ-OPPT-2020-0474; FRL-8204-02-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AB11) received September 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2767. A letter from the Acting Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Restriction of Particulate Matter Emissions from Fuel Burning Equipment Used for Indirect Heating [EPA-R07-OAR-2021-0476; FRL-8757-02-R7] received September 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2768. A letter from the Acting Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New York; 2011 Periodic Emission Inventory SIP for the Ozone Nonattainment Areas [EPA-R02-OAR-2021-0263; FRL-8943-02-R2] received September 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2769. A letter from the Acting Division Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Illinois; National Ambient Air Quality Standards Updates; Reference and Equivalent Methods Updates [EPA-R05-OAR-2020-0544, EPA-R05-OAR-2021-0144; FRL-90003-02-R5] received September 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2770. A letter from the Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's order on reconsideration — In the Matter of Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission's Rules [WP Docket No.: 07-100] received October 28, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2771. A letter from the Deputy Division Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final interpretive rule — The Commission Begins the Process for Authorizing 6 GHz Band Automated Frequency Coordination Systems [ET Docket No.: 21-352] received October 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2772. A letter from the Performance Evaluation Records Management, Office of the Managing Director, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — In the Matter of Process Reform for Executive Branch Review of Certain FCC Applications and Petitions Involving Foreign Ownership [IB Docket No.: 16-155] received October 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2773. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's enforcement policy statement — Enforcement Policy Statement Regarding Negative Option Marketing received November 4, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2774. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's interim rule — Hiring Authority for Post-Secondary Students (RIN: 3206-AN86) received September 28, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-2775. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Schedule of Fees for Consular Services-Passport Security Surcharge [Public Notice: 11465] (RIN: 1400-AE15) received November 1, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2776. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Ukraine-Russia-Related Sanctions Regulations received November 18, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2777. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations received November 18, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-2778. A letter from the Acting Deputy Program Director for Privacy Act Compliance, Open Government and Directives, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records [Docket No.: 210901-0175] (RIN: 0605-AA46) received November 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-2779. A letter from the Endangered Species Biologist, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Humpback Chub From Endangered to Threatened With a Section 4(d) Rule [Docket No.: FWS-R6-ES-2018-0081; FF09E22000 FXES11130900000 212] (RIN: 1018-BD47) received November 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-2780. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [CPCLO Order No.: 010-2021] received November 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2781. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [CPCLO Order No.: 011-2021] received November 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2782. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security,

transmitting the Department's final rule — FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance and Mitigation Planning Regulations; Correction [Docket ID: FEMA-2019-0011] (RIN: 1660-AA96) received October 1, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2783. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Canada Corp. Turbo-shaft Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0103; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00604-E; Amendment 39-21659; AD 2021-15-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2784. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1181; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01368-T; Amendment 39-21617; AD 2021-13-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2785. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0343; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00013-T; Amendment 39-21655; AD 2021-15-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2786. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0371; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00102-T; Amendment 39-21654; AD 2021-15-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 21, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2787. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Controlled Substances and Alcohol Testing: State Driver's Licensing Agency Non-Issuance/Downgrade of Commercial Driver's License [Docket No.: FMCSA-2017-0330] (RIN: 2126-AC11) received October 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2788. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — General Technical, Organizational, Conforming, and Correcting Amendments to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations [Docket No.: FMCSA-2021-0132] (RIN: 2126-AC41) received October 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-2789. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Standards for Section 501(c)(3) Status of Limited Liability Companies [Notice 2021-56] received November 23, 2021, pursuant to 5

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 550. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to immunization system data modernization and expansion, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-178). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 951. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national campaign to increase awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their children, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-179). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2355. A bill to facilitate responsible, informed dispensing of controlled substances and other prescribed medications, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-180). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2364. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide for a public education campaign to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids; with an amendment (Rept. 117-181). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1550. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to human papillomavirus, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-182). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3743. A bill to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (Rept. 117-183). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4026. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health (Rept. 117-184). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4045. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the "6G Task Force", and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-185). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2685. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-186). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3894. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue and disseminate guidance to States to clarify strategies to address social determinants of health under the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-187). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5679. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code (Rept. 117-188). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5677. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 2, United States Code, title 50, United States Code, and title 52, United States Code (Rept. 117-189). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5695. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions which were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code (Rept. 117-190). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5705. A bill to make technical amendments to update statutory references to provisions reclassified to title 34, United States Code (Rept. 117-191). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5982. A bill to make revisions in title 51, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code (Rept. 117-192). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5961. A bill to make revisions in title 5, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code (Rept. 117-193). Referred to the House Calendar.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 2043. Referral to the Committee on House Administration extended for a period ending not later than December 10, 2021.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 6083. A bill to prohibit the use of exploitative and deceptive practices by large online operators and to promote consumer welfare in the use of behavioral research by such providers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUSH:

H.R. 6084. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to certify an Energy Product Reliability Organization which shall, subject to Commission review, establish and enforce energy product reliability standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BROWN OF MARYLAND (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ROY-BAL-ALLARD, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6085. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide that sex includes sexual orientation and gender identity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 6086. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to compensate States for lost revenue for any year during which Federal oil and gas leasing of Federal land within a State does not occur or otherwise results in lost revenue to that State as a result of an order, moratorium, pause, or other action by the President, Secretary of the Interior, Secretary of Agriculture, or other designated official; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 6087. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 6088. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to authorize grants for smart water infrastructure technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 6089. A bill to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6090. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to repeal the authorities of the Government Accountability Office with respect to the District of Columbia government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6091. A bill to repeal the Military Selective Service Act, including the registration requirements of the Military Selective Service Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA (for himself and Mr. CLYBURN):

H.R. 6092. A bill to revise the standards for eligibility for community development block grant disaster recovery grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 6093. A bill to provide incentives for and protect whistleblowers under the authority of the Federal Trade Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. NORTON, Ms.

PRESSLEY, Mr. TAKANO, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):
H.R. 6094. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the coverage of assisted reproductive technology services under the TRICARE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. NADLER):
H.R. 6095. A bill to designate Lebanon under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of Lebanon to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TONKO:
H.R. 6096. A bill to prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by Internet retailers to ensure equitable consumer access to products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. TORRES OF CALIFORNIA (for herself and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 6097. A bill to facilitate contacts and cooperation, including commercial relationships, between Native American Tribes and Indigenous peoples in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN:
H.R. 6098. A bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to provide reimbursements for licensing and exam fees under the Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUCK:
H. Res. 823. A resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 3460) to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant; to the Committee on Rules.

By Ms. MENG (for herself and Mr. LEVIN of California):

H. Res. 824. A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of United Spinal Association, a leading national advocacy organization that is dedicated to promoting the independence and enhancing the quality of life of all people living with spinal cord injuries and neurological disorders, including veterans, and providing support and information to their loved ones, care providers, and personal support networks; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:
H.R. 6083.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. RUSH:
H.R. 6084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland:
H.R. 6085.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

By Ms. CHENEY:
H.R. 6086.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution: [The Congress shall have Power] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. COURTNEY:
H.R. 6087.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GALLEGOS:
H.R. 6088.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: "[The Congress shall have the power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. MCCAUL:
H.R. 6089.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 6090.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PERRY:
H.R. 6091.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:
H.R. 6092.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 6093.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. STRICKLAND:
H.R. 6094.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. TLAIB:
H.R. 6095.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. TONKO:
H.R. 6096.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:
H.R. 6097.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress."

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WITTMAN:
H.R. 6098.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.
[Page H56]

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 38: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 95: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 148: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 151: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 214: Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 217: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 255: Mr. CARSON and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 263: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 280: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 303: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 501: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 748: Mr. WEXTON, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 763: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 764: Ms. NEWMAN and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 841: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 909: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 1140: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1153: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1179: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 1219: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 1221: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1241: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1387: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 1434: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1439: Ms. BARRAGAN.
H.R. 1456: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1474: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1516: Mr. COHEN and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 1517: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1577: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1596: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 1661: Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1667: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. BEYER, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. AGUILAR, and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 1676: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 1697: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 1729: Mrs. HINSON and Mrs. SPARTZ.
H.R. 1733: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 1755: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 1790: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1803: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 1946: Ms. JACOBS of California and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 1948: Mr. CRIST and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1986: Ms. DEAN.

- H.R. 2021: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 2039: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 2067: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2099: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 2192: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 2249: Mrs. LEE of Nevada and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 2256: Mrs. LURIA and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 2268: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 2269: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2285: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2287: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 2307: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 2328: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 2336: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 2337: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 2372: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 2542: Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 2616: Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 2629: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 2650: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2715: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 2730: Ms. NEWMAN and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 2748: Ms. ROSS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BRADY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 2759: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 2800: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 2805: Ms. PRESSLEY and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 2811: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 2820: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 2840: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 2886: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 2898: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2920: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2929: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2968: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 2978: Mr. BANKS, Mr. COLE, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 2986: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 3085: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3089: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3149: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 3150: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 3172: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 3277: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3281: Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 3288: Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 3294: Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3321: Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 3335: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PINGREE, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3337: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 3342: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 3348: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 3352: Mr. KILMER, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. LEVIN of California.
H.R. 3355: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 3382: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 3400: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 3405: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3425: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 3445: Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 3480: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 3485: Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. CHU, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 3488: Mr. DOGGETT and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 3517: Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 3518: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 3525: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 3531: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 3548: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 3572: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 3577: Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3686: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 3693: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 3783: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3824: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 3825: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 3843: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 3848: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 3867: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 3897: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 3962: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 3967: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 3990: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4045: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 4110: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 4141: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 4176: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 4200: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 4210: Mr. TRONE and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4277: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4331: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 4352: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4390: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4395: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4412: Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 4545: Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 4546: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4552: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4565: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 4568: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 4587: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 4664: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 4727: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 4811: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 4818: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 4819: Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 4823: Mr. TIMMONS.
H.R. 4878: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 4898: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 4934: Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 4943: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 4944: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 4996: Mr. LEVIN of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 5141: Mr. GALLEG0, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5150: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 5216: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 5218: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5224: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5232: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 5254: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5300: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 5342: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 5344: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 5348: Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 5388: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 5413: Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 5417: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 5430: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5441: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 5468: Mr. PETERS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. BASS, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 5526: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5527: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 5533: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 5536: Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 5562: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5566: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 5577: Ms. TRAHAN, Mr. MCCARTHY, and Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 5579: Ms. PELOSI, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 5585: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. AGUILAR, and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5595: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 5605: Mr. CASTEN and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 5608: Mr. SIMPSON and Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 5609: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. CROW, Mr. DELGADO, and Ms. CHENEY.
H.R. 5611: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 5620: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5629: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5630: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 5632: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 5648: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5720: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 5727: Mr. DEFazio, Ms. SEWELL, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 5735: Mr. LONG, Mr. CROW, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 5739: Mr. BOWMAN and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5754: Mr. MOONEY and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 5764: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5768: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 5781: Mr. CASTEN and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 5828: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 5854: Mr. HICE of Georgia and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 5866: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5872: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5884: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5892: Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 5928: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5933: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 5935: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 5949: Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 5957: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 5963: Mr. KILMER and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 5967: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 5975: Ms. BASS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 5991: Mr. LATURNER.
H.R. 6004: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 6005: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 6014: Mr. RYAN, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 6016: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. ROY, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. HILL.
H.R. 6017: Mr. GARBARINO and Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 6018: Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 6020: Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILD, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 6021: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 6047: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 6055: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 6056: Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 6059: Ms. WILD, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. GALLEG0.
H.R. 6060: Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 6064: Ms. MACE and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 6069: Mr. CASE, Mr. ROSE, and Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.J. Res. 48: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.J. Res. 63: Mr. WELCH and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.J. Res. 65: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 54: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WATERS, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H. Res. 100: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H. Res. 404: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. MEUSER, and Mr. WENSTRUP.
H. Res. 406: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 550: Ms. LOFGREN.
H. Res. 568: Mr. LIEU.
H. Res. 665: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

November 30, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H6713

H. Res. 805: Mr. DUNCAN.

H. Res. 812: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. PALAZZO, and Ms. SPEIER.

H. Res. 814: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H. Res. 815: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H. Res. 816: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H. Res. 817: Mr. NORMAN, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr.

HARDER of California, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H. Res. 822: Mr. HICE of Georgia.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H.R. 1400: Mr. VAN DREW.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

No. 206

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who protects us like a mighty fortress, thank You for providing our lawmakers with Your wisdom, guidance, and strength. Lord, continue to bless them, for You know their needs, motives, hopes, and fears. When our Senators grow faint and weary and the night overtakes them, renew their strength and enable them to soar on wings like eagles. May the different approaches expressed by both parties contribute to greater solutions to the problems in our Nation and world.

We pray in Your merciful 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 (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 30, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN W.

HICKENLOOPER, a Senator from the State of Colorado, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4350, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4350) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reed/Inhofe Modified Amendment No. 3867, in the nature of a substitute.

Reed Amendment No. 4775 (to Amendment No. 3867), to modify effective dates relating to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration and the Service Acquisition Executive of the Department of the Air Force for Space Systems and Programs.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

H.R. 4350

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, after spending—this is on NDAA. After

spending months insisting that the Senate should take swift action on our annual Defense bill, last night, Republicans mounted a partisan filibuster, blocking this Chamber from moving forward on the NDAA.

For the information of all, before the vote closed last night, I changed my vote to “no” and then entered a motion to reconsider the cloture vote so we could find a path forward on this important bill.

Now, we have heard over and over and over again from Republicans, in some form or another, that the Senate must act on NDAA and must act quickly. One Republican colleague called it a core duty, a bare minimum. Yet another colleague said it was “the best way to thank our soldiers and sailors for their service.”

But, last evening, Republicans blocked legislation to support our troops, support their families, keep Americans safe, and support jobs across the entire country. Republican dysfunction has again derailed even bipartisan progress on our annual defense bill—an outrageous outcome that shows how the Senate and Republican leadership have changed in recent years.

Previous leaders, knowing that Democrats had offered Republicans a whole lot of amendments, would have said: “Let’s vote cloture”—but not this leader, not yet.

And there should be no mistake: The process that Democrats, and particularly my colleague Chairman REED, have offered Republicans on NDAA has been more than fair and reasonable. For months, my colleagues in the Armed Services Committee have been working to produce a bipartisan product that could come to the floor for a vote.

The bipartisan Reed-Inhofe agreement—a Reed-Inhofe agreement—was what we brought to the floor yesterday to vote on.

During the markup, Members considered 321 amendments and adopted 143

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



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S8805

bipartisan ones before reporting the bill out of committee by a vote of 23 to 3—23 to 3, bipartisan.

In preparation for the Senate floor, the managers worked on a substitute amendment, which had at least 50 amendments—27 of them, the majority, from Republicans. Senator INHOFE, the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, worked with Democrats and had agreed to this.

And on top of all that, Senators REED and INHOFE also reached a bipartisan agreement to hold votes on 19 amendments here on the floor before Republicans blocked that proposal 2 weeks ago.

Nineteen amendment votes—19—that is more than the total number of amendments to NDAA that received votes under the Republican majority and under Leader MCCONNELL when we debated this bill in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020—not more than in each year, more than all of them put together.

We just had 2 amendments on NDAA in 2017, when MCCONNELL was majority leader. We had 5 in 2018, when MITCH MCCONNELL was majority leader; 3 in 2019; and 7 in 2020. Adding that up, that is a total of 17. That is over 4 years.

This year, we offered 19 amendment votes, including bipartisan measures to combat ransomware, repeal the 2020 Iraq AUMF, and support improved cyber defense of our critical infrastructure. But when we tried to get consent to move on this package of amendments, our Republican colleagues came down to the floor and objected not once but seven times.

So we have had ample debate. This has been a fair and reasonable process that has showed respect to the other side. But this is a new Republican Party, unfortunately, and it was not good enough for them even on the Defense bill.

Passing the annual Defense bill should not be in question, and Republicans' blocking this legislation is harmful to our troops, to their families who sacrifice so much, and to our efforts to keep Americans around the world safe.

Now, we Democrats are not going to let Republican intransigence stop us. We are going to keep working forward on a path forward, and we hope our Republican colleagues, as they discuss this among themselves, will see the light and come up with a fair proposal to allow this bill to go forward.

Nineteen amendments—a total of 17 on all the other NDAA bills—to say that we are being unfair, to say that we are not giving enough amendments is poppycock, and they know it.

Let's move forward. Let's move forward.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, now on government funding, there is another critical priority that the Senate must also address before the week's end: passing a continuing resolution that will keep the government funded beyond the December 3 deadline.

As soon as tomorrow, the House is expected to take action to pass a CR that will fund the government into next year. Senate Democrats are ready to pass this legislation and get it done as quickly as possible.

To avoid a needless shutdown, Republicans will have to cooperate and approve the government funding legislation without delay. If Republicans choose obstruction, there will be a shutdown entirely because of their own dysfunction.

We cannot afford to go down that road. As winter begins, the last thing Americans need right now is an avoidable, Republican-manufactured shutdown that will potentially harm millions of Federal workers, harm their families, and harm local communities that rely on an open and functioning Federal Government.

Democrats are going to work all week to make sure no government shutdown comes to pass, and we urge our Republican colleagues to work with us.

DEBT LIMIT

Mr. President, on debt limit, also, soon the Senate must take action to assure that the United States does not—does not—default on its sovereign debt for the first time in history. I recently had a good conversation with the Republican leader about this issue, and I expect to continue those talks on achieving a bipartisan solution to addressing the debt limit.

By now we know the dangers of an unprecedented default. Secretary Yellen has warned that failure to extend the debt ceiling would “eviscerate” our economic recovery and says our country could yet again slip into “a deep recession.”

Both parties know that this is simply unacceptable, and so I look forward to achieving a bipartisan solution to addressing the debt limit soon.

BUILD BACK BETTER

Mr. President, finally, on Build Back Better, before we hit Christmas Day, it is my goal to have the Senate take action to debate and pass President Biden's Build Back Better legislation.

This week, Senate Democrats will focus on continuing to meet with the Parliamentarian so we can finish making the technical and procedural fixes necessary for reconciliation. Once that is complete, it will be time to bring Build Back Better here to the floor of the Senate.

I have said many times before that nobody should expect legislation of this magnitude to be easy. We have been at the task for several months, but we need to take a step back and recognize that we are, hopefully, less than a month away from acting on the largest investment the American people have seen in generations.

Here is what we are going to do in this bill: lower the cost of childcare, make pre-K universally accessible, cut taxes for parents and working and middle-class families, and take the next bold step in our fight against the climate crisis.

All this we want to tackle before the Christmas break. So we will keep working this week and until we get it done.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip.

REMEMBERING MAJOR IAN FISHBACK AND GUANTANAMO BAY CLOSURE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, earlier this month, while we were all home for the Thanksgiving recess, an American patriot passed away. His name was MAJ Ian Fishback.

During his life, Major Fishback defended our Nation during four tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was an accomplished scholar, with degrees from both West Point and the University of Michigan, and a lifelong champion of justice.

Tragically, like too many of our Nation's veterans, Major Fishback's life ended far too soon. He died at the age of 42. Though his time on Earth was short, he left behind a legacy. He changed our Nation for the better. He inspired the Members of the Senate to make a historic stand against injustice.

You see, in 2005, while Major Fishback was serving as captain in the U.S. Army infantry, he spoke out against America's inhumane treatment of detainees after 9/11. In a letter to then-Senators John McCain and John Warner, Major Fishback wrote: “I have been unable to get clear, consistent answers from my leadership about what constitutes lawful and humane treatment of detainees. I am certain that this confusion contributed to a wide range of abuses including death threats, beatings, broken bones, murder, exposure to elements, extreme forced physical exertion, hostage-taking, stripping, sleep deprivation and degrading treatment. I and troops under my command witnessed some of these abuses in both Afghanistan and Iraq.”

Major Fishback's courageous letter shed light on the atrocities that were being committed shamefully in the name of our Nation, and he felt that he had “failed” the servicemembers under his command. The reality is, our leaders failed Major Fishback.

In the wake of 9/11, the Bush administration tossed aside our constitutional principles as well as the Geneva Conventions. By condoning torture, they dishonored our Nation and actually endangered our servicemembers.

After reports emerged about horrific abuses at Abu Ghraib in Iraq, I tried for a year and a half to pass legislation to make it clear that cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of detainees was illegal. Two military heroes, my former colleague Senator John McCain and Major Fishback, turned the tide in this effort.

In speaking out, Major Fishback rallied the Members of this Chamber to support a torture amendment authored by Senator McCain and myself, which was added to the defense spending package for that year over a veto

threat from the George W. Bush administration. That provision explicitly banned inhumane treatment of any prisoner held by the American Government—on American soil or overseas. It set us on a course to restoring American values that were cast aside after 9/11—work that is still ongoing 20 years later.

We have a defense bill before us on the floor with many things in it that are positive, and I will vote for it. But it is a moment to also reflect that this bill does more than protect our Nation and help our troops; it also protects our values. That is why I have an amendment to this bill, which I hope we will have a chance to offer, that will close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay once and for all.

Since the first group of detainees was brought to Guantanamo in January of 2002, four different Presidents have presided over the facility. In that time, the Iraq war has begun and ended, and the war in Afghanistan, our Nation's longest war, has come to a close. A generation of conflict has come and gone. Yet the Guantanamo detention facility is still open, and every day it remains open is an affront to our system of justice and the rule of law. It is where due process goes to die. That is precisely why military officials, national security experts, and leaders on both sides of the aisle have demanded its closure for years.

The facility was virtually designed to be a legal black hole where detainees can be held incommunicado—beyond the reach of law—and subjected to unspeakable torture and abuse. In the words of a former senior official in the Bush administration, Guantanamo existed in “the legal equivalent of outer space.”

It was created to circumvent the Geneva Conventions. What are those conventions? We know. They were the internationally accepted standard of humane treatment for detainees and prisoners. Guantanamo was designed to circumvent it and other longstanding treaties. This subversion of justice has harmed detainees, it has undermined our moral standing, and it has failed to deliver justice, which it promised.

For two decades, the families of Americans who died on 9/11 have waited for the alleged conspirators, who are being detained in Guantanamo, to be brought to justice. For 20 years, they have been waiting, but the case still hasn't come to trial. Imagine. If justice delayed is justice denied, how can this be justice at Guantanamo? Instead, the facility has become a symbol for human rights abuse, lawlessness, and everything Major Fishback decried in his letter to Senator McCain.

The stories out of Guantanamo and CIA black sites are shocking. Let me tell you one of them.

Last month, Guantanamo detainee Majid Khan testified before a military jury about the abuse he suffered in the facility and in CIA black sites. It was the first time a detainee has described his torture at a CIA black site.

Let's be clear. Majid Khan is a former member of al-Qaida who should be held accountable for his actions, but there is no justification for torture.

Mr. Khan recounted being abused in unspeakable, unthinkable ways by our government, including being waterboarded and shackled to a ceiling until his ankles swelled with blood. In one part of his testimony, he described a CIA medic sexually violating him with a garden hose.

As Mr. Khan shared the excruciating details of his torture, the members of the jury listened closely. But pay heed: These weren't average citizens sitting on the jury; they were Active-Duty, senior military U.S. officials on the jury. When the hearing concluded, these high-ranking military leaders did something unheard of. Seven of the eight jurors signed a handwritten letter recommending clemency for Majid Khan. This is what they concluded, and I want to quote it word for word: “Mr. Khan has been held without the basic due process under the U.S. Constitution. . . . [He] was subjected to physical and psychological abuse well beyond approved enhanced interrogation techniques, instead being closer to torture performed by the most abusive regimes in modern history. . . . [T]his abuse was of no practical value in terms of intelligence or any other tangible benefits to U.S. interests.”

Remember, I have just quoted these senior U.S. military officials who sat on a jury where this man was being tried, and they, in a handwritten letter, wrote what I just read.

Now, that last point is crucial. The human rights abuses committed in Guantanamo and CIA black sites are not merely inhumane; they don't work. They are ineffective.

Khan testified: “I lied just to make the abuse stop.”

Torturing him brought us no clarity, brought us no truth, and brought us no closer to eradicating terrorism. Instead, stories about the torture of prisoners at Guantanamo have only galvanized America's enemies. They have been packaged into propaganda and recruitment tools for terrorism, which in turn endangers our service men and women as well as our allies.

These accounts of abuse have also diminished our international standing. How can we claim credibility as a nation? How can we hold authoritarian dictators accountable if they can point to our own legacy of cruelty and indefinite detention? The man was held for 20 years, and others are still being held without being brought to trial.

Worse yet, the degrading conditions at Guantanamo are being funded by American taxpayers. How much is the cost of Guantanamo? Astronomic, that is how high it is. We spend more than \$500 million a year to keep Guantanamo open—\$500 million. Half a billion dollars a year American taxpayers are wasting to detain how many people for half a billion dollars? Thirty-nine. Thirty-nine prisoners, \$500 million, and

13 have already been approved for transfer. That works out to nearly \$14 million a year on each prisoner like Majid Khan—\$14 million a year. Let me put that in perspective for a moment. That is enough money to expand Medicaid coverage to 1.5 million Americans over 10 years.

Setting aside the cost, we have to acknowledge the larger truth. Guantanamo does not reflect who we are or should be. Indefinite detention without charge or trial is antithetical to America's values. Yet more than two-thirds of the people detained in Guantanamo today have never been charged with a crime. How can that be any form of justice?

With or without the amendment I have introduced to this year's Defense authorization, we must accelerate the timeline to finally close Guantanamo. As I mentioned, 39 prisoners, \$500 million a year?

President Biden transferred his first detainee earlier this summer, but that pace—one every 6 months—is not going to set us on course to finally close Guantanamo. Like the war in Afghanistan, America's failures in Guantanamo must not be passed on to another administration or to another Congress. Can this Senate summon the courage to finally close this detention facility? I would like to test it on the floor of the Senate. As a matter of fact, isn't that why we are elected—to test a basic question like that?

Next week, the Judiciary Committee is going to hold a hearing on how we can close Guantanamo once and for all. There are more steps the Biden administration can take to accelerate this closure. One is by appointing a special envoy to the State Department to negotiate transfer agreements for those inmates who are scheduled to be transferred—13 of the 39—to transfer them to other nations.

We must also reach swift resolution in the remaining cases where charges have been brought, instead of moving forward with military commissions. Let's finally accept the obvious: Military commissions are not the answer in Guantanamo and have not been for 20 years. If there is one lesson we can learn from the shameful legacy of Guantanamo, it is that we need to trust our system of justice. The use of torture and military commissions that deny due process have hindered our ability to bring terrorists to justice. Going forward, we should adhere to the long-held values of humane treatment and the rule of law.

Our Federal courts have proven more than capable of handling even the most serious, complex terrorism cases. Since 9/11, hundreds of terrorism suspects have been tried and convicted in our Federal courts, and many are now being safely held in Federal prisons. Compare that to the military commission case against the alleged conspirators behind 9/11. It still hasn't come to trial more than two decades after that horrendous attack. The families who

lost loved ones on that day deserve better. America deserves better. And American patriots like Major Fishback deserve better as well.

We all deserve better than these black holes that violate our national values and make true legal accountability impossible.

As Major Fishback wrote to Senator McCain all those years ago, "If we abandon our ideals in the face of adversity and aggression, then those ideals were never really in our possession."

It is time to live up to those ideals that our troops have risked their lives to defend.

It is time, at long last, to face reality and honestly say, Close the detention facility in Guantanamo. Let's put this dark chapter behind us once and for all.

And in the memory of Major Fishback and the U.S. officials on that jury who spoke out, I thank them. I know it wasn't easy. It is far easier to remain silent and to avoid the obvious. But they showed courage in disclosing to the American people what occurred at Guantanamo.

Now, do we even have the courage to even debate this issue and vote on it on the floor of the Senate?

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill 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.

H.R. 4350

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday, a bipartisan majority of Senators rejected the Democratic leader's efforts to shut down debate on the National Defense Authorization Act and block new measures to get tougher on Russia.

The Democratic leader wants to block the Senate from fully and robustly debating a number of important issues—from how to manage the fallout from the reckless Afghanistan retreat to how to respond to China's dramatic and destabilizing military modernization, to how to restore deterrence against an emboldened Iran.

The NDAA is supposed to be the bipartisan forum for debating and acting on these kinds of issues. Months ago, the Armed Services Committee moved this process forward—listen to this—23 to 3, but the Democratic leader has botched the floor process.

It is especially bizarre to see the Democratic leader so focused, so intent, on blocking the Senate from dealing seriously with the growing aggression from Putin's Russia. He seems downright desperate to block new bipartisan action on Nord Stream 2. It is really quite strange to see. Senators

Risch and Cruz have proposed language concerning this Putin pipeline that the House was able to pass almost unanimously. Unlike the House provision, the Risch-Cruz amendment includes a waiver provision that would give the President more flexibility, which makes the Democratic leader's effort to shut the process down and block their amendment all the more baffling.

If there is opposition to the amendment—if it can be improved with modifications—then, by all means, let's have a public debate.

Likewise, Senator PORTMAN has been a leading voice for bolstering our European partners and delivering more meaningful support to Ukraine's military. As Putin amasses forces on Ukraine's border, the Senate should debate how to help the Ukrainians defend themselves. The Democratic leader is trying to shut that down as well.

So the NDAA is not finished yet. So the Senate cannot be finished yet either. We need the same kind of normal, robust, bipartisan amendment process that always characterizes this bill, and we need the Democratic leader to stop trying to block the Senate from sanctioning Putin's cronies.

INFLATION

Now, Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, 88 percent of Americans are concerned about inflation—most of them are very concerned—and 77 percent of Americans say inflation has affected them personally. We have a big and diverse country. It is hard to get that many Americans to agree on anything. But President Biden did promise he would unite the country, and on the Democrats' watch, under the Democrats' policies, the American people are united in their fear and frustration at runaway prices, falling purchasing power, and all the consequences of inflation. The men and women of this country are spending 20 percent more than last year for beef at the grocery store, 50 percent more to fill up the gas tank, 26 percent more for less choice in used cars.

One recent article in the New York Times suggested that perhaps Americans should forget about trying to buy their family members normal gifts and settle for exchanging handwritten promises to tackle household chores, such as "washing out the reusable plastic bags." I guess the Grinch is doing some ghostwriting in his spare time.

Some weeks back, the White House Press Secretary tried to laugh off reporters' questions about the supply chain and inflation crises. She literally laughed at the idea that anybody would be worried about the "tragedy of the treadmill that's delayed."

Well, the President's staff are yukking it up, but working parents aren't laughing. Middle-class families aren't laughing.

A Kentuckian named Mike Halligan isn't laughing either. He runs a big food bank in Lexington called God's Pantry. They distribute more than 40 million pounds of food every year at the local pantries all across my State.

Here is what he says:

We've seen the cost of our "sharing Thanksgiving basket" go up this year by 14.5 percent. . . . We've seen our costs go up by about 50 percent. The transportation component of that is literally doubled.

And he also explained that, since inflation is also hammering his contributors, charities and nonprofits may face "donor fatigue" at precisely the time they cannot afford a fall-off. The Democrats' inflation is hitting, literally, every part of our society.

A famous economist once said that inflation is the only form of tax that can be levied without any legislation, but what is remarkable about 2021 is that Democrats did directly legislate a big chunk of this inflation into existence. It is unusually traceable to deliberate policy decisions they have made.

One of the most famous Democratic economists in the country, Larry Summers, tried to warn them. On February 4, he wrote that the Democrats' stimulus could "set off inflationary pressures of a kind we have not seen in a generation." He said the same thing all springtime long.

So did President Obama's CEA chair:

Jason Furman . . . said that the American Rescue Plan is definitely "too big for the moment," stating, "I don't know of any economist that was recommending something the size of what was done."

But Washington Democrats had already decided months ago they would try to use the temporary pandemic as a Trojan horse for permanent socialism.

Remember last spring, when one of the senior-most House Democrats called it a "tremendous opportunity to restructure things to fit our vision" or, earlier this fall, when President Biden himself said the pandemic "does present us with an opportunity."

For Democrats, this go-around, it has never been about what families need; it has only been about what activists want.

So we got the first massive spending bill in the springtime, and now a majority of Americans "worry they won't be able to afford what they need during the holidays due to inflation."

President Biden inherited an economy that was primed and ready for a historic comeback—a fantastic inheritance. Since then, they have had less than a year at the controls, and we have got more than half the country actively worried their checking accounts might not even get them through the holidays.

But Democrats aren't offering the country any contrition, any apology, or, more importantly, any course correction. Amazingly enough, they want to come back around for an even bigger bite at the apple. They want to try to inflate their way out of inflation.

Our colleagues have spent months huddled behind closed doors, neglecting the most basic governing duties, writing another reckless taxing-and-spending spree that even the most conservative estimates say would add about \$800 billion to deficits over the next 5

years alone. They want to take the inflationary fire they helped start and pour jet fuel on it. Even the CBO, which has to swallow most of the Democrats' gimmicky math, estimates this bill would spend nearly \$2 trillion and pile almost hundreds of billions more onto deficits over the next decade.

Perhaps more realistic are the outside, nonpartisan estimates that actually account for what we all know: Democrats would never let the new entitlements in their bill expire. Those more realistic estimates put the total cost—listen to this—just short of \$5 trillion, at a time when Chairman Powell, who has been willing to let the country run hot, is now warning that current uncertainties could keep inflation elevated to a troubling level.

Now, I could talk all day about how the actual contents of this bill would hurt American families even more, about how it would take another big step toward socialized medicine and pour cold water on the innovations and cures that save lives, how it would incinerate huge chunks of our energy sector and the jobs it supports in order to keep pace with green preferences of California liberals, how it would wrestle authority over intimate decisions about childcare away from American families and put it in the hands of Washington bureaucrats, but the overall picture is impossible to mistake: Inflation is hurting the American people, and Democrats want to print, borrow, and spend trillions more—the most out-of-touch agenda you could possibly imagine.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ABORTION

MR. THUNE. Mr. President, tomorrow the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the Dobbs case, which deals with a Mississippi law that would prohibit most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. This case offers the best opportunity in many years to see *Roe v. Wade* overturned or modified—something that is long overdue.

Roe v. Wade was a bad decision that should long ago have been reversed. Legal scholars from across the ideological spectrum have criticized the decision, noting, in the words of one expert:

As constitutional argument, *Roe* is barely coherent. The court pulled its fundamental right to choose more or less from the constitutional ether.

As another legal scholar put it, *Roe* is “a very bad decision . . . because it is bad constitutional law, or rather because it is not constitutional law and gives almost no sense of an obligation to try to be.”

Now, I should note that both of the individuals I just quoted are actually supportive—supportive—of abortion. But like many others, both recognize that *Roe* is simply bad law.

In the *Roe* decision, the Supreme Court reached far beyond the Constitution in the Court's interpretive role to impose a new abortion regime on the entire country, and it is past time for this unconstitutional decision to be overturned and for the Court to return jurisdiction over abortion to the States.

It is important to note that overturning *Roe* would do just that: return jurisdiction over abortion to the States and to elected officials who can be held accountable for the decisions and ultimately to the American people.

Many assume, incorrectly, that overturning *Roe* would somehow automatically ban abortion nationwide. It would not. It would simply return jurisdiction to the people's elected representatives.

Abortion law would become the domain of States and Congress, instead of the domain of unelected, activist members of the judiciary.

Members of the radical pro-abortion lobby, which controls the abortion policies of the Democrat Party, are, of course, up in arms over the Dobbs case. They are terrified—terrified—that the Supreme Court will overturn *Roe*, and I suspect that the root of that fear is the knowledge that they need an activist Court for the radical abortion agenda.

Why? Because the American people do not agree with the radical abortion lobby on abortion.

For all its efforts to paint abortion on demand at any time up until the moment of birth as the only possible position, the pro-abortion lobby has completely failed to convince the American people.

Polls consistently show that a strong majority of the American people support at least some restrictions on abortion. Gallup has been polling on abortion for decades, and in all that time, the percentage of Americans who believe abortion should be legal under any circumstance has always remained under 35 percent. In fact, for most of the past several decades, that number has remained squarely under 30 percent.

An Associated Press poll from this June found that 65 percent of Americans believe that abortion should generally be illegal in the second trimester—or from about 13 weeks of pregnancy—while a whopping 80 percent of Americans believe that abortion should generally be illegal in the third trimester. And it is no surprise.

Despite the abortion lobby's attempts to dehumanize unborn children and portray them as nothing more than clumps of cells or unwanted growths, most Americans are well aware that an unborn child is a baby, a human being, an innocent human being.

And because Americans generally gravitate toward justice and the de-

fense of human rights and vulnerable human beings, they remain—despite the best efforts of the abortion lobby—fundamentally uncomfortable with unrestricted abortion.

And so I think the root of the abortion lobby's outrage is the knowledge that if *Roe* is overturned, their radical abortion agenda is unlikely to prevail nationwide because the American people simply do not agree with them on abortion.

The pro-abortion lobby and its allies in the Democrat Party would like Americans to believe that Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban is extreme, radical legislation. Well, nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, the United States of America—the United States of America—is a radical outlier on abortion. We are one of only seven countries in the world that allows elective abortion past 20 weeks—one of just seven countries in the entire world. Among those other countries are China and North Korea, not exactly the kind of company you want to be keeping when it comes to defending human rights.

Forty-seven out of fifty European countries—47 out of 50—either require women to have a specific reason for seeking an abortion or limit elective abortion to 15 weeks or earlier. Thirty-two European countries, including France, Denmark, Switzerland, Norway, and many others, limit elective abortion to at or before 12 weeks' gestation.

Now, let's consider that for just a minute. A substantial majority of European countries limit abortion to at or before 12 weeks. In other words, Mississippi's 15-week abortion law is not on the radical fringe when it comes to abortion; it is squarely in the mainstream for Western democracies, and it is, in fact, more permissive than the abortion laws of a majority of European countries. And yet the abortion lobby would have us believe that Mississippi is pushing some kind of extreme abortion legislation.

Let's talk about unborn babies at 15 weeks. Fifteen-week-old unborn children have fully developed hearts that have already beaten more than 15 million times. They yawn. They make facial expressions. They suck their thumbs. They respond to taste and touch. Scientific evidence suggests that they can feel pain.

Pro-abortion activists may not like to hear it, but scientific evidence shows that the neural connections necessary to transmit pain are fully in place by around 20 weeks and that babies may actually begin to experience pain as early as 12 weeks.

So when we are talking about a 15-week-old unborn baby, we are talking about a baby who may very well already be able to experience pain and will certainly be able to experience it a few weeks later, if she can't now. Yet in this country, it is perfectly legal to kill unborn children who are able to

feel pain and kill them with an abortion procedure so brutal and barbaric it is difficult to even describe.

Yet it needs to be mentioned because we need to acknowledge the reality that we are killing unborn babies in this country capable of feeling pain, using a widely employed abortion procedure that involves dismembering the unborn child. As I said, it is incredibly hard—in fact, it is heartbreaking, really—to even talk about it.

The abortion lobby would like to draw a veil over what happens inside abortion clinics, but the truth is that abortions are brutal and inhumane—certainly to the baby but, in many respects, to the mother as well.

Since the Supreme Court handed down the *Roe v. Wade* decision, there have been an estimated 62 million-plus abortions in the United States. That number is so big, it is pretty much unfathomable. To put it in some kind of perspective, 62 million is nearly three times the population of the entire State of Florida. That is how many unique, unrepeatable human beings we have lost to abortion since *Roe*.

We are better than this, and we have to do better than this. Our country was founded to safeguard human rights. We haven't always lived up to that promise, but we have never stopped trying. And it is time for us to continue that work by standing up for the most vulnerable human beings among us: the unborn children, whose human rights are not protected and whose lives can be taken away at any time.

Thanks to medical advancements, it is possible for babies born at 22 weeks to survive outside their mothers. It is also perfectly legal to kill unborn children at 22 weeks. Now, something is radically wrong with that picture.

How can an unborn child of 22 weeks be regarded as a human being worthy of protection in one case and in the other case be regarded as nothing but a clump of cells to be disposed of in an abortion clinic?

The cognitive dissonance is mind-boggling.

The more we learn about unborn children, the more we see their humanity. It is impossible to look at an unborn baby kicking her feet and sucking her thumb on an ultrasound and see her as anything but the human being that she is. Science, medical advancements, and plain old common sense all point inexorably to the humanity of the unborn child.

And human beings deserve to be protected. A good place to start would be with laws like Mississippi's, laws that would bring us into the mainstream of abortion laws worldwide. As I have said, the United States is one of just seven countries in the entire world, including China and North Korea, that allow elective abortion past 20 weeks of pregnancy. I would like to think that we can do a better job of protecting unborn children's human rights than China and North Korea.

So I hope that the Supreme Court will uphold Mississippi's law and open

the door to greater protection for unborn children. But win or lose—win or lose—I and many, many, many others will continue to stand up for the human rights of unborn Americans; and I am confident that, in the end, right and justice and life will prevail.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. 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 remarks of Mr. BARRASSO pertaining to the introduction of S. 3287 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. BARRASSO. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF COREY HINDERSTEIN

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I have the responsibility and the privilege to be the chair of something called the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services.

Strategic forces is a euphemism for nuclear weapons, and it is one of the most serious threats that we continue to face. We face threats all over the world from pandemics, from terrorism, from a rising China, from a belligerent Russia, but one of the most serious that sometimes gets lost in the discussion is the unthinkable catastrophe that would be a nuclear exchange.

Throughout the last 70-plus years, our principle strategy for dealing with that threat has been deterrence, the idea that if you use nuclear weapons against the United States of America, you will pay the heaviest of prices, and that deterrence has worked. There hasn't been a use of nuclear weapon since 1945, and there are now several—I can't say the exact number for classification reasons—but there are a number of nuclear countries in the world, nuclear-armed countries, China and Russia among them. China is expanding its nuclear capability exponentially. Over the past several years, they have been embarked on an enormous buildup of their nuclear capability.

But I want to talk about a nuclear threat today in the context of the nomination that I am going to move in a few moments that, to me, is one of the most terrifying because it is a nuclear threat that deterrence doesn't work on—a nuclear threat that deterrence, the fundamental strategy of our prevention of nuclear conflict for 70 years, doesn't work.

What is that threat? The threat of nuclear terrorism. If you are not representing a country and if you don't care about dying, then the idea of a nuclear response doesn't scare you. It doesn't deter you from taking that kind of action.

How do we defend against that? What is deterrence 2.0 in the current world where international terrorism—although it has not been on the front pages recently—is still there?

ISIS-K, ISIS, al-Qaida, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula are all still there. Boko Haram in Africa—they are all still there. They are all plotting. They are all working on ways that they can attack the West and the United States of America.

If they could get ahold of the nuclear technology and nuclear building block, which is enriched uranium, they would use it. The terrorists who killed 3,000 people on September 11 would kill—would have killed 3 million if they could have.

And so keeping nuclear materials and nuclear technology out of the hands of terrorists is, to me, one of the most important functions that our government can perform.

And that brings me to the nomination of Corey Hinderstein for the position of Deputy Administrator for Nuclear Nonproliferation. She is immensely qualified and has worked in this field for almost 20 years; has worked on nuclear proliferation and nonproliferation issues for most of those years, both in the government and in the private sector. I would venture to say there is probably no one in the United States who knows as much about this subject as she does.

Ms. Hinderstein will be responsible for a major part of the budget—\$1.9 billion—but she is responsible for controlling the proliferation of nuclear materials, and that is so critical in light of the threat of nuclear terrorism. The only way we can keep them from attacking us is intelligence, knowing what is coming, and keeping these materials out of their hands; and that is why this job is so important.

She was approved by the committee and recommended to the Senate 40 days ago. It is time to move this nomination. Nominations can be held up for a variety of reasons and some policy reasons, and I understand that, but not in this case. And I am happy to report that it appears that this nomination will not be held up because I think all of our colleagues realize how important this function is in the government.

The most—the best nuclear strike is the one that doesn't occur. The only way to prevent that is to stop the proliferation of nuclear materials. This problem is only growing. We know that Iran is now enriching uranium to a much higher extent than they did under the JCPOA. We know that North Korea is pursuing its own nuclear ambitions. India, Pakistan both have nuclear programs. So this is a clear and present danger to the United States of

America, and that is why this nomination is so important.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, Calendar No. 475; that the Senate vote on the nomination; the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session, all with no intervening action or debate.

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

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Corey Hinderstein, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

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

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session. Mr. KING. Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BUILD BACK BETTER

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, our Democratic colleagues in the House and, to some extent, here in the Senate have talked about how the so-called Build Back Better legislation is popular, but I think the main reason it is popular is because, frankly, many Members of Congress and certainly the public at large don't know what is in it. So I would like to spend just a few minutes talking about that.

First of all, there is the size of the bill. Originally, the Budget Committee chairman, the Senator from Vermont, floated a \$6 trillion spending bonanza.

This, of course, was on top of about \$5 trillion we spent last year in a bipartisan fashion dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. But, of course, this \$6 trillion more was designed to be passed with a pure party-line vote through the reconciliation process.

After some pushback, the \$6 trillion figure that Chairman SANDERS proposed was cut back to 3.5, and now our colleagues in the House and elsewhere are touting a new pared-down bill which spends only—and I underline the word “only”—\$1.75 trillion. I dare say that is a number that none of us can fully comprehend given its magnitude, but it has become—sort of rolls off our tongues like everybody understands what a trillion dollars is like everybody knows what a million is or a thousand or a hundred or ten dollars. But it is an enormous number.

As our colleagues have slimmed and trimmed this bill to reach a pricetag that could get consensus in the House, some of their favorite provisions have fallen off the chopping block. They realize that programs like free college actually cost a whole lot of money. So to live within this new number, which I will talk about in a moment, Democrats in the House kept cutting and cutting, but they found—instead of real cuts, they found another solution to their problem of a topline. What they have basically done is to create the illusion of a lower pricetag without making any real, substantive, long-term cuts. How do you do that? Well, it is the old-fashioned way; it is called budget gimmicks.

Rather than remove these expensive programs entirely, they chose to create a number of arbitrary cliffs, sunsets, and expirations. That way, they could pretend to pass these bills at a lower cost with the tacit promise to continue them at another time and on another day.

One example of this was the expanded child tax credit. Our Democratic colleagues originally crafted this as a temporary measure in their partisan bill that became law in March, just 8 months ago. The first payments had barely gone out the door when they decided to call for making those temporary provisions permanent in the BBB, the so-called Build Back Better bill. Our colleagues knew that a permanent extension and expansion would have been far too expensive to meet their topline, so they pretended to cut it by making it a temporary extension.

Earlier drafts of this bill would have extended this policy through 2025. As time went on, the pricetag was still too high, so it was scaled back to a 1-year extension. But the truth is, nothing has really changed. Calls to make the expansion permanent have not gone away. I have seen no indication that our colleagues across the aisle are content to let this extension expire after just 1 year.

The same is true of the earned income tax credit, which also was expanded in March. A number of our col-

leagues have spoken here on the Senate floor about the need to make this expansion of the earned income tax credit permanent.

But the not-so-temporary extensions don't end there. This bill extends the Affordable Care Act's premium tax credits through 2025, which our colleagues claim will enable more Americans to afford healthcare coverage. But at the same time, this bill cuts funding to safety net hospitals and States that did not expand Medicaid. If their goal was to expand access to low-income individuals under the Medicaid Program, their bill cuts that funding to safety net hospitals in States like mine that did not expand Medicaid. These cuts specifically target hospitals that treat underinsured and uninsured patients.

In short, our colleagues are manipulating the budget process in a way that appears to extend access to healthcare while at the same time cuts funding to our most vulnerable patients—all in the cause of pushing America closer to a single-payer system, something like Medicare for All. I have no doubt that our colleagues across the aisle will, if possible, not let these temporary provisions expire.

In the immortal words of Ronald Reagan, though, “The closest thing to eternal life on earth is a [temporary] government program.”

We have seen this movie before, time and again. It is smoke and mirrors. It is budget gimmickry. It is starting new programs and claiming to cut them off after a year, knowing that, inevitably, Congress will be tempted to extend them much, much longer.

Well, before this bill comes to a vote in the Senate, I hope our Democratic colleagues will agree with me that we need to know precisely how much this bill will cost the American people. We know that our colleagues across the aisle have struggled to try to make a \$6 trillion bill appear to be a \$3.5 trillion and now a \$1.75 trillion bill, but I don't think anybody is really fooled or confused. Because they have strategically chosen start dates, sunsets, and expiration dates to make it appear that these programs cost less, we know that eventually, if they have the votes, they will be extended through eternity.

Our colleagues gamed the Tax Code to partially fund the bill while handing out massive tax breaks to millionaires and billionaires. I am glad to see the chairman of the Budget Committee say that we really shouldn't be focused on tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires in blue States and cities like New York or San Francisco, which is exactly what the Democratic bill tries to provide—tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires in blue States.

This bill is really chock-full of inconsistencies. It claims to extend access to healthcare while cutting off access to Medicaid or some of the safety net programs in States like mine. It claims that, well, we are going to tax the rich folks while at the same time providing

tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires in blue States by lifting or eliminating the SALT deduction—the State and local tax deduction—which allows taxpayers, these millionaires and billionaires in blue States, to deduct their State and local taxes, which means not only do they get a tax cut, but the rest of us end up subsidizing them because, in order to get the revenue needed, that means regular working folks are going to have to pick up the gap.

The best evidence of this maneuvering is the fact that there is not a single year over the next decade in which each tax provision would be used at the same time. Let me say that again. Of all of the gaming in the Tax Code, the fact is, under the proposal by the House of Representatives—that we at some point will consider here—the fact is there is not a single year over the next decade in which each of these tax provisions would be used at the same time. This is nothing but gimmicks and sleight of hand accounting.

In my previous life, I was the Attorney General of Texas. We had something called the Consumer Protection Division. If anybody in the private sector would falsely advertise, like the Federal Government and Congress are trying to do in this so-called Build Back Better bill, we would go after them with a vengeance for defrauding consumers. Unfortunately, that doesn't apply to Congress. I wish it did.

We often talk, at least intermittently, about needing to know what is in a bill before we actually vote on it. At one time or another, Senators on both sides of the aisle have griped about voting on thousand-page bills that were completed just hours before the vote. Knowing the true cost of this legislation is no different. Before voting on it, we have the duty to understand how it will impact our debt and deficits and how big of a bill the American people will be stuck with.

There is also this ugly animal rearing its head called inflation. Seventy percent of the public said—I think in a recent public opinion poll I have seen—that inflation is eating away more and more of their income and is actually reducing their standard of living. It is a silent tax on working families. I would think that, if we are concerned about the welfare of those families, we ought to be very concerned about making inflation worse by pouring more and more money into our economy, chasing fewer and fewer goods and services.

That is part of the problem now. There is so much money sloshing around as a result of the spending by Congress—much of it associated with COVID-19, but not all of it. Some of it is with the American Recovery Act that was passed with the \$1.9 trillion in the early days of the Biden administration. But the truth is inflation is eating our lunch, and we should not be making it worse by spending a lot more money, as our Democratic colleagues are proposing we do in the Build Back Better bill.

So we need a cost estimate by the Congressional Budget Office, the official scorer of these spending bills, because we know that what we have seen so far is full of gimmicks, tricks, phony cliffs, phony expiration dates, as I have said, and is, basically, a misleading of the public and Congress into knowing what exactly is in this bill and how much it will cost.

Well, the cost estimate provided by the CBO, we know, given these phony assumptions, is not an accurate statement of the true cost of the bill. This isn't a reflection of the folks who work at the CBO but of the scoring rules they must follow. So, despite the fact that our Democratic colleagues have explicitly said that temporary programs will be extended at the first opportunity beyond the terms laid out in the bill, the Congressional Budget Office has to play along and act like that is true, but we know it is not true.

Fortunately, there are groups on the outside that have conducted their own analysis. Assuming all of these phony cliffs and expiration dates and the 1-year creation of programs that will later be extended, they don't have to buy this sort of smoke-and-mirrors approach to the budget. These groups have conducted their own analyses and have told us what they think the true cost of this \$1.75 trillion bill, so-called, that passed the House will be.

For example, the budget experts at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business have analyzed this legislation as if these temporary provisions would be made permanent, which, I think, is the safest assumption to make. So, instead of \$1.75 trillion, they have pegged the cost as close to \$4.6 trillion over 10 years—more than 2½ times the amount the Democrats have claimed.

Then there is the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget that thinks that the number could even be a few hundred billion higher than that. They estimate the true cost of this bill, now claimed to be \$1.75 trillion, to be approximately \$5 trillion. This is a massive, massive jump from what the Democrats have said the cost of this bill will be.

Even one of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle has acknowledged that this is disingenuous—and I would just use the word “false”—advertising. The true cost of this legislation is much closer to Chairman SANDERS' original \$6 trillion request than the so-called scaled-back proposal of the current bill.

Before this legislation comes to the Senate floor, we need to see a true cost estimate based on reasonable assumptions, not a fairy tale scenario. It defies all common sense to vote on a bill without knowing how much it is going to cost ahead of time.

To this end, last week, I sent a letter to the leaders of the Congressional Budget Office and of the Joint Committee on Taxation requesting an updated estimate based on more reason-

able assumptions. If the temporary provisions of this bill are extended—and I fully expect them to be if our Democratic colleagues have the votes to do it—this legislation will cost a whole lot more than what the American people have been told; and we need to know, as close as we can, exactly how much that will be.

Well, it is obvious what is going on here. These not-so-temporary provisions won't expire in a year or 4 years or 10 years. We need to operate under rational assumptions that our Democratic colleagues, when the chance is provided to them, will make these programs permanent and come up with a true and honest score for the bill. If this legislation is all of a sound investment as our Democratic colleagues claim, they shouldn't have anything to be afraid of.

We do have a duty, I believe, as Members of Congress, in voting on legislation of this magnitude, to know what we are doing before we are asked to vote on it. I don't think anybody, really, should have anything to be afraid of, unless they are afraid of a true accounting as opposed to the smoke and mirrors we see so far on this phony, gimmicky bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

RECESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:27 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

HONORING DEPUTY FRANK RAMIREZ, JR.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today, along with my friend and colleague from Arkansas Senator COTTON, to honor Independence County Deputy Sheriff Frank Ramirez, Jr.

Deputy Ramirez called Batesville, AR, home and was proud to help protect his community. Sadly, that service was required, and this requirement was making the ultimate sacrifice when he died in the line of duty on Thursday, November 18, in an early morning crash that occurred while he was responding to a call.

He leaves behind a wife and two children, among many other loving family members, as well as his brothers and his sisters in law enforcement who admired him deeply and felt honored to serve alongside him.

Frank Ramirez, Jr., graduated from Batesville High School and was formerly an officer with the Batesville Police Department before joining the

Independence County Sheriff's Department as a patrol deputy.

He had a passion for serving and protecting, and he followed through on that desire by becoming a law enforcement officer, sworn to uphold the law and safeguard the vulnerable.

Those who knew him, both in uniform and out, consistently described him as a good man. Even for someone so young, there is no better compliment to be paid than that. It is a testament to the way he lived his life—doing the right thing, meeting his obligations, and showing genuine care and compassion for others.

Although his passing did not come at the hands of a suspect, it stings just the same. It should remind us of the harrowing, uncertain fate that awaits every man or woman who wears a badge.

These citizen servants are not guaranteed comfort or safety or the opportunity to see the next day when they clock in, but they choose to shoulder the risk, put on their uniform, and step out the door, reporting for duty to protect and serve and do good in ways that are just as often unseen as seen.

While danger comes in different forms throughout a shift or career, it nevertheless always lurks nearby. No assignment is ever completely without hazards or without jeopardy. Yet our police, sheriffs, and troopers do the job anyway because they have been called to and because they understand the need is great, even if the odds are long or the numbers are too few.

That is what sets Deputy Ramirez and his colleagues apart. They run toward danger and uncertainty when the rest of us flee. We must always remember and honor these fallen heroes and pray the character they embody carries on to new generations.

But today, we are here to reflect on the life and sacrifice of one, Deputy Frank Ramirez, Jr., a noble, brave, public servant, a devoted husband and father, a protector of this community, and as so many have already remembered, a good man.

On behalf of all Arkansans, we are grateful for his dedication and his sacrifice. Our prayers are with his loved ones and the brothers and sisters in blue left to go on without him after his End of Watch.

The thin blue line is without one more courageous officer today, but Deputy Ramirez's legacy will help instill even greater pride and passion among its ranks because of the life he lived and gave for the benefit of so many others.

May he rest in peace, and may God comfort all who mourn him.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I sadly join my colleague and friend Senator BOOZMAN to honor the life and service of Frank Ramirez.

Every time that a police officer kisses his or her family goodbye before

their shift, every time they strap a side arm on or put on their badge, they know that it may be the last time they see their loved ones. These heroes accept that danger because the love of their families, neighborhoods, and communities is greater than any fear they may face on the job.

Our men and women in blue don't just talk about doing good, they actually do it each and every day. Sadly, far too many of them have had to make the ultimate sacrifice in the course of their service.

One such hero was Arkansas Sheriff's Deputy Frank Ramirez. A week before Thanksgiving, Deputy Ramirez was working after midnight when a call went out there was an accident. He answered the call and quickly drove toward the scene. But it was raining hard that evening. Roadways were slick. And as Deputy Ramirez rounded a left turn on Highway 14, he lost control of his car, ran into a culvert, and was sadly killed in the resulting crash.

This heartbreaking tragedy has brought countless Arkansans to their knees in prayer. Deputy Ramirez was serving his community when he died. There are few causes more noble, and we recognize his supreme sacrifice and promise to remember him.

Deputy Ramirez was a husband of 5 years and a father of two young children, a son and a daughter. He is also survived by both his parents and several loving brothers and sisters.

My prayers, Senator BOOZMAN's prayers, and the prayers of all Arkansans go out to his family. They, too, have paid an unbelievable price in the service of our State, our communities, and our safety.

Deputy Ramirez was only 29 years old. He served in the Batesville Police Department and the Independence County Sheriff's Office. He was in law enforcement for nearly 2½ years. In that short time and at his young age, Deputy Ramirez sacrificed more for his communities than many police veterans who have been on the force for much longer. I join them in saluting his service and honoring his sacrifice.

May God bless Frank Ramirez, may God bless his family, and may God bless all the brave men and women in law enforcement in Arkansas and around our Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN MEYER

Mr. HAWLEY. Madame President, LTC John Meyer joined my office as our defense fellow this past January. It is hard to overestimate in the months since just how much he has contributed.

Time and again, John has drawn on his rich background and his experiences in the Middle East, the Pacific, and with some of the Army's most elite units to inform our work on defense and national security.

More than that, he has consistently stepped up, even when he didn't have

to, to help those in need—from veterans and servicemembers at home in Missouri to those affected by the bombing in Kabul over the summer.

For all of these reasons and more, it has been a real privilege to have John as a part of our team this year. We are going to miss him when he goes all too soon here, but I am confident he will continue to serve our Nation with the utmost distinction wherever his career takes him.

I want to take this opportunity, in light of all of that, to request floor privileges for John as a small gesture of my gratitude for his service to my office, to Missouri, and to our Nation. 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. MARKEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

H.R. 4350

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, 60 years ago, President Dwight David Eisenhower warned Americans about the unwarranted influence of the military-industrial complex. He told us of the relentless defense interests that would use their lobbying muscle to keep money flowing into the coffers of the Pentagon. While our adversaries and competitors have changed in the past six decades, the military-industrial complex's revolving door is as well greased as Ike warned our country.

Today, Congress is set to vote to increase the already-bloated defense budget in the same year that we ended our longest war—the latest proof that the military-industrial complex is alive and well and banking on a pay raise, all while Americans struggle to afford groceries and gasoline.

Here is the simple truth about the defense budget we are debating this week: We plan to spend \$768 billion to fuel the military-industrial complex even in our moment of relative peace. Yet many in this Chamber are relentlessly attacking the Build Back Better act despite this spending bill being four times its size in new spending.

What we are hearing in this Chamber this week are Cold War echoes—words that sound like talk of the bomber and the missile gap with the former Soviet Union that drove an arms race that brought us to the brink of annihilation.

Our top military general recently called China's most recent hypersonic test a "Sputnik moment." That is our top military general. But how in the world can it be a "Sputnik moment" if we are set to spend more on defense than the next 11 countries combined, many of which are U.S. allies and partners? There is no technological or military gap that we need to close. We have the strongest military in the world.

Our rivals, our adversaries are not 10 feet tall. We are the country that is 10

feet tall, and they are looking up at us militarily. We should just understand this, as people bad-mouth our military. It is not accurate. They are afraid of us. We are technologically superior to them, whoever they may be.

But wait. As if we weren't spending enough, Congress has tossed in an additional \$25 billion that was not even requested by the Pentagon in this year's budget. You heard that right—an additional \$25 billion. How many kids could go to pre-K for that? How many seniors could get dental or vision coverage? How many public housing units could we build with that, with the money that has not even been requested by the Pentagon?

We should not accept the logic that says we can afford to build a \$100 billion intercontinental ballistic missile that will never be used but we cannot possibly afford paid family leave that Americans desperately need.

Universal prekindergarten is too expensive, but padding the wallets of defense firm executives with taxpayer dollars is money well spent. That is insane. That is immoral.

We should not have to fight tooth and nail to meet our commitment to replenish the Green Climate Fund to help save the planet while being told to accept the need for new weapons systems that could lead to global annihilation.

It is time we stop thinking of national security solely in terms of our inventory of bombers and missiles and submarines. Trillions in defense spending did nothing to spare Americans from the greatest security threat in generations: COVID-19. We have to stop pretending that there are military solutions to the national security challenges that we face. The defense a family needs right now is protection from eviction, hunger, electricity shut off, and pollution.

Being strong on defense means learning critical lessons from the two-decade-long war in Afghanistan. Being strong on defense means that we do not shy away from telling the military-industrial complex and its army of lobbyists that we do not need to outspend our adversaries into oblivion.

Nowhere has the gold-plated defense industry been harder at work than in gilding the whopping \$1.5 trillion we are projected to spend through 2046 on upgrading our nuclear weapons enterprise. Say that again—\$1.5 trillion on more nuclear weapons. There is one thing this country and this world does not need, and that is more nuclear weapons.

We know that fear and distrust of an adversary's intentions empower voices in the defense bureaucracy to sell new capabilities that spur the other side to justify weapon systems of their own. But we must avoid a rerun of the Cold War, where worst-case military planning leads to thousands of missiles pointed at Washington, Moscow, and Beijing, once again casting a terrible shadow over humanity.

That is why I introduced amendments to the NDAA that would trim \$75 billion off the nuclear weapons enterprise, commit to robust diplomacy with Russia and China, and prevent the President—any President, Democratic or Republican—from firing the first shot, the first nuclear weapon in a nuclear war. The United States should never be first to launch a nuclear weapon against another country—ever. That should just be our policy. We will not be the first to use nuclear weapons when we have not been attacked with nuclear weapons. That is immoral. That is wrong. It must be the policy of our country that we will not do that.

If it is true what Ronald Reagan said—that a “nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought”—then surely we should agree to shelve Donald Trump's new sea-based warfighting nuclear weapons.

We could play Russian roulette with our future or we can adopt a saner nuclear policy, one that says we do not need the rubble to bounce over and over and over again to deter our adversaries and reassure our allies; one, through the President's Nuclear Posture Review, that rejects the military-industrial complex efforts to make the world safe for nuclear weapons rather than from nuclear weapons.

In 2020, the amount of money that one of the five biggest defense contractors received from the Pentagon—\$75 billion—was nearly double the entire development and diplomacy accounts at the State Department and the U.S. Agency for Development.

As President Biden noted in Glasgow at the international climate summit earlier this month, we have an obligation to help the developing world leapfrog the fossil fuel economy to reach a green economy. Lower and middle-income countries deserve to develop and seek a higher standard of living, but we know that they can't use the dirty fuels that powered our growth if we hope to keep global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius. My climate amendment will help those countries least to blame for the climate crisis to adapt to the impacts that they are already overwhelmingly and disproportionately experiencing.

The first of its kind National Intelligence Estimate, released in October, warned us that the intensity of wildfires and the force of hurricane winds and unrelenting droughts are a mere preview of the extreme weather events to come. The Pentagon's own report warns us of the cascading security impacts if we fail to answer the national security challenge of our generation: Governments that are unable to meet the basic needs of their people risk collapse. Driven by the climate crisis, water, food, and resource scarcity will lead millions to flood across borders as stateless climate refugees. That will lead to destabilization of countries. That will lead to national security crises in country after country as a result of the climate crisis.

We have to just deal with the reality that the CO₂ is still red, white, and blue that is up there. We are the leader historically, and the rest of the world wants us to be the leader historically right now in dealing with that crisis.

My climate amendment says that we can avoid that grim future. We can redirect a mere 1 percent from the Pentagon topline towards global climate accounts to fight the climate crisis. We can come to grips with the fact that the greatest adversary we face is not a foreign army, navy, or air force; it is the transnational threats of the climate crisis, of pandemics, and of nuclear weapons.

We are not in a new Cold War. We are in a war for our common survival.

Yesterday, in an act of political gamesmanship, Senate Republicans joined me to vote against moving forward with this abominable \$768 billion Defense bill. While I wish we could stop here and reassess the waste of three-quarters of a trillion dollars spent on defense, this was, sadly, just a Republican ploy to add even more pork onto this already fatty legislation.

Now, I urge my colleagues to support Senator SANDERS' and my amendment to return the defense budget to the level requested by the President—a level of spending which is greater than we spent during the Korean war, the Vietnam war, and at the height of the Cold War.

Additionally, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment—co-sponsored by Senators WARREN, PADILLA, BOOKER, MERKLEY, and SANDERS—to make a 1-percent cut to the Defense authorization to increase our support for global climate accounts.

If we do not adopt these changes, I cannot, in good conscience, support that budget. It is time we stop funding the military industrial complex, whose profit is based in conflict and annihilation. That is not an investment in our future; it is an invitation to destruction.

The bottom line is we are either going to live together or we are going to die together; we are either going to know each other or we are going to exterminate each other.

This is a period where we should be talking to our rivals. We should be negotiating with our rivals. We should be trying to reduce the nuclear arsenals. We should be trying to reduce the tension; reduce the paranoia; reduce the threat that, by accident, we can actually fight a nuclear war.

That is what we should be debating here and not just putting all of the additional new weapons systems that have been on the blueprints of the defense industry for a generation into this budget. That takes us in the wrong direction, towards less safety, more risk.

The correct vote here is to deal with the reality that we have too many nuclear weapons already and we haven't sufficiently dealt with the threat which the climate crisis is going to

pose as a national security risk to our country and the rest of the planet.

Madam President, with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, our Nation exists today in a time of relative peace, with limited and manageable active hostilities threatening U.S. national security.

On the horizon, the United States faces a militarily ambitious and formidable but not yet insurmountable opponent in China and in its quest for regional dominance in the Pacific.

Yet in the face of this new age of great power competition, U.S. grand strategy continues to operate with outdated goals and across all regions of the globe, lacking prioritization and desperately needing scale.

After the botched withdrawal from Afghanistan and the corresponding diplomatic, military, and humanitarian disaster, one would think the instinct would be to jettison decades of military-industrial groupthink.

One would think the American people, and certainly our men and women in uniform, deserve a thorough, exhaustive review of what is working and the huge swaths of what is failing in our military and defense strategy, infrastructure, and planning.

One would think that Congress would reclaim powers assigned to it by the Constitution to make serious reforms to protect the security and prosperity of the United States.

One would think we would reform our procurement process and trim the bloated, perversely incentivized military-industrial complex.

One would think we would prioritize resources toward the largest and most imminently looming threats to U.S. national security.

One would think we would burden share with our allies where our security interests align.

One would think we, here in the U.S. Senate, would take specific steps to make sure that failures like the withdrawal from Afghanistan don't happen again, whether in the Middle East or in any other emerging theater of conflict.

Unfortunately, this year's National Defense Authorization Act fails to put the interests of U.S. citizens first. This is not the introspective or retrospective bill that the American people should be able to expect and largely continues the failed—the failed—policies of many decades past. The American people and the brave men and women of our military deserve better.

We are, thank heavens, in a time of peace, with limited active hostilities. Despite that, we remain intimately entangled in the affairs of too many nations abroad. Our troops and equipment scatter every region of the globe. We spend billions of dollars supporting, supplying, and training allies who, in many cases, contribute little to their own self-defense, let alone ours.

We face an ambitious opponent in China, as it seeks military dominance

in the Indo-Pacific region. There is no question that while Xi Jinping remains in power, the PLA and the PRC will not shy away from bold moves and the quest for regional hegemony. But the U.S. strategy should not presume unrestrained, offensive intervention; rather, targeted and scaled deterrence should frame the mission set across all U.S. forces postured in the region. Further, the United States should accordingly rescale resources in the war zones of yesteryear to appropriately prioritize protecting the U.S. homeland and military personnel from tomorrow's threats.

Congress is responsible for raising and supporting armies, of making war, and of ratifying treaties. This bill neglects those responsibilities.

Regarding Afghanistan, the NDAA includes funding and new authorities for the nonexistent Afghan security forces, along with reimbursements to coalition partners for supporting U.S. operations and a sense of the Senate on future U.S. counterterrorism posture postwithdrawal, with little eye toward reforming or removing outdated and overbroad authorizations for the use of military force.

Perpetuating funding and authority to support a nonexistent defense force is as much bad foreign policy as it is bad fiscal responsibility. We must do better. The American people expect and deserve for us to do better.

Additionally, this NDAA fundamentally changes the purpose and the scope of the military draft. The new purpose is greatly expanded to "ensure a requisite number of personnel with the necessary capabilities to meet the diverse mobilization needs of the Department of Defense during a national emergency."

Instead of being a seldom-used tool only for the most extreme cases of compelling national defense, the draft could be morphed into compulsory national service in the face of any emergency.

Even more troubling is the mandatory registration of women for the draft. Look, all are immensely grateful for the incredible contribution women make to our Armed Forces, but that participation should never be forced. This bill paves that dangerous road without due consideration given to its impact on young families and single parents.

Further, the policy provides no guarantee that women would not be sent directly to the frontlines of combat, alongside and simultaneously with able-bodied men.

While I am opposed to all of the NDAA's changes to the draft, at the very least, this body should consider a reasonable amendment, a few reasonable amendments on this front, including one of mine that would prohibit the disturbing scenario of mothers and fathers being conscripted simultaneously out of the same family, leaving their children stranded without either parent. It also provides a similar exemption for single parents.

I hope this body will consider and pass this amendment in the near future. I also hope that the body will make that unnecessary by, first, passing an amendment striking that provision altogether. We don't need to be expanding the draft, and we shouldn't be making the draft applicable to women.

This bill further reduces our military end strength by over 7,000 servicemembers. Troublingly, the biggest cuts come from the Marine Corps and the Air Force. And in the face of an aggressive China, the Navy also faces reduction in Active Forces when it arguably should be the first contender for an increase in end strength, not a cut.

As we pivot toward the Indo-Pacific, our naval and our air superiority are both vital. We need them. Our withdrawal from the Middle East should reduce the level of Active-Duty Army personnel deployed overseas, and yet the Army faced a less than 1-percent reduction in that specific category.

This bill places us on a dangerous footing regarding future mutual defense commitments. This bill would provide a vague, near-authorization for the use of military force to defend Taiwan against an invasion from China. The question of war deserves here, as always, its own debate by Congress, rather than a haphazard statement of policy that may be abused by the executive branch in order to bring us into a new conflict, into a new conflict without the people's duly elected representatives whose job it is to decide whether we go to war to make that decision under the light of day and with full debate that the American people can witness.

Like NDAAs of old, this bill appropriates more funds to procurement than anywhere else, with no reforms to the bureaucratic barriers that make procurement so costly and so inefficient.

Finally, this NDAA does not sufficiently bolster our defensive position in this hemisphere. The goals outlined by this bill are vague and equate to an abdication of Congress's responsibility to give the Defense Department instructions for a strategic approach to the Western Hemisphere.

It provides blank check authority for the Department of Defense to support programs and activities for purposes including institution-building to countercorruption and to serve humanitarian infrastructure needs. This attempt at nation-building is misguided, and it will not be helpful to us in our efforts to deter China.

Thankfully, there are a few positives in this bill for U.S. national defense and for the security of the people of Utah.

This bill continues to support the development of fifth-generation air power capabilities in the F-35 Program, continuing a critical investment in our air defense—something that is also becoming even more important.

This bill also fully funds the modernization of our ground-based nuclear

deterrent, protecting the U.S. homeland for generations to come. This important work will largely be done by the people of Utah and our dedicated servicemembers at Hill Air Force Base.

The House version of the NDAA also includes my Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act. It is important to note here that one in four military spouses currently face unemployment or are actively seeking work largely because of frequent moves due to their spouse's military orders, which keep them moving from place to place on a pretty routine basis. This provision in the House version of the bill would also allow spouses of our military servicemembers to work in their chosen profession, wherever military orders may take them in the United States, without having to navigate the complicated requirements of State occupational licensing.

My State, the State of Utah, led the way with this commonsense type of reform that makes life and achieving prosperity easier for those families who serve our Nation. It should become law. We need it. Our military families need it. Our military and the American people generally would be much better off with it.

We could have done more. This National Defense Authorization Act could be a pivot point where we reexamine our defensive stance in the world and reclaim our constitutional arrangement here at home.

This NDAA could have been a turning point in which we in Congress reasserted our authority over war-making powers. My National Security Powers Act that I have introduced with Senator MURPHY and Senator SANDERS would clarify and update and modernize the War Powers Resolution.

The bill would also restore congressional authority over arms exports. It would additionally require congressional approval of emergency declarations and prevent the President from misusing emergency powers.

The National Security Powers Act would rein in Presidential abuses of the war power and make our Nation safer and more aligned with the Constitution. It is bipartisan. It is exactly the type of reform that belongs in the NDAA.

We must also make reforms to our emergency war spending. Though President Biden thankfully didn't request, and Congress didn't provide, the OCO slush fund in this bill, there is much that needs to be done to restore Congress's power of the purse in the defense environment specifically.

The Cost of War Project estimates that post-9/11 war spending totals \$8 trillion from 2001 to 2022. Of the \$8 trillion, OCO and interest on OCO funds accounts for \$3.3 trillion. That is real money, and a lot of it.

My Restraining Emergency War Spending Act would define emergency war funding and require the Department of Defense and Congress to limit spending set aside for emergencies to

the purpose for which it was authorized.

We also need to return accountability to our defense alliances by requiring wealthy and capable Nations to contribute their fair share of their defense. In the NATO alliance alone, only 11 of the 13 NATO member countries meet the 2 percent defense spending requirement.

This means that 63 percent of the alliance shown here in red consists of countries that don't foot their share of the bill. They are not holding up their end of the agreement.

So my Allied Burden Sharing Report Act would help us know just how much or just how little our allies are contributing. Now, this report used to be published annually. It should be still. This NDAA would have been an ideal venue in which to legislate the return of that report.

We also must use these legislative opportunities to prepare the Department of Defense for future defense focused on the technology, the reforms, and the regions of the future.

Our defensive position regarding China and in the Indo-Pacific should focus on deterrence. Spreading our forces and our expensive equipment to the ports and the shores of allies in the region is ineffective and could prove more of a vulnerability than an advantage against Chinese strike capabilities. A deterrent posture would combine defensive strategy and operations to fend off possible attacks from a position of strength and limit risk to U.S. personnel and assets.

Further, we must prioritize recruitment and retention for the future fight. We need to provide a suitable and welcoming environment for those in uniform and for their families. We need to end the President's sweeping vaccine mandate and give our servicemembers the respect they deserve.

After a disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan and the end of our Nation's longest war, this NDAA could have been—should have been—an opportunity to debate, rethink, and reform our Nation's defenses.

The National Defense Authorization Act—U.S. defense and security broadly—is one of the few items this body regularly considers that is explicitly, unambiguously within the enumerated powers of Congress. Consequently, it is something that deserves due consideration and significant debate on the floor in order for Members to be able to raise issues like those that I have described today.

Yesterday, this body attempted to close debate on this bill without consideration of a single amendment—not a single one.

While this bill does make key progress in limited areas, it does not get to the heart of many of our national defense problems. It does not restore Congress's role in our national defense. It does not provide a holistic strategy to defend the United States and the people of Utah—or the people of any other State.

This bill and the floor process yet remain missed opportunities, and I am going to continue to fight for both necessary policy reforms and for an open process generally on the floor. Anything less, particularly in this critical area, amounts to an abdication of the duties of this body to the detriment of the citizens we serve. We can and we must do better.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Oklahoma.

ABORTION

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, tomorrow morning at 10 a.m., the Supreme Court of the United States will hear oral arguments on a case out of Mississippi commonly known now as the Dobbs case.

That case is all about a Mississippi law, where Mississippi passed a law saying, at 15 weeks, a child in development in the womb can be protected after that time period.

That strikes right at the heart of *Roe v. Wade*, where, in the arbitrary ruling from the Supreme Court in 1973, they made up a new rule saying when a child is viable—not something that is in law at any spot. It created that out of whole cloth.

Tomorrow morning, the Supreme Court will reopen that conversation about viability. It is an important discussion for us to be able to have as a nation, and it is vital that we talk about it here as well. As it is being discussed across the street at the Supreme Court, there are issues that we should discuss as well.

So, for the next few moments, there are multiple different Senators who are going to speak on this one issue: When is a child a child, and when should States have the rights to protect their own citizens' lives?

The Supreme Court has made that murky and has the option tomorrow to be able to make that clear. This conversation, though, will circle around what should that legal standard be and how should we protect the lives of every citizen, no matter how small they are.

There will be multiple Senators who will be speaking on this, the first of which will be Senator STEVE DAINES, who leads the Pro-Life Caucus in the U.S. Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I rise today ahead of one of the most important moments in our decades-long battle to protect life.

When our Founding Fathers laid out the Declaration of Independence, they talked about life, they talked about liberty and the pursuit of happiness. They called them certain unalienable rights endowed by our Creator. The reality is you can't have liberty and the pursuit of happiness without first having that unalienable right given by God, and that is the right to life.

Tomorrow, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on the Mississippi late-term abortion case Dobbs

v. Jackson Women's Health Organization.

This puts our Nation at the crossroads of history. Our Nation has a moment to finally modernize our laws. We have got the aptitude to catch up with the great advancements seen in science, in technology, and medicine that indisputably show the humanity of unborn children.

We have the opportunity to end an extreme judicially imposed abortion regime that is aligned with nations such as China and North Korea. The United States is just one of seven nations that allows late-term abortions.

We have the opportunity to write a new chapter of American history where the people's elected representatives get to decide abortion policy in this country.

The Supreme Court of the United States has the chance to right a historic injustice and finally overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Our Court's nine Justices have the opportunity to reconsider a wrongly decided case.

And, by the way, that wrongly decided case that became case law, it was nine men in black robes that really have overruled the will of the people. It wasn't a State legislature. It wasn't the U.S. House. It wasn't the U.S. Senate. It was nine men in black robes in 1973 that has since resulted in the death of over 62 million innocent babies—62 million.

They have the opportunity to reverse this horrific decision that imposed abortion on demand until the moment of birth across the United States. They have the opportunity to recognize that *Roe* was based on flawed and outdated science and that the right to abortion, which *Roe* invented, has no support in the text, the history, or the structure of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has an opportunity to restore the Constitution and defend our most fundamental right, and that is a right to life.

Now, let's go back to 1973, when *Roe* was decided. Many things were different than they are today. Why? Well, one reason is because science and technology—and certainly fashions—have advanced greatly.

Our phones in the 1970s went from large brick-like devices with antennas—in fact, the first cell phone call was placed in 1973, the very year that *Roe v. Wade* was decided. They were called bricks. They were about 2½ pounds. Compare that to these thin, touchscreen smartphones that we fit in our pockets today that are less than 6 ounces in weight.

In the 1970s, computers were the size of an entire desk, and now we have laptops that can be as thin as literally a child's story that I read to my grandchildren over the Thanksgiving holidays.

Now, when we drove in the seventies, compare that to what we drive today. I am thankful that has changed.

And in the seventies, if you were a woman at the doctor getting an

ultrasound at 15 weeks of pregnancy, you would have seen something like this. That is hard to recognize, but that was the technology that some ultrasounds had—the best—back in the seventies.

But, today, an ultrasound of a baby at 15 weeks, when they are using the latest 4D technology, looks like this. You literally can see this little one here at 15 weeks sticking her tongue out—15 weeks.

A baby this size is who Mississippi's historic, lifesaving law would protect from the brutal violence of a late-term abortion. That is a 15-week baby. If you don't believe me, take out your smartphone, google “15-week baby,” and click on—images.—

Roe and *Casey* made it illegal for States like Mississippi to enforce laws that protect babies like this one on the grounds that this baby could not survive outside the womb. It was a point called viability.

Roe and *Casey*'s viability line is arbitrary. It is unscientific. It is morally repugnant because, in 1973, babies could survive outside of the womb at 28 weeks of pregnancy. Today, babies are surviving outside the womb as early as 21 weeks but not yet as early as 15 weeks.

It is barbaric to deny lifesaving protections to a helpless, pre-born child like this one simply because she cannot survive outside the womb.

The reality is, even a full-term, 40-week-old baby needs nurturing, care, and medical assistance to survive outside the womb. A full-term baby delivered at 40 or 41 weeks still requires the nurturing and the care of the parent to survive outside the womb. They have got to be fed. They have got to be kept warm. They have got to be taken care of. They can't do it on their own.

Martin Luther King once said: “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

This is also true in the case of the Supreme Court's prior unjust decisions on abortion. In fact, the logic of *Roe* and *Casey*'s viability test undermines the moral coherence of civil rights protections for everyone who is unable to survive without assistance from others. That includes infants, young children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

A pre-born child is not a “potential life,” as *Roe* so wrongly concluded. This precious child and all children inside the womb, at any stage of development, are whole. They are distinct. They are living human beings. They are fully human and fully living. They are beautifully living children made in the image of God, who should be protected by the law.

Now, we have come a long way since 1973. Our laws must now do the same. As you just saw, at the time that *Roe v. Wade* was decided, it was very hard to clearly see a baby in the womb. But because of science and technology today, it is impossible to ignore the humanity of this growing baby.

If I took this image and we had the American people say, “What is that?” they would say, “That is a baby.”

At 15 weeks, a baby has arms and legs, can hiccup, can yawn. The heart is fully developed. At 15 weeks, the heart has already beaten 15 million times. That baby has distinct facial expressions. It can hear the voice of the mother and respond. It can taste, suck a thumb, and, as you can see in that other image I had, even stick out her tongue.

I am a father of four and grandfather of two. We have another grandchild coming any day. Our daughter's due date is December 3. It is Friday. My wife and I, who have been married now 35 years, have our favorite way of tracking our grandbaby's growth. This didn't happen in 1973, but today we have apps on our phones. I have been using an app called Sprout. There are several out there. I downloaded it. I can see how my little grandson is doing in each week of the pregnancy. It is remarkable—remarkable. We have been following this little baby now since week 8. We are at week 40 here this weekend. This cutting-edge technology is at the tip of our fingers—something we couldn't imagine 50 years ago. We have that at the tip of our fingers. Our laws must catch up with the advancement of science and technology.

It is very important that we are clear about what overturning *Roe* would mean for our country because there is a lot of misinformation out there. Let me state this as clearly as I can. Overturning *Roe* will not—let me say that again—will not ban abortion nationwide, as many on the left like to claim in an attempt to mislead Americans. That is absolutely false. It will not ban abortions nationwide. Instead, it returns the power to the States. It returns the power to Federal lawmakers, allowing them to protect the most vulnerable and act on behalf of the people they are elected to represent, because today under *Roe*, State lawmakers are robbed of their ability to represent the values of their constituents. Yet, because of *Roe*, the will of the people of Mississippi to protect life is obstructed.

According to a recent Marist poll, 80 percent of Americans are opposed to abortions after the first 3 months—that is 12 weeks—of pregnancy. That is an overwhelming majority of the American people, but because of *Roe*, their voices are being silenced.

It is time for the Supreme Court to allow the States and Federal lawmakers—those of us who are elected, who are held directly accountable by the people—to protect the most vulnerable among us. It is time that we, as the United States of America, a nation that is supposed to be a leader in the world on human rights, recognize that innocent babies in the womb deserve equal protection under our laws.

I am sure many of my colleagues and most Americans would agree that nations like communist China and North

Korea egregiously violate human rights. Yet when it comes to abortion, sadly, America stands with them. There are just seven countries, and we are on that list. The United States is a global outlier on abortion. We are just one of seven nations that allow abortions on demand past the point where a baby feels pain, all the way up, in fact, until the moment of birth. Standing with North Korea and China on abortion is horrifying. It is a disgraceful place for the greatest country in the world to be. We must do better.

I want to thank Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, her entire team, and the Mississippi Legislature for their unwavering support of life. We stand with you. Millions of Americans stand with you, young and old. They are praying for this momentous moment that will be occurring before our Court tomorrow.

As we stand here today, we are mere hours away from a pivotal point in our Nation's history. I pray that we remember tomorrow as the turning point that closes a really dark chapter of our Nation's history and heralds the dawn of truly a new day in America for those who have no voice to finally have a voice; one that honors the human dignity, the God-given potential of all life; one that positions the United States as a leader in the world, that stands up and puts an end to the horrific violence of abortion, especially painful late-term abortions. I pray that we see the Supreme Court of the United States correct a historic injustice, that they would uphold Mississippi's 15-week abortion law and send *Roe v. Wade* to the ash heap of history.

For the pro-life movement, overturning *Roe* is not the end but just the beginning.

As I stated earlier, this does not ban abortions nationwide. What it does is it will return the decisionmaking back to the States.

No matter how the Court rules, we will continue to fight on the State and Federal level to pass laws to end the violence of abortion. We will not rest until the day that every life is protected under laws from conception until natural death.

I want to thank my colleagues for being here today to talk about the importance of the Dobbs case. I want to thank my friend Senator LANKFORD for helping me with this fight for life. I am grateful to the two Senators from Mississippi, where this case originated, this law originated. I am grateful for Senator WICKER, who is here today, and I know he has some comments he wants to share as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. I congratulate my friend from Montana for his passionate and analytical and, in my view, correct assessment of this issue.

I rise this afternoon in support and encouragement of the public officials and the attorneys who will bring this

case before the Supreme Court in argument tomorrow. I rise, as does my colleague from Mississippi, Senator HYDE-SMITH, in appreciation for the State legislature, where she and I both served before coming to Congress, and in appreciation for the Governor and the legislature enacting the Gestational Age Act, which is the subject of this Dobbs case which will be argued tomorrow.

This is a serious issue. It is an issue that will determine whether millions of American children have an opportunity to be born and to enjoy the good life in this, the greatest system of representative government that the world has ever seen. It is a serious issue.

I am happy today. I am encouraged and hopeful today. One of the reasons that I am so encouraged is that the American people steadily over the decades have been moving in the direction of protecting life. This has not always been the case. As my friend from Montana so accurately pointed out, we just know so much more. Science knows so much more today in 2021 than science knew and Americans knew and the world knew back in 1973, so we see more and more people becoming pro-life.

Since 1995, the share of Americans who identified themselves as pro-life has jumped to 47 percent from 33 percent. You say: Well, that is not that great. Of course, it leaves some folks undecided. But when you sort it out and become more specific, two out of three Americans support a ban on second trimester abortions. This is what the Mississippi law does. This is the law that will be allowed to stay in effect if the Supreme Court rules in favor of Mississippi based on the argument tomorrow.

Four out of five Americans oppose late-term abortions.

My friend the distinguished Senator from Montana encouraged people within the sound of his voice to take their smartphones out and type in "15-week-old baby." I did that. I don't know if the rules quite permit that yet on the floor, but I dare say it is not the first time that has been done, so I did that. I clicked on "15-week-old baby," and that very picture, along with other photographs, came up. As the gentleman says, it is every much, every bit a human baby—no question about it.

I am encouraged that the American people are moving in the direction of life because they have seen these pictures, because they listen to the science, and we know more than we did in 1973. The Supreme Court knows more than it did in 1973.

After 15 weeks, an unborn baby has more than 90 percent of its body parts that it will ever have. They have been formed, and almost every organ is functional at the 15-week period. That is a baby. That is a human, American baby. The child's heart is pumping 26 quarts of blood per day at 15 weeks and has already beaten approximately 15.8

million times by 15 weeks. That is a human. That is a baby. Babies at this stage respond to touch and taste, and a dominant hand begins to emerge. We know at that point—15 weeks—whether that baby is right-handed or left-handed. And, of course, we know that baby can feel pain. That baby deserves the constitutional rights that the gentleman from Montana mentioned of life and the pursuit of happiness as an American.

I do want to congratulate our friends across the sea for actually being ahead of us on this. We like to think that sometimes we know best and we are ahead of the curve, but it happens that almost every European country has legislation in place, rules in place, that are very much like the Mississippi law that will be in question tomorrow in the hearing.

Germany and Belgium have banned elective abortions after 14 weeks. Now, this law in Mississippi has set that at 15 weeks, but Germany and Belgium, 14 weeks. Denmark, Norway, France—a very "live and let live" country if ever I heard of it—draws the line at 12 weeks—12 weeks. So when the Supreme Court hears this case tomorrow, they will have an opportunity to decide to place the United States of America in the broad mainstream of international thought on this.

There are so many reasons why I am happy today and encouraged today that we have this opportunity to make a case based on the facts.

I will say this: My heart and my thanks go out to the millions of Americans right this minute who are doing what some think is a quaint thing—performing an act that many people are skeptical about at this point. But I stand with those millions and millions of Americans who are right at this moment praying for the Supreme Court, praying for wisdom in these nine appointed and confirmed figures. They are praying for the right words to be said by the attorneys, and they are praying for the future of our great country.

This is our opportunity, and we have every reason to believe that we are on the right side of history. I stand with the people who are bringing this case, and I stand with the people of Mississippi and the millions upon millions of Americans who are praying for the right decision.

I yield to my good friend from across the river, the junior Senator from Louisiana. I know that my friend from Mississippi is also waiting to speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, we talk a lot in this Chamber, as well we should, about the least among us, about how we can protect and lift up the powers. And that is a good thing. I can't think of any person who has less power than a potential human life, than an unborn baby. Now, *Roe v. Wade* is, of course, about abortion. We know that. But it is also about something

else. *Roe v. Wade* is also about—it is about federalism.

Roe v. Wade is also about the American people. *Roe v. Wade* is about whether a finite group of the managerial elite—and by the “managerial elite” I mean the entrenched politicians, the bureaucracy, the media, the academics, the corporate phonies, all of whom think they are smarter and more virtuous than the American people—should have the right to make moral decisions for the American people, instead of the American people making those decisions for themselves.

That is really what *Roe v. Wade* is about.

Now, I am pro-life and I am anti-*Roe v. Wade*. So I want to say up front: I do have an opinion.

But even pro-choice legal scholars who believe in legalized abortion on demand understand, as does every fair-minded person who knows a lawbook from a J. Crew catalog, that *Roe v. Wade* is one of the most arbitrary, it is one of the most ad hoc, and it is one of the most poorly reasoned decisions in the history of the United States.

In *Roe v. Wade*, as you know, Mr. President, the U.S. Supreme Court held that a generalized right to privacy, not explicit in the Constitution, means that a woman has the virtually unfettered discretion to terminate a human life—some, to be fair, would say a potential human life—before viability.

What is viability? As my colleagues talked about, that is a really, really good question.

But I digress.

Anyone who knows a lawbook from a J. Crew catalog also knows that there is absolutely no foundation—not in the text, not in the structure, not in the history, not in the tradition of the Constitution—for a constitutional right to abortion, and certainly not on the basis of some unmoored general right to privacy that is not enunciated in the Constitution.

And don't even get me started on *Roe v. Wade*'s trimester analysis and the ruling. Try to find “trimester” in the U.S. Constitution. You won't. You can't.

The truth is—and people on both sides of this issue who are fairminded and reasonably objective—and by that, I mean can see the other point of view. The truth is that *Roe v. Wade*'s constitutional right to an abortion is a 48-year-old, judge-invented rule that represents the U.S. Supreme Court winging it.

Now, I know what we were told. We were told back in the 1970s: Look, we have got to have a national rule to settle this issue. Only Washington, DC, can settle this issue. We have to have a rational rule. We need some peace in the land. We need consensus.

How is that working out for us?

Roe v. Wade didn't settle anything.

Now, in the *Dobbs* case, which the U.S. Supreme Court is about to hear, the U.S. Supreme Court has a really rare opportunity to say, as Justice

Scalia wrote in one of his opinions, that value judgments made on behalf of people should be voted on by those people and not dictated from Washington, DC.

In the *Dobbs* case, the United States Supreme Court has the rare opportunity to say what we all know, and that is that America is this big, wide-open, diverse, sometimes messy, sometimes dysfunctional, sometimes imperfect, but always trying-to-get-better group of good people. That is what America is.

And we don't always agree—especially not on value judgments, especially not on the ultimate value judgment—like when it is appropriate to take a human life. That is why we get to vote. That is why we get to vote, and that is why we have elected representatives who oftentimes vote on our behalf—elected representatives who also can be unelected if we don't like how they vote.

And, finally, in *Dobbs*, the U.S. Supreme Court has the rare opportunity to defederalize and deconstitutionalize abortion and return the issue to the States, where it was before *Roe v. Wade*.

The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Dobbs*, does not have the opportunity—and this is important—to say “no right to an abortion in America.” Let me say that again because some of the proponents of *Roe v. Wade*, I think, have shaded the truth on this. At issue before the Supreme Court in *Dobbs* is not the right to have an abortion. It is the right—the issue before the Supreme Court in *Dobbs* is, What is the appropriate political form to make these value judgments? Is it the government or is it the people?

And I hope that the U.S. Supreme Court takes advantage of this rare opportunity before it.

I yield to the Senator from Mississippi.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I join my colleagues today highlighting the momentous occasion for not only my home State of Mississippi but for our entire Nation. Senator ROGER WICKER and I could not be prouder of our State.

Tomorrow, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a challenge to a Mississippi law banning most abortions after 15 weeks. This law, the Gestational Age Act, was introduced by my friend, Mississippi State Representative Becky Currie, and was signed into law by Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant in 2018.

This case presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the Court to reconsider decades of misguided abortion law that began with *Roe v. Wade* and has continued under *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.

There is no doubt that this case is the most significant pro-life legal opening in half a century and, cer-

tainly, in my lifetime. I am very proud that my State of Mississippi is in the center of this.

In the 48 years since the decision in *Roe v. Wade*, 62 million unborn babies have lost their lives. This is a terrible moral stain on our Nation that we have a chance to reverse at long last.

There are many reasons for the Supreme Court to reconsider its course. For one, medical technology has made significant advances—especially with ultrasound technology—making clear what those of us in the pro-life movement already knew: that unborn children are human beings.

Thanks in large part to the ultrasound technology, we now know that, by 15 weeks, an unborn baby has a fully developed heart with a strong heartbeat, responds to touch, and can make facial expressions, yawn, hiccup, and suck their thumbs.

For another, the United States is a real outlier in the world when it comes to the abortion issue. We are one of only seven countries that allow abortions on demand up until the moment of birth, along with the likes of China and North Korea.

The Supreme Court should uphold Mississippi's law, bringing our Nation closer to the international consensus on human rights for the unborn.

As a legislator, I am confident in saying it is time for our laws to reflect what the rest of the world has already figured out: that life exists before birth and it needs to be protected. The only difference between a fetus and a first grader is 6 years.

Since the Supreme Court announced it would take up the *Dobbs* case, I have been earnestly praying for this case. I pray for the Members of the Supreme Court to be open to the legal and moral arguments against *Roe v. Wade*. May God grant them the wisdom for the task and grace for the unborn.

I have also been praying for my friend Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, our State's solicitor general, Scott Stuart, and the many others in the AG's office who have worked tirelessly to represent our State so well in this case.

With the oral arguments scheduled for tomorrow morning, I pray that God would grant them all confidence and courage, as well as the right words to say in the Court.

Most of all, I have been praying for all the unborn children whose right to life hangs in the balance of this case.

Throughout this time, I have kept the words of I Samuel 1:27 close to my heart: “For this child I have prayed, and the Lord hath given me my petition, which I asked of him.”

So today, tonight, and tomorrow morning, I will be praying without ceasing. I hope each of you will join me in prayer for this historic court decision that started in Mississippi.

May the *Dobbs* case restore the sanctity of life and reverse the moral stain of *Roe v. Wade*.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, for nearly 50 years, *Roe v. Wade* has been a disaster for our country and its citizens. Sixty million unborn lives have been lost to abortion, and our politics have been distorted by a ruling that deprives the American citizen—the voter—of the right to determine questions on which there is constitutional ambiguity.

The Senate confirms individuals to the judicial branch to be judges. They are to judge, not to legislate. Listening to those whom we represent and proposing legislation on their behalf is our job here in the Capitol and the job of our representatives in State legislatures throughout all 50 States. The separation of these powers is crucial to how our democracy functions.

Yet previous iterations of the Supreme Court have seen fit to usurp this legislative power, particularly as it relates to abortion.

In doing so, a majority of these unelected judges and Justices have relied upon specious jurisprudence to eviscerate State laws that protect the unborn.

You don't need to take the word of a conservative Republican from Kansas. Writing when she was a circuit court judge, the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg explained:

Roe v. Wade . . . invited no dialogue with legislators. Instead, it seemed entirely to remove the ball from the legislators' court.

One more liberal law professor acknowledged that “*Roe* short-circuited the democratic deliberation that is the most reliable method of deciding questions of competing values.”

These assessments are exactly right. The fallout of *Roe*, and affirmed by *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* in 1992, is obvious. A vacancy to the Supreme Court has become a cage match—a fight here in the U.S. Senate. Someone as eminently qualified as Amy Coney Barrett should have been confirmed unanimously.

Today, many of my Democratic colleagues support packing the Supreme Court with more Justices because they believe the Court will block their agenda, which is ironic because for nearly a half century, virtually every State ever to provide protection to unborn babies has been foiled by the judicial branch. Something terribly wrong has happened to our democracy when so much energy is focused on the Court.

Again, quoting then-Justice Ginsburg on *Roe*'s attempt to put the issue of abortion to bed, she said in 1985, the Court's “heavy-handed judicial intervention was difficult to justify and appears to have provoked, not resolved, conflict” and in 1993 declared that the ruling “prolonged divisiveness and deferred stable settlement of the issue.”

Given these examples of our polluted discourse, no one can reasonably say that the politics of abortion have improved since then. In fact, it has only gotten much worse.

What has improved, however, is our understanding of the science of embryology. Regrettably, it is not enough to say a unique human life begins at the moment of conception for it to receive protection. But we know when unborn babies feel pain; we know when they can survive outside the womb; and a remarkable 4D ultrasound reveals what we already knew: These unborn babies are fully human and deserve the right to life, and yet our legal regime denies them that right.

Because of *Roe*, a child in America can be terminated for any reason—any reason—up to the moment of its birth. That places the United States in the company of China and North Korea. Surely, a democracy founded on the belief that all people “are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness” has a greater respect for human life than these brutal communist regimes.

Tomorrow's Mississippi case will test that proposition. However, there is no doubt that the reversal of *Roe* will not end the practice of legal abortion. Several States have already enacted permissive abortion laws that would remain even on *Roe*'s demise.

The point here is that my effort and the effort of my colleagues and millions of other Americans to defend life will continue regardless of how the Supreme Court rules in the coming months, including in my State of Kansas. These efforts will depend on civil persuasion of our neighbors and responsive State and Federal legislators. We will need legislation that protects the unborn and assists new families in caring for their child.

Tomorrow, the Supreme Court will hear the most significant abortion case in the last 30 years. *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. This case provides the Court the opportunity to relinquish the legislative power it has assumed and return it to the people and their representatives. The Court will be better for it, and so will our politics. And most importantly of all, millions of future voices will get to have their say in the process too.

I now yield the floor to my colleague, the Senator from Nebraska, Senator FISCHER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the case that will come before our Nation's highest Court on December 1, is truly a historic case. It is about a law the State of Mississippi passed in 2018 to ban almost all abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

When I was a member of the State legislature in Nebraska in 2010, we passed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Nebraska's bill banned most abortions after 20 weeks, the point when science at that time told us that unborn babies start to be able to feel pain. We were the first State in the country to pass a law of this kind, and

in our Nebraska unicameral, we passed it with 44 “yes” votes and just 5 “no” votes.

Nebraska has a unicameral—1 House, 49 Senators. We have pro-choice, pro-life, Republicans and Democrats that voted for this bill. We had pro-choice Republicans. We had a number of pro-life Democrats. In fact, we had a former Democratic National Committeeman vote for this bill. All we cared about was protecting the most vulnerable people in our society—unborn children.

I was proud to support Nebraska's bill. I was proud that pro-life Democrats, pro-choice Republicans, put their differences aside to vote for it. And I am proud today to stand with Mississippi as their law comes before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Back in July, I joined more than 200 of my colleagues in the Senate and the House of Representatives in filing an amicus brief supporting Mississippi's bill. In our brief, we argued that the precedence the Supreme Court set in *Roe v. Wade* and a later case, *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, are outdated. When *Roe* was decided nearly 50 years ago, babies born before 28 weeks were not expected to survive. Today, the miracles of modern medicine have allowed babies born much earlier to not only survive but to go on to live full and happy lives.

Just last year, a little boy was born right next door to Mississippi, in Alabama, at 21 weeks. He was 132 days premature, and he weighed just 14.8 ounces. Fifty years ago, it would have been unthinkable—unthinkable—for him to live beyond a few days. But this July, he celebrated his first birthday.

Fifty years ago, ultrasounds and sonograms were not widely available. Today, they are an essential part of prenatal care. The pictures that these technologies enable families to see of their unborn children, even at the early stages of pregnancy, are often nearly identical to the newborns they will soon become. The advancements of the last 50 years have left no doubt about the humanity of the unborn. And as science continues to progress over the next 50 years, new developments are going to keep allowing babies born earlier and earlier to survive and to thrive.

The laws of just about every developed country have kept up with this rapid progress, but here in the United States our laws are stuck in the past. The United States is one of only four nations on Earth where certain States allow abortions up to the day of birth. That puts us in the uncomfortable company of China, North Korea, and Vietnam. Ninety percent of countries around the world limit abortion at 15 weeks, the same point as Mississippi's law, and some even earlier. In Europe alone, there are eight countries with laws that are stricter than Mississippi's. That includes Germany, where abortion is illegal in most cases just after 12 weeks. Women seeking

abortions before 12 weeks in Germany also have to go through a 3-day waiting period and a mandatory counseling session.

Mississippi's law isn't that different from Germany's. In some ways, it is even more lenient, but it is still being challenged in our court system based on legal decisions from decades ago.

Our laws are outdated, and America's unborn children are paying the price. Since 1973, more than 60 million abortions have taken the lives of more than 60 million American children, many of whom could have survived outside the womb.

It is past time for the United States to move into the 21st century. The Supreme Court has a chance to help us do that by upholding Mississippi's law in the Dobbs case, and I hope they will.

With that, I would yield to my colleague from Kansas, Senator MARSHALL, who is also a doctor, a gynecologist, and obstetrician.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I want to start by thanking the Senator from Nebraska for helping to bring to light the significance of the Dobbs Supreme Court case.

For some 30 years, I had the honor, the privilege of delivering a baby most every day of my life. Some 5,000 babies in residency and another 5,000 babies in private practice. Some days, I delivered none. Other days, it was one or two. There were days when I delivered 10, 11, 12 babies a day.

Some of those babies I could fit in the palm of my hand. Other babies—I delivered several babies over 15 pounds.

It has now been almost 4 years since I delivered my last baby, but I am still often asked: Do I miss obstetrics; and let me tell you, boy, do I miss it.

My favorite part of the whole process, as I recall, though, was after a hard, long labor, seeing that baby emerge from the mother, holding that baby in my hands and waiting for it to cry. Sometimes it was crying as it entered into this world, other times it took 5 seconds, sometimes 30 seconds, sometimes a minute or two would go by as we worked on the baby. But my favorite part of every pregnancy was taking that crying baby and handing it over to a new mom and dad. It was absolutely the most spiritual moment of my life—the closest I ever got to seeing what God was truly like, to see a newborn baby in the hands of its mom and dad, with this just total agape love—this unconditional love. It was just the honor of my life to experience that almost on a daily basis.

But today I want to talk about my favorite OB visit which came at 15 weeks, typically. At about 15 weeks after conception, moms would come in for maybe their third or fourth visit. My first question was always: Are you feeling the baby move? And the mom's eyes would light up. Maybe she had had a miscarriage before or maybe it was an infertile couple or maybe this was

her third or fourth baby, but when I asked them: Are you feeling the baby move yet, her eyes would light up.

And mom would lie down on the bed, and I would put my hands on her abdomen and feel the size of her uterus to assess how big the baby was. And so often as I put my hands on her skin, I could feel the baby pushing back or kicking back.

And then we put the Doppler on the mom's abdomen and listened to the baby's heartbeat, and usually if there was a brother or sister in the room, that baby's big brother or big sister would squeal: Mommy, what is that noise? What is that noise? And almost every time, as I heard the sibling ask mom that question, you could hear the baby's heart rate increase with excitement. That baby inside the womb knew that was its brother or sister there that was talking, and it was excited to hear that voice. And the mom would respond: Darling, that is your little baby brother or sister. And as mom spoke, the baby's heart rate would slow back down to what it was before—that calming voice.

So that brings me to the Dobbs case. The Mississippi Dobbs case protects life after that 15-week visit I just described.

I recognize and believe that life begins at conception, but maybe not all of America agrees with me on that. But I do believe with all my heart that a huge part of America agrees, we should not allow abortions on babies that can feel pain or that can respond to their mom's voice or their sibling's voices. Right?

Ask yourself that same question. An unborn baby that can feel pain, that knows its mom's voice, should that baby be deprived of life outside the womb?

I struggle as I watch America be one of seven nations that allows abortions after 15 weeks. And I point out that all these other nations are agnostic or totalitarian nations for the most part. And I struggle as I recall the moms and dads who lost a baby at 15 weeks or at 18 weeks or at 23 weeks. I recall their mourning. I recall their tears.

I recall how, in our hospital, we might be struggling to preserve a pregnancy, to save a baby's life, to be resuscitating a baby while in a nearby town the abortion industry is claiming another life at this same gestational age.

I struggle to think we live in a society that allows this barbaric treatment of the unborn. We hope and pray that this landmark Supreme Court case will result in a decision that reflects the values of most Americans and will protect life after 15 weeks.

Unfortunately, because of a 2019 Kansas Supreme Court case, my home State of Kansas has become an abortion destination—an abortion destination. The Kansas Supreme Court has paved the way for unlimited abortions, abortions paid for with tax dollars. That is why, back home, I will be fight-

ing for the Value Them Both Amendment that protects the values of both the mom and the baby.

Look, America does not want an unlimited, unregulated abortion industry. This is not consistent with our values. I believe most Americans value them both. We value both the mom and the baby. I fought my whole life for moms and babies, and I am going to keep fighting for them both.

Mr. President, I yield the floor to my friend and mentor from Texas, who has been leading the fight up here in DC for years. I look forward to his sharing with us what Texans are talking about on the significance of this Dobbs Supreme Court case.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I want to start by thanking my colleagues for being willing to stand up and defend innocent human life.

I remember, recently, watching a young woman walk across one of the downtown bridges in Austin, TX, carrying a sign that read: "Abortion—any time, any reason."

That is what she was advocating for. I was shocked when I saw it because I thought even the most ardent advocates of abortion would not take that position of denying the humanity of this unborn child, but, apparently, that is what it has become here—48 years after the Supreme Court first created a right to abortion out of whole cloth as a constitutional right.

You look, in vain, in the Constitution of the United States, as well as in the amendments to the Constitution, for any reference at all to abortion. What you will find, if you read the Declaration of Independence, is a familiar statement to all of us. On July 4, 1776, the 13 States then that made up America wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

By the way, there is no asterisk—there is no footnote—that says, if you are an unborn human life, that you are denied this unalienable right to life.

Such noteworthy figures as Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was probably one of the most aggressive advocates for abortion rights on the U.S. Supreme Court, later in life decried the fact that, by the Supreme Court's holding a right to abortion as a constitutional right, it denied the very sort of give-and-take debate by which our differences are resolved in the States and at the national level.

I would just like to point out some of the misinformation that you hear and read about *Roe v. Wade*.

If *Roe v. Wade* is no longer the precedent by which abortion rights are decided, it will not mean that abortion will not be available in many, if not all, of the States. What it will mean is that it will be decided, under our Federal system, on a State-by-State basis,

according to the decisions made by elected State leadership, including the legislature.

In 1973, Richard Nixon was inaugurated for the second time as President of the United States. Suffice it to say that a lot has happened since then—a lot. I think it is entirely appropriate that the U.S. Supreme Court revisits its precedents, including *Roe v. Wade*—decided in 1973—and decide if that precedent has stood the test of time.

By the way, in serving on the Judiciary Committee, we frequently have nominees for the Supreme Court of the United States come before the committee, and many of my pro-choice colleagues will say: Do you agree, Judge or Future Judge, that *Roe v. Wade* is the precedent of the U.S. Supreme Court?

Of course, that is along with *Casey* and the other decisions that have been decided since then, but they act as if the U.S. Supreme Court cannot revisit bad decisions and correct those bad decisions.

To act as though Supreme Court precedent is somehow sacrosanct would still leave us with the likes of *Dred Scott*, which treated African Americans as less than fully human. Obviously, we fought a Civil War, and 600,000 Americans died—that would be the equivalent of 3 million people today—in a bloody Civil War that tore our country apart.

So being able to revisit those precedents, especially in light of the passage of time and over long experience, is entirely within the purview and entirely appropriate for the Supreme Court to do.

Well, we have heard from my other colleagues that, since *Roe* was decided in 1973, more than 60 million abortions have been performed in the United States. As originally was decided, Justice Blackmun wrote an opinion and established an event he called viability. Basically, the argument by the proponents of *Roe* is that somehow, in this decision by Justice Blackmun's saying that abortion should be widely available pre-viability, we should not be able to reconsider or take a look at that. The truth is, Justice Blackmun admitted this was an arbitrary standard.

What does "viability" mean?

We have heard that seven countries around the world have more permissive or equally permissive abortion laws as the United States. I, frankly, don't want to be in the same company as North Korea or the People's Republic of China, governed by the Communist Party. I would hope that America would aspire to something different and better and more humane, more in line with our fundamental statement about the unalienable right to life.

But, as to the fact that America is only one of seven countries that allows elective abortions after 20 weeks, which, as I said, puts us in the same category as communist China and North Korea, you would think that

would raise a huge red flag as to say something is terribly wrong here.

How is it that we are in the same category as communist North Korea and as communist China when it comes to the value we place on unborn life?

Well, unfortunately, we have seen the right to life become a partisan issue in the U.S. Congress when you take a look at the pro-life legislation which has been introduced over the last years.

We saw last year, for example, our Democratic colleagues filibuster legislation to outlaw elective abortions after 20 weeks, which is when science tells us that an infant can feel pain. Then they blocked a bill requiring physicians to provide lifesaving care to infants who survive abortions. This is care that any other newborn baby would receive, and yet our colleagues—so concerned about the backlash among their pro-abortion constituents—blocked it, denying a child born alive after a botched abortion the same sort of care that any other newborn would be entitled to. They blocked it.

And the latest attack on an unborn baby's right to life is the Women's Health Protection Act. This bill would undermine State laws limiting abortion, even after viability, and undercut the Supreme Court's ruling that defines our current definition of "viability."

What does "viability" mean?

Even at 20 weeks, can an unborn child live without medical attention and support from their mother or medical personnel?

Of course not.

This was an arbitrary line drawn by the Supreme Court in 1973. As we have heard from many of my colleagues, medicine has, thankfully, advanced considerably since that time.

Well, even though the U.S. Congress seems to be stuck when it comes to the issue of abortion and respecting the right to life of unborn babies, thankfully, the States have taken the issue up, which is why States, like Mississippi, have passed their own legislation to protect unborn babies.

Pro-abortion advocates say, well, 15 weeks—which is what the Mississippi law says. They say that a right to abortion only for the first 15 weeks of a pregnancy violates constitutional rights. But it is interesting. It is no less arbitrary than this notion of viability, which suggests that a child can live—which they cannot—outside the mother's womb even if they are 20 weeks or 24 weeks of gestational age. Interestingly, in a number of States, like Massachusetts and Nevada, abortions are restricted after 24 weeks. California, Washington, Illinois are among States that explicitly restrict abortions after viability.

The American people clearly stand behind the protection of unborn life. This summer, a poll found that 65 percent of Americans believe that abortion should be illegal in the second trimester. That is the second 3-month period of a 9-month pregnancy.

Opposition to third-trimester abortion is even stronger, as 80 percent of Americans are opposed to a third-trimester abortion. Indeed, the Supreme Court of the United States upheld a Nebraska law banning late-term abortion, which is essentially producing a delivery while the child is still alive, killing the fetus, and then completing that abortion. The Supreme Court of the United States upheld a ban on that third-trimester, late-term abortion—that brutal and barbaric practice that even the Supreme Court could not abide.

Last June, a baby born at 21 weeks and 2 days, this last summer, celebrated his first birthday. That is what is at stake here when you are dealing with more than just one person—or you are dealing with more than just one person.

The question is: How do you balance and deal with the rights not only of the woman seeking the abortion, but also of the unborn child?

Right now, under its current jurisprudence, that unborn child is not even considered a human.

America cannot be its best if we devalue the lives of the most vulnerable among us. I believe that babies with heartbeats, fingerprints, and taste buds deserve some protection under the law.

I am proud of the efforts led by our colleague Senator LANKFORD and others to make sure that we actually have a discussion about this issue and don't just sweep it under the rug and we don't just let the pro-abortion lobby mischaracterize what we are talking about, as if eliminating *Roe* would eliminate abortions in America. It would just allow the States to do it on a State-by-State basis.

But, actually, *Roe* was made up right. It created a constitutional right that is not even stated in the Constitution itself, and it created an arbitrary time limit in which abortions could be performed or not as a matter of constitutional right.

So I join the rest of the body and this country awaiting the Supreme Court's ruling. I believe that it is more than appropriate for the Supreme Court to revisit its precedence that essentially disparaged and denigrated the right to life of an unborn child.

I would yield the floor to my friend from Oklahoma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. In December of 1952 and again in December of 1953, the Supreme Court was packed. There were lines out into the hallway, with people waiting to get in to hear oral arguments. In December, the Court would hear arguments on the legality of segregation brought by Thurgood Marshall, representing the Brown family in Topeka, KS.

Just 56 years before *Brown v. Board of Education*, segregation was protected by the Supreme Court in *Plessy v. Ferguson*. They ruled that separate but equal facilities were constitutional, thus enshrining the national

disgrace of segregation into America—an absolutely terrible decision by the Supreme Court that haunted our Nation for decades. It took 56 years before the Supreme Court corrected its wrong.

Now that more than a century has passed since the *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision, the Nation still celebrates the Court that decided the *Brown v. Board of Education* case, as Justices righted a great wrong against millions of people. There was a simple lesson in that decision: When the Court made a mistake, it should fix its mistake.

In a lesser known case that affects just about every American now, in 2018, the Supreme Court overturned by a 5-to-4 decision 51 years of precedent on the collection of taxes for businesses called the physical presence rule. Many people now know it as the internet tax rule. It changed the way taxes were collected on the internet.

When they made that decision in 2018, there was great confusion and consternation, statements that it would be impossible to implement it and it would bring certain destruction to internet commerce. In fact, in the dissent in that 5-to-4 decision, the minority in the Court stated this:

E-commerce has grown into a significant and vibrant part of our national economy against the backdrop of these established rules, including the physical-presence rule. Any alteration of those rules with the potential to disrupt the development of such a critical segment of [our] economy should be undertaken only by Congress.

The Court should not act on this important question of current economic policy solely to correct a mistake it made over 50 years ago. It was hand-wringing by the Court, the minority there, that they opposed correcting the obvious mistake of the Court from 51 years before because it could hurt the cyber economy. In other words, doing the right thing involved a risk.

Well, yesterday was Cyber Monday. It was one of the largest single days of purchasing online in history. The Court did the right thing, and the economy kept going. There was a simple lesson in that decision: When the Court made a mistake, it should fix its mistake, even if it was 50 years later.

Tomorrow, the Supreme Court of the United States will hear oral arguments in what could potentially be the most consequential case for human rights in 48 years.

Tomorrow at 10 a.m., nine Justices will hear arguments and ask questions of the attorney general of the State of Mississippi and counsel representing an abortion clinic in Mississippi. Tomorrow morning, the Court will consider whether all previability prohibitions on elective abortions are constitutional.

Tomorrow, this Court has the opportunity to uphold the self-evident truth to personhood, the facts of science and of our heart's declaration, the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Simply stated, the Court has an opportunity to correct its mistake from 1973, 48 years ago.

In 2018, the Mississippi Legislature enacted the Gestational Age Act, which limits abortion to 15 weeks of gestation except in a medical emergency and cases of severe fetal abnormality.

Jackson Women's Health Organization, an abortion clinic in Mississippi, sued. Federal courts held that the law was in violation of the Court precedent in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. Now it is known as the *Dobbs* case. It stands before the Supreme Court at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

This case presents an opportunity for the Court to reconsider *Roe v. Wade* and turn the role of legislating on the issue of life back to the States, where it was pre-*Roe v. Wade*.

In *Roe v. Wade*, as this body knows extremely well, the Supreme Court decided the Constitution guarantees the right to have an abortion until the viability of a child, with very little understanding of the term "viability." Years later, in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, the Court also said that the government couldn't place an undue burden on access to abortion, which has been used to block many laws that aim to protect women and children.

Both decisions were completely arbitrary and not based in constitutional law. "Viability," quite frankly, is impossible to define because children develop at different speeds. One child, Curtis Means, left the University of Alabama at Birmingham Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit after he was prematurely delivered at 21 weeks, 1 day—the youngest child to be born ever. Another child, though, may not survive if they were even delivered at 32 weeks. Viability was completely invented by the Court in 1973 as a standard and is impossible to actually track.

America has not forgotten about these children. We have not moved on, and we have not just accepted *Roe v. Wade*, because when we see a child, as this one is at 15 weeks, we actually see a baby, shockingly enough. Forty-eight years ago, the Supreme Court may have decided that a woman has a right to an abortion, but we never lost track of humanity. Abortion is not just a medical procedure; it is the taking of a human life.

I talked this morning with an abortion survivor. And, yes, they do exist by the thousands. She is in her forties. She has children of her own now. She survived a botched abortion and was actually delivered alive during an abortion procedure. She was taken by a nurse to the NICU unit of that hospital, and she is still alive and thriving today. I sat there with that abortion survivor, thinking that abortion is not about random tissue; it is about a person—quite frankly, this morning, the person who was sitting right in front of me.

Now, I understand full well I am a pastor who is now a Senator. I am fully aware that I have a Biblical worldview. My dedication to children is not just because I am a follower of Jesus and

believe that every person is created in the image of God; I also firmly can look at the science. The science is clear to anyone who is willing to get past the talking points and actually look into the womb.

At the moment of fertilization, a new and distinct human being comes into existence. It is not just a fertilized egg; it is a new human. This new cell, which is called a zygote, shows behavior that is unlike the behavior of any other cell around it that is in the woman's body. The DNA inside that cell is different than the DNA inside any other cell in the mom's body. That cell has everything that he or she needs to become a fully developed human being.

Everyone listening to me right now—everyone—was once a single-cell zygote, completely dependent on your mom for nutrition. That is why we encourage moms to eat good foods, take prenatal vitamins, stop smoking, and all those things, because we want to protect the development of her child. Why? Because we all recognize that that is a child, and what a mom does now will affect the future for that child.

As the baby grows in his or her mother's womb, it continues to develop. At 15 weeks, as this baby is—and that is what the Mississippi law is all about, is a baby who looks just like that. At 15 weeks, a baby has a heart, lungs, skin, eyes, a nervous system. By 15 weeks or a little over 3 months of pregnancy, this preborn baby is moving around in response to touch. All of her organs are formed, and she just needs more time for them to grow and develop. Her heart already has four chambers. It has already beaten millions of times and pumps more than six quarts of blood per day. She cannot breathe outside the womb, but she is breathing inside the womb. She has arms and legs. She has 10 fingers and 10 toes and normally by this point already shows a preference for being right-handed or left-handed. She has eyes, lips, a nose, fingernails, eyebrows, even taste buds. She can feel pain.

This decision has ethical, moral, and medical implications. Look in the mirror, anyone in this room. You have fingers and toes and lips and a nose and fingernails and eyebrows and taste buds. You can feel your heart beating. The only difference between you right now and this child is time. That is it.

But for some, it is easy to just close their eyes and ignore the self-evident fact because it is easier to talk about Court precedent or choice, because if we look at each child and recognized this child for who she is, it is hard to process that in the last 48 years, 62 million children have died by abortion in America. And for some, they can't allow themselves to acknowledge what is self-evident because it would be too painful to think about 62 million children.

Can I tell you, 62 million children is the combined population of Vermont, Alaska, North Dakota, South Dakota,

Delaware, Montana, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, Hawaii, West Virginia, Idaho, Nebraska, New Mexico, Kansas, Mississippi, Arkansas, Nevada, Iowa, Utah, Connecticut, Oregon, Kentucky, Louisiana, Alabama, and Oklahoma—combined.

A Court decision that led to the death of 62 million children is a Court precedent that needs to be discarded.

Prior to 1973, each State had its own laws on abortion. That is what would happen again if the Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*. We will have a patchwork of laws on abortion, just like we do right now on homicide.

In some States, like mine, if a pregnant mother and her child are killed, the perpetrator faces two charges of murder, one for the mom and one for the child. In other States, the perpetrator would only face one charge of murder because that State doesn't recognize that child's existence at all. I think that is absurd, but that is a law in one State, and it changes from State to State. People can speak to their own State legislators about changing that law in their State and about recognizing the value of every child, even a child in the womb, but until they do, that child is a nonentity in some States. That kind of difference in homicide laws is allowed by the Supreme Court already. This Court should give that same right to every State for every preborn child, not just for some.

The law being debated in the Supreme Court tomorrow reflects the will of the people of Mississippi, just as many pro-life laws in Oklahoma and in our legislature have reflected the will of the people of Oklahoma.

The arbitrary, outdated viability standard established by the Court makes it harder for States to protect women from physical risk that accompany late-term abortions. It makes it difficult to allow States to protect preborn babies in the second trimester, who can experience pain. The viability standard prevents States from banning dismemberment abortion. The viability standard deters States from protecting children diagnosed with Down syndrome, developmental disabilities, and children being aborted simply because they are male or female. It also prevents States from protecting the lives of their own citizens at any stage of development.

I don't understand how infants have become a partisan issue. I really don't.

There are some issues, as I talk to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, where I can see their perspective and their point of view. I may not agree, but I can understand their point of view.

But on this issue I do not understand how some people see a baby sucking their thumb in the womb and they see them only as medical waste. I don't understand how some people can support an abortion in one moment, but when they talk to a woman who has had a miscarriage, they immediately respond

with "Oh, I am so sorry." If a miscarriage is the loss of a child, then what is an abortion?

I don't understand how the same person who fights to protect the right to abort children also brings a gift to a baby shower and celebrates a mom and a baby. How can one child be worth celebrating and the other child be medical waste? I just don't understand that compartmentalization.

Frankly, I don't understand how some people who are pro-abortion justify protecting Bald Eagle eggs in Federal law but have no problem supporting the taking of human life in the womb.

Children are not medical waste. Children are beautiful, innocent, and valuable. Some people who are pro-abortion call pro-life people horrible names, and they say they are trying to limit a woman's choice and her freedom while they work to protect her right to have her own baby literally have its arms and legs torn off in the womb so the child would bleed to death in the womb and then each body part would be suctioned out separately.

I don't consider that freedom. I consider that cruel and inhumane.

They say it is a woman's choice. But when does the child get to choose? Some people in our Nation actually celebrate the death of children like it is some glorious empowerment of a woman that she is able to pick and choose which baby will live or die based on her decision. I don't think that is empowerment. I think that is barbaric.

Mother Teresa stated: "It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish."

Change begins tomorrow. Tomorrow the Court will have the opportunity to uphold our Constitution; eradicate the outdated, oppressive, and deadly precedent; and turn our discussion about life over to the legislators in each State. Now is the time for this Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Our Nation prides itself on human rights and individual liberties, but we have this huge, glaring exception: We deny the obvious fact of a child until they are born. We ignore a child's existence until it is convenient.

I really believe, in the decades ahead, our Nation will catch up and we will look back on these years with grief. We will be shocked that when we saw a pregnancy test that said "positive," somehow we didn't figure out that meant positive for tissue; it meant positive for a baby.

I look forward to the day when the United States will be a beacon of justice for every child and not just a few; when we will be a Nation that protects the weak, not just a Nation that stands up for the strong; when we will lead the world to protect the innocent and speak for those who cannot speak for themselves; when America is a beacon of hope for every child.

Southern slave owners in 1830 denied humanity to their slaves. Men in 1900

denied women a right to vote. The United States rounded up Japanese Americans in World War II and put them into camps.

All three of those were considered legal and appropriate at the time. All three of those were fought tenaciously when they were changed, and all three of them are a national embarrassment now.

There was a time when the Court ruled that separate but equal was justice. Then, six decades later, they reversed course, ending segregation. Justice requires, when the Court gets it wrong, that they correct their own mistake. This time there are millions of children counting on the Court getting it right.

"Blessed are those who have regard for the weak; the Lord delivers them in times of trouble"—Psalm 41, verse 1.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

DURHAM INVESTIGATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on November 3 of this year, Special Counsel Durham indicted Christopher Steele's primary subsource, Igor Danchenko. He indicted him on five counts of lying to the FBI. He lied about his contacts and the identity of his sources.

One of the more serious lies was about Sergei Millian. The indictment shows that Danchenko alleged a phone call occurred between him and Millian about a Trump-Russia conspiracy. That call was part of the basis that the FBI used to get a FISA warrant on Carter Page.

Now, according to Durham, Steele's source lied about the call because that call never happened. This is yet another stunning, fatal defect against the Obama-Biden administration's fake predicate to investigate Trump—specifically, yet another illustration of Justice Department and FBI failure.

Now, as a result of these failures, this country has been dragged through the mud for years. That statement is well understood at this point, but I have more to explain about it.

The indictment also shows that one of Steele's sources was a "longtime participant in Democratic Party politics" and that he "fabricated" at least some of the information that he gave to Danchenko.

This source, identified as Charles Dolan, "actively campaigned and participated in calls and events as a volunteer on behalf of Hillary Clinton" during the 2016 election.

Another one of Danchenko's sources was also a Hillary Clinton supporter. Charles Dolan gifted to this particular Russian subsource an autobiography of Hillary Clinton signed with these words: "To my good friend, a great Democrat."

Now—get this—while the Democrats were smearing Trump with false Russia allegations, they were the ones rubbing elbows with Russians and spreading false information in the media, and, of

course, the media, as we know, gladly ran with that information. For example, President Biden's current National Security Advisor, Jake Sullivan, promoted the false story about the Russian bank called Alfa Bank communicating with the Trump organization, when he worked for the Clinton campaign.

Notably, during congressional testimony, several years ago, Sullivan said that he wasn't sure who Marc Elias represented when he presented Trump opposition research to the campaign. Now, for crying out loud, Elias was the Clinton campaign's general counsel.

My oversight work dating back to December 2016 has focused on the Democratic Party's and Clinton campaign's links to the Steele dossier. Last Congress, Senator JOHNSON and I obtained many records relating to Cross-fire Hurricane. We were able to get many of them declassified for the public.

I point you to our April 15, 2020; December 3, 2020; and December 18, 2020, press releases on this information. Some of the declassified records show that the FBI had reports in its hand that showed the Steele dossier was most likely tainted with Russian disinformation.

One document indicates that the FBI received a U.S. intelligence report on January 12, 2017, warning of an inaccuracy in the dossier in relation to Michael Cohen. The report assessed that the material was "part of a Russian disinformation campaign to denigrate U.S. foreign relations."

That same day, the FISA warrant against Page was renewed for the first time by Acting Attorney General Sally Yates. This is when the Obama-Biden administration and the Justice Department were still in charge.

A similar U.S. intelligence report arrived on February 27, 2017, undercutting a key allegation against then-President Trump. The report noted claims about Trump's travel to Moscow in 2013 "were false, and they were the product of Russian intelligence services infiltrat[ing] a source into the network" of sources that contributed to the dossier. Just over a month later, the FISA warrant against Page was then renewed for a second time.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that the FBI also opened a counter-intelligence case on Danchenko and failed to tell the FISA Court about it. If this fact pattern was a movie script, nobody would believe it.

With Durham's recent indictments, we now have even more proof that the Trump-Russia collusion investigation had the wrong name. It should have been the Clinton-DNC-Russia collusion investigation.

The media and many members of the Democratic Party ought to be ashamed of the falsehoods that they were spreading throughout these years. Our political discourse has been damaged for decades to come because of that scheme.

Recently, the Washington Post had to correct over a dozen articles relating to its previous Russia reporting in light of the extensive errors made by that newspaper—years of errors, I might add. I think it is somewhat unprecedented, and I am sure the Washington Post hated to retract and correct the record.

As Durham proceeds, I would say this: Don't take your eyes off of government misconduct. The Justice Department and the FBI hid critical information from the FISA Court that would have cut against their case. They failed to correct the record when they should have corrected the record. Simply put, the Justice Department and the FBI misrepresented information to the court. That conduct can't be allowed to pass.

REMEMBERING TOM RITER

Mr. President, on another matter, just a short point I want to make about a very important voice in agriculture journalism that has gone silent.

Every Tuesday morning—probably for 52 weeks out of the year—I hold a conference call with agriculture reporters and farm broadcasters to discuss news and issues impacting the 2 percent of the Americans who feed and fuel the world. I am talking about our family farmers.

For the past several decades, the first question each week came from a very familiar voice in the agriculture community: Tom Riter of WNAX out of Yankton, SD.

Sadly, Tom passed away on November 21, just a few days before Thanksgiving.

Tom rarely—and I mean very rarely—ever missed my weekly call. In fact, he always kicked off the discussion that was carried on by probably another dozen people—kicked off the discussion with a smart question about farm policy. Undoubtedly, his reports kept his listeners informed on issues that make a big difference to their lives, their farms, their ranches, and businesses in the American heartland.

He happened to be a native of Rock Rapids, IA, not far from Yankton. He was a fellow University of Northern Iowa Panther. Tom joined WNAX in 1999, so he was around that station for 22 years, I think it adds up to. Ever since, I have looked forward to our weekly discussions.

I am grateful for Tom's dedication to his craft, specifically his work to expand the public's understanding and appreciation of the ag community's contribution to our society—most importantly, that 2 percent of the people in this country who produce the food for the other 98 percent.

My wife Barbara and I extend our sympathies to Tom's family and friends, the WNAX family, and his colleagues in the ag press community. We lost a very big voice for American agriculture. He will be greatly missed.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS.) Without objection, it is so ordered.

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, our collective heart as a nation is breaking for your State. At Oxford High School today, reports suggest that a 15-year-old turned a semiautomatic weapon on his classmates. Three are dead. Eight are injured.

Our hearts are breaking a little bit harder in Connecticut because we know the pain that ravages a community when a shooting happens at a school. Newtown, CT, will never be the same after what happened there now almost a decade ago.

Reports are that at Oxford High School nearly 100 911 messages came into police during the time of the shooting. It gives you a vision into the terror that happens inside a school when a classmate opens fire. I think about this, first and foremost, as a parent of a seventh grader and a fourth grader who are part of a generation that accepts as part of their childhood the risk of not leaving school at the end of the day because of a violent attack. That is the reality of being a kid in school today. I am angry about it as an American, but I am angry about it as a parent, that my children have to go through active shooter drills because this has become a regular facet of being a child in America—exposure to gun violence.

It sickens me to think that my fourth grader has to worry about this when he goes to school every day.

I understand that my Republican colleagues have very strong views on issues related to abortion, but I listened to my Republican colleagues come down here one after another today and talk about the sanctity of life at the very moment that moms and dads in Michigan were being told that their kids weren't coming home because they were shot at school due to a country that has accepted gun violence due to Republicans' fealty to the gun lobby.

Do not lecture us about the sanctity, the importance of life, when 100 people every single day are losing their lives to guns, when kids go to school fearful that they won't return home because a classmate will turn a gun on them, when it is in our control whether this happens.

You care about life? Then get these dangerous military-style weapons off the streets, out of our schools.

You care about life? Make sure that criminals don't get guns by making sure that everybody goes through a background check in this country.

This only happens in the United States of America. There is no other nation in the high-income world in which kids worry about being shot

when they go to school. It happens here in America because we choose to let it happen.

We are not unlucky. This is purposeful. This is a choice made by the U.S. Senate to sit on our hands and do nothing while kids die.

It doesn't even involve any political risk. The changes we are talking about in order to make our schools safe places, they are supported by the vast majority of Americans, Republicans and Democrats. And yet the gun lobby and the gun industry is more important to half of the Members of the Senate than is the safety of our kids, and that is infuriating.

Make no mistake about it, there is a silent message of endorsement sent to would-be killers, sent to individuals whose brains are spiraling out of control when the highest levels of the U.S. Government does nothing, shooting after shooting. Somewhere in these broken brains, they have convinced themselves that they can right perceived wrongs by firing a gun into a crowd. And when Congress—when the highest, most important, most powerful leaders in the land do nothing, shooting after shooting, you can understand why those broken brains imply that as endorsement. We have become part of the problem. Our silence has become complicity.

And I am here to tell you that there is a very low likelihood that your child will die in a school shooting. It is still a very, very infrequent occurrence in this country, given the number of kids who walk into a school every day. But the very fact that every child fears for their life, the very fact that every parent thinks about this when they send their kid to school, that is both a moral and practical stain on this country because kids' brains can't learn when they fear for their lives. No parent should have to sit down and talk to their kid about why, even though you see this happen in Newtown and you see this happen in Parkland and you see this happen in Michigan and you see this happen in California, it won't happen to you, dear. Because when these kids see it on TV every single day, you can't blame them for coming to the conclusion that it may happen to them.

I remember watching on TV once a young woman in the aftermath of a school shooting. There are so many of them now that I can't even remember which one this was. And she said to the TV reporter who was interviewing her: I just assumed that it would happen at my school eventually.

What a sad state of affairs that this is what it has come to.

I am beyond my tipping point, but I needed to come to the floor today because having sat in that chair listening to my colleagues tell me how much they care about human life—well, you have an opportunity to do something about it. You have an opportunity to save lives right now. Kids that are walking into schools tomorrow need

you—need you—to step up and pass laws that are going to make sure that only responsible people own guns. And the guns that are used in these school shootings—the semiautomatic rifles, the AR-15 variants—they stay in the hands of law enforcement.

And even if you don't believe that those laws will have the practical consequence of stopping every school shooting, please acknowledge that there is a moral impact of the actions that we take. By signaling to everyone in this country—but in particular these individuals who are contemplating these evil actions—that we don't accept this level of carnage, there will be an impact. And I tell you that because I know history.

There are two massive declines in the murder rate in this country in the last 100 years. It is not coincidental to the 10-year period after the two most significant antigun violence measures passed by Congress.

The first big decline is in the late 1930s and 1940s, right after Congress passes its first bill regulating the possession of firearms in this country. The second big decline is in the 1990s and early 2000s right after Congress passes the universal background checks law and the ban on assault-style weapons.

That is not coincidental. It is because those laws had a practical effect on crime but also a moral effect as well. The proof is right there in front of you of what can happen, of how many lives can be saved if we stand up and act.

So, please, I beg my colleagues, if you are going to come down here and talk about the sanctity of life, explain to the American people why the gun lobby matters more than the safety of our children who are walking into school every day fearing for their life.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 8, 2021, AS "NATIONAL FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE CELEBRATION DAY"

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 437.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 437) expressing support for the designation of November 8, 2021,

as "National First-Generation College Celebration Day".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the preamble be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 437) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of November 3, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 462, S. Res. 463, and S. Res. 464.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to; that the preambles be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 462, S. Res. 463, and S. Res. 464) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MORNING BUSINESS

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN "ROWDY" MURPHY

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I rise today to acknowledge and honor MAJ Kevin "Rowdy" Murphy for his dedicated service in the U.S. Air Force and in the Senate as part of the Legislative Defense Fellowship. Major Murphy joined my office in January of this year, where he has expertly served as a trusted adviser and critical member of my team. He is one of the Air Force's finest fighter pilots, having capably flown the F-15E Strike Eagle for the past decade and graduated from the distinguished Air Force Weapons School.

Rowdy served with distinction while assigned to my office. He was instrumental in bringing a partner fighter training mission to Ft. Smith, AR, he helped establish a Defense Department aviation safety council, and he designed legislative defenses against the threat of fiber optic cables from China.

While Major Murphy excelled at his legislative duties, he truly distinguished himself during the evacuation

of Kabul. As Afghanistan collapsed, thousands of Americans and Afghan partners reached out to my office for assistance. Overwhelmed by a flood of stranded civilians a world away, Rowdy snapped into action. He quickly organized a process for triaging and assisting American citizens, green card holders, and Afghans who had fought alongside American forces. He created “baseball cards” for isolated Americans in Kabul, which were passed along to the 10th Mountain Division and special forces units. He helped technologically illiterate evacuees navigate the State Department’s onerous online registration for evacuation, and in dozens of cases, he alerted the State Department to the presence of American citizens stuck inside a collapsing country. In conjunction with my staff in Arkansas, DC, and even one inside Kabul’s airport perimeter, Rowdy worked a long stream of 20-hour days to exfiltrate evacuees.

It is difficult to quantify the number of lives that Major Murphy saved. He provided direct planning support and guidance to 76 evacuees, drawing on his expertise as a fighter pilot to design and execute dozens of successful evacuation strategies. The evacuees ranged from a 1-month-old infant to an 83-year-old cancer patient, all of whom are now safely free of the Taliban’s grasp. During the course of these missions, he coordinated directly with Joint Special Operations Task Force and NATO tier-1 units. Rowdy indirectly helped countless others. He received, logged, and relayed innumerable evacuation requests over those 2 weeks and directly passed along the State Department’s terror warning prior to the suicide bomb attack on the airport’s Abbey Gate. At least 70 people received this notification from Rowdy and took shelter, a testament to his organization and persistence.

Those are the statistics. The personal stories are far more profound. There was Mikey, a brave translator who served alongside U.S. troops. When Mikey’s wife and son were shot by the Taliban, Rowdy acted as a personal 911 dispatcher, staying on the line with Mikey’s family of four for over 5 days and exhausting countless options to safely deliver them from the throngs outside the airport gates. After nearly a week of constant communication, stopping only to sleep for a few hours a night, Rowdy’s direct coordination with U.S. military personnel succeeded in delivering Mikey’s family to safety and medical care. When Mikey finally made it through the airport gates, he was crestfallen to learn that Rowdy was in DC, and not there to greet him inside the airport.

My staff described those 2 weeks in August as relentless and exhausting. When Rowdy would take 3 to 4 hours a night to sleep, he would wake to dozens of new messages from people stranded in Kabul, pleading for help. One member of my DC staff, a marine with combat experience in Afghanistan’s

Helmand province, said the personal toll from 2 weeks of helping desperate people pleading for rescue was more profound and exacting than his wartime service. Yet throughout it all, Rowdy stayed calm, cool, and professional. He kept a relentless focus on his mission. When the final American troops left Afghanistan, Rowdy was instructed to put his phone down for a few days to recover. As a testament to his resilience, he ignored those instructions and kept working on alternate evacuation options for those left behind.

Major Murphy was recently invited to the wedding of one of his evacuees, as a token of deep gratitude and affection for the Air Force major who helped deliver them to safety. His ingenuity, resourcefulness, stamina, and composure under pressure reflect the best that America has to offer.

I want to sincerely thank Rowdy and his wife, Laurel, for a year of exemplary service in my office. But I am especially grateful to him for those 2 weeks in August, when he rose to the challenge that history had thrust upon him. It has been a privilege to watch him work, and he will always have an open door here in my office. It is my sincere hope that the Air Force sees fit to decorate Rowdy after his distinguished service during those dark days. My best to the Murphy family, and “Banzai!”

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARK HAGOPIAN AND JAY ANDERSON

• Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I am proud to recognize Mark Hagopian of Auburn and Jay Anderson of Sandown as November’s Granite Staters of the Month. Mark and Jay partnered together to raise COVID-19 relief money for Granite Staters by designing and selling their own special IPA, which they named “Brain Fog.”

In March of 2020, Mark Hagopian was rushed to Elliot Hospital in Manchester and was immediately admitted to the ICU to be treated for COVID-19. After 3 weeks on a ventilator, Mark miraculously recovered thanks to the hard work of the nurses and medical staff—or “super heroes,” as he calls them.

After his recuperation, Mark wanted to help others, which led him to partner with Elliot Hospital to set up the NH COVID-19 Family Relief Fund. Proceeds go to Granite Staters who continue to feel the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and can help these individuals with healthcare copays, rehabilitation, groceries, and other costs.

When Mark asked his friend Jay Anderson, owner of From the Barrel Brewing Company in Derry, about teaming up, Jay said it was a “no-brainer.” They got to work designing a special IPA with the proceeds going to the NH COVID-19 Family Relief Fund.

Since Mark had been a regular customer, Jay knew exactly what type of beer Mark would like, and together, they named the final product “Brain Fog.”

At the launch event for “Brain Fog,” Granite Staters mingled and heard from Mark and Jay about the NH COVID-19 Family Relief Fund. The beer itself was wildly successful, as evidenced by the fact that Mark and Jay sold out of all the cases of “Brain Fog” that first weekend. The duo plans to revive the brew and continue fundraising for the Elliot Hospital in the future.

Mark and Jay are shining examples of what it means to be Granite Staters. After undergoing intense medical hardship, Mark turned around and started giving back to his community, and Jay was more than ready to help. Not only did they show impressive innovation and entrepreneurship, but they also brought people together during an especially hard time as our State and country continue to feel the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am honored to name them as Granite Staters of the Month, and I look forward to seeing how their future endeavors continue to make our communities stronger.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Norman Jay Ornstein of Washington, DC.

The message also announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, the Clerk of the House appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Ms. Danna Bell of Washington, DC.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator GARY C. PETERS, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Laurel A. Blatchford, of the District of Columbia, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, vice David Arthur Mader.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2644. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Bifenthrin; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 8751-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2645. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2646. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Austin S. Miller, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2647. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Screening the Ready Reserve” (RIN0790-AL00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2648. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2649. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13818 with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2650. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2651. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13959 with respect to the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2652. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13667 with respect to the Central African Republic; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2653. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13338 with respect to Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2654. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2655. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; to the

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2656. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13959 of November 12, 2020, with respect to the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China (PRC); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2657. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Ukraine-Russia-Related Sanctions Regulations” (31 CFR Part 589) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2658. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations” (31 CFR Part 587) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2659. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Performance-Based Investment Advisory Fees” (IA-5904) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 15, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2660. A communication from the Acting Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Canada, Mexico, and Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2661. A communication from the Chief of Staff of the Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 15, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2662. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; ID; West Silver Valley Redesignation to Attainment for the 2012 Annual PM2.5 Standard” (FRL No. 8878-02-R10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2663. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; California; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District; Stationary Source Permits” (FRL No. 8896-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2664. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Arkansas: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision” (FRL No. 8800-02-R6) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2665. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (21-2.B)” ((RIN2070-AB27) (FRL No. 8585-01-OCSPP)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2666. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; California; Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District, Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District, and Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District; Combustion Sources; Correcting Amendment” (FRL No. 8777-03-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2667. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Clean Air Plans; 2008 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area Requirements; West Mojave Desert, California” (FRL No. 8727-03-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2668. A communication from the Endangered Species Biologist, Branche of Delisting and Foreign Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the Humpback Chub From Endangered to Threatened with a Section 4(d) Rule” (RIN1018-BD47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2669. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare and Medicaid Programs; CY 2022 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Model Requirements and Model Expansion; Home Health and Other Quality Reporting Program Requirements; Home Infusion Therapy Services Requirements; Survey and Enforcement Requirements for Hospice Programs; Medicare Provider Enrollment Requirements; and COVID-19 Reporting Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities” (RIN0938-AU37 and RIN0938-AU32) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2670. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare Program; CY 2022 Payment Policies under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Changes to Part B Payment Policies; Medicare Shared Savings Program Requirements; Provider Enrollment Regulation Updates; Provider and Supplier Prepayment and Post-payment Medical Review Requirements” (RIN0938-AU42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 17, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2671. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination" (RIN0938-AU75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2672. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; CY 2022 Methadone Payment Exception" (RIN0938-AU95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2673. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Price Transparency of Hospital Standard Charges; Radiation Oncology Model" (RIN0938-AU43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2674. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, Payment for Renal Dialysis Services Furnished to Individuals with Acute Kidney Injury, End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program, and End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices Model" (RIN0938-AU39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 18, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

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. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 3276. A bill to prohibit the circumvention of control measures used by Internet retailers to ensure equitable consumer access to products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 3277. A bill to enact the Section 401 Certification Rule, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 3278. A bill to protect children and other consumers against hazards associated with the accidental ingestion of button cell or coin batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-resistant closures on consumer products that use such batteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 3279. A bill to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from

Haiti under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3280. A bill to establish the Office of Children in Family Security and an Ambassador at Large for Children in Family Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. 3281. A bill to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to clarify and expand food donation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3282. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act to authorize grants for smart water infrastructure technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3283. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to fully protect the safety of children and the environment, to remove dangerous pesticides from use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 3284. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a toll-free telephone helpline for veterans and other eligible individuals to use to obtain information about the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3285. A bill to improve protections for meatpacking workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3286. A bill to include a Federal defender as a nonvoting member of the United States Sentencing Commission; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LEE, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3287. A bill to provide for the development and issuance of a plan to increase oil and gas production on Federal land in conjunction with a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 3288. A bill to reauthorize and reform the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 460. A resolution designating November 2021 as "National Runaway Prevention Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. Res. 461. A resolution commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS Day; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. Res. 462. A resolution designating November 2021 as "National Lung Cancer Awareness Month" and expressing support for early detection and treatment of lung cancer; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. Res. 463. A resolution expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KING, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BURR, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. Res. 464. A resolution expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children waiting for adoption, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 300

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to address the history of discrimination against Black farmers and ranchers, to require reforms within the Department of Agriculture to prevent future discrimination, and for other purposes.

S. 385

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 385, a bill to improve the full-service community school program, and for other purposes.

S. 697

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth.

S. 766

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 766, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an above-the-line deduction for attorney fees and costs in connection with consumer claim awards.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 773, a bill to enable certain hospitals that were participating in or applied for the drug discount program under section 340B of the Public Health Service Act prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency to temporarily maintain eligibility for such program, and for other purposes.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 923

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 923, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a consumer recycling education and outreach grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 958

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 958, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand the allowable use criteria for new access points grants for community health centers.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1488

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1488, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to establish a basic needs allowance for low-income regular members of the Armed Forces.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1512, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1651

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to impose certain measures with respect to Hizballah-affected areas in Latin America and the Caribbean and to impose sanctions with respect to senior foreign political figures in Latin America who support Hizballah, and for other purposes.

S. 1698

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1698, a bill to allow for hemp-derived cannabidiol and hemp-derived cannabidiol containing substances in dietary supplements and food.

S. 1859

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary concerned to pay a member in the reserve component of an Armed Force a special bonus or incentive pay in the same amount as a member in the regular component of that Armed Force.

S. 1964

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1964, a bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

S. 1988

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1988, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect access to telehealth services under the Medicare program.

S. 2036

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2036, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to establish the Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters, and for other purposes.

S. 2328

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2328, a bill to direct the Presidential designee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to develop and implement a plan to provide end-to-end electronic voting services for absent uniformed services voters under such Act who are deployed or mobilized to locations with limited or immature postal service.

S. 2562

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2562, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve extended care services by providing Medicare beneficiaries with an option for cost effective home-based extended care under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2597

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2597, a bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act with respect to the importation of live dogs, and for other purposes.

S. 2706

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2706, a bill to improve diversity in clinical trials and data collection for COVID-19 and future public health threats to address social determinants of health.

S. 2765

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2765, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 2879

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2879, a bill to provide that Executive Orders 14042 and 14043 shall have no force or effect.

S. 2959

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2959, a bill to provide that, due to disruptions caused by COVID-19, applications for impact aid funding for fiscal year 2023 may use certain data submitted in the fiscal year 2022 application.

S. 3029

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3029, a bill to amend section 230(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 to remove immunity for providers of interactive computer services for certain claims, and for other purposes.

S. 3094

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3094, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve homeless veterans reintegration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 3161

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3161, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to supplement the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense.

S. 3181

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3181, a bill to prohibit certain foreign and domestic emoluments, and for other purposes.

S. 3215

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3215, a bill to amend the Act of August 10, 1956, to provide for the payment of pay and allowances for certain officers of the Army who are assigned to the Corps of Engineers.

S. 3227

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3227, a bill to require U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to facilitate naturalization services for noncitizen veterans who have been removed from the United States or are inadmissible.

S. 3235

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3235, a bill to apply the Truth in Lending Act to small business financing, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense articles.

AMENDMENT NO. 3990

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3990 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4068

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4068 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4069

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4069 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for mili-

tary construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4306

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4306 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4316

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4316 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4482

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4482 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4799

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4799 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4860

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4860 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself,
Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, Mr.
CRAMER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr.

LANKFORD, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr.
MARSHALL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH,
Mr. LEE, and Mrs. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3287. A bill to provide for the development and issuance of a plan to increase oil and gas production on Federal land in conjunction with a draw-down of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the need for more American energy, not energy that the President is begging to OPEC or Russia to produce for America but American energy.

Last week, President Biden ordered the release of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The President, by doing that, in my opinion, is just pretending to show concern about the high cost of energy in this country. I will get into why I think he is only pretending to show it because the amount he released is so very little. In reality, this President's call to release energy oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve was an admission of failure of this President and this administration.

Releasing oil from the Reserve is something that Presidents did in the past during times of war, the Iraq war, after Hurricane Katrina, and during the Arab Spring. In other words, it is something Presidents do in times of crisis.

Well, President Biden doesn't want to admit that he has created an emergency crisis in our country, but his actions of calling on the release from the Strategic Reserve—the actions speak louder than his words. By releasing oil from the Reserve now, the President is admitting what every American knows, that America has an energy crisis and it is not for lack of the fact that we have plenty of energy reserves here in the United States.

Last week, an estimated 50 million people over Thanksgiving weekend took to the roads. Those who drove paid the most for gasoline that they have in 7 years. Gasoline and diesel fuel prices are sky-high, and they have increased more than a dollar a gallon since Joe Biden took office just in January.

Why is it happening? Well, it is economics 101, really. You have demand; you have supply. Demand is up; supply is down. With the end of the lockdown, demand for gasoline has increased as people took to the roads. Yet domestic supply is still below the peak that we reached under President Trump.

The Biden administration wants us to believe that releasing oil will solve the problem when he taps the Strategic Reserve, but I don't even think President Biden believes it. I am not sure they actually know what they are doing. If you watched that press conference with the Secretary of Energy last week, she was asked how much oil the American people use. She admitted she didn't know. She said: I don't have a number in front of me. She didn't

know how much oil, how much energy Americans use. The Nation's top energy official doesn't know how much oil the American people use so how can she then know that the amount to call for the release is the right amount or not? She is President Biden's top lieutenant in the war on American energy. She doesn't know how much we use.

Well, the media has broadly reported that the total amount that Joe Biden is releasing from the Petroleum Reserve is what the American people use every 2½ days—every 2½ days. That is the total amount that is being released. It is the amount that we in the United States use every 2½ days. This is a drop in the bucket when it comes to oil prices and energy prices and what people are paying at the pump.

It is not a long-term solution. It is not even a short-term solution. It is just a carefully created sound bite. Oil production is down by nearly 2 million barrels a day compared to the peak under President Trump. It is not a surprise when you take a look at the attack on American energy that President Biden and this administration have continued to do since day 1, when he killed the Keystone XL Pipeline.

The administration also announced last week, without any fanfare, without the President making a statement at the White House—the Department of the Interior said: Oh, by the way, American people, we are going to do this the day after Thanksgiving, when you are busy doing other things, maybe going shopping, doing other things and not paying attention to the news of the day. This administration called for additional fees, more taxes, more expenses on oil and gas leases on Federal land. That impacts my State dramatically. This is in addition to the fees that the President is also including in this massive tax-and-spending bill that the Senate is going to be considering.

This is also economics 101. Higher fees on the cost of producing oil means higher prices for people at the pump—astonishing—making it harder to produce and more expensive to produce American energy. Begging OPEC and Russia to produce more to sell to us is a jackpot for Vladimir Putin. So if President Biden and his Department of the Interior get their way, the prices will go up even higher. Inflation is here to stay under the Democrats.

The American people deserve better. They deserve real solutions in this energy crisis that this administration has created. Higher fees are only going to get passed on to consumers. Instead of spending our savings, we should be producing more American energy. Why are we sending this money to Vladimir Putin and begging him to produce more so we can send him even more money? That is the policy of this administration.

Today, I am introducing legislation that says an administration needs to develop a plan to increase oil and gas production anytime an administration taps the Reserve unless there is an en-

ergy supply emergency like Katrina, like a war. Those are the things that are legitimate reasons to release energy from the Strategic Reserve. The Reserve is for emergencies, not for sound bites. It is not supposed to be a bandaid for bad policies.

If the President is tapping the Reserve, he also ought to increase American energy production. So I urge my colleagues to return to the policies that gave us the best economic times in my lifetime, return to the policies that made us energy-independent as a nation for the first time in 70 years, return to the policies that made us the No. 1 producer of petroleum in the world. We are much stronger and better as a nation if we are selling American energy to our friends than if we have to buy it from our enemies. Apparently, the President does not fully grasp that or believe in that or he would not be begging Vladimir Putin to produce more energy; he would be encouraging America to produce more energy, which we have here.

It is time to stop the restrictions on energy production, time to stop the rush to raise billions in taxes, time to stop the President and the Democrats' declared war on American energy.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 460—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2021 AS “NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH”

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 460

Whereas results from the Voices of Youth Count national survey, which was published by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago in “Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America”, indicate that, between 2015 and 2017, an estimated 4,200,000 youth and young adults between 13 and 24 years of age experienced homelessness during a 12-month period, including—

- (1) an estimated 700,000 youth between 13 and 17 years of age who experienced unaccompanied homelessness; and
- (2) an estimated 3,500,000 young adults between 18 and 24 years of age;

Whereas the rates of youth experiencing homelessness are similar in rural and non-rural areas;

Whereas, often, runaway youth—

- (1) have been expelled from their homes by their families;
- (2) have experienced abuse and trauma;
- (3) are involved in the foster care system;
- (4) lack resources to secure their own basic needs; and
- (5) are ineligible or unable to access medical or mental health resources;

Whereas individuals without a high school degree or general educational development certificate are nearly four times more likely to report homelessness than their peers;

Whereas youth of color and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning (commonly referred to as “LGBTQ”) youth

experience higher rates of homelessness than their heterosexual and white peers;

Whereas pregnant youth, parents who are 25 years of age or younger, and their children experience higher rates of homelessness than youth and young adults without children;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native youth are the group most at risk for experiencing homelessness, as 9 percent of 13 to 17 year olds in such group reported experiencing homelessness during a 12-month period, a rate more than double any other group;

Whereas runaway and homeless youth are at an increased risk of exploitation and becoming victims of sex and labor trafficking, and between 19 percent and 49 percent of young individuals who experience homelessness will become victims of trafficking;

Whereas youth who run away from home or from foster care are at increased risk of encountering the police and the court system due to laws that prohibit certain actions necessary for the survival of homeless youth;

Whereas preventing youth from running away from home and from foster care and supporting youth in high risk situations should be community priorities;

Whereas the future of the United States depends on children and the value placed on their ability to acquire the knowledge, skills, and opportunities necessary to successfully develop into safe, healthy, and productive adults;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic, which was declared a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), has negatively impacted homeless youth;

Whereas effective programs that support runaway youth and assist youth and their families by providing safe and stable homes succeed because of partnerships created among families, youth-based advocacy organizations, community-based human service agencies, law enforcement agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and businesses; and

Whereas the National Runaway Safeline and the National Network for Youth are leading the promotion of National Runaway Prevention Month in November 2021—

(1) to raise awareness of the runaway and homeless youth crisis and the issues faced by runaway and homeless youth;

(2) to educate the public about solutions and the role the public can play in ending youth homelessness; and

(3) to bring together a broad range of stakeholders to tackle the crisis of youth homelessness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2021 as “National Runaway Prevention Month”; and

(2) recognizes and supports the goals and ideals of National Runaway Prevention Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 461—COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF WORLD AIDS DAY

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 461

Whereas, as of the end of 2020, an estimated 37,700,000 people were living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), including 1,720,000 children;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 770,000 people with AIDS have died since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, including

nearly 16,000 deaths among people with diagnosed HIV in 2019, with the disease disproportionately affecting communities of color;

Whereas each year nearly 40,000 people become newly diagnosed with HIV in the United States;

Whereas communities of color are disproportionately affected by HIV in the United States;

Whereas, in order to address the HIV epidemic in the United States, on August 18, 1990, Congress enacted the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act (Public Law 101-381; commonly referred to as the “Ryan White CARE Act”) to provide primary medical care and essential support services for people living with HIV who are uninsured or underinsured;

Whereas the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides services and support for over half of all people diagnosed with HIV in the United States;

Whereas to further focus attention on the HIV/AIDS epidemic among minority communities in the United States, in 1998 the Minority AIDS Initiative was established to provide funds to State and local institutions and organizations to best serve the health care costs and support the needs of racial and ethnic minorities living with HIV;

Whereas the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals established a global target to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030;

Whereas, in order to further address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic, in 2003, Congress and the White House created the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR);

Whereas the United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program remains the largest commitment in history by any country to combat a single disease;

Whereas, as of 2020, PEPFAR has supported treatment for approximately 17,200,000 people, and has enabled 2,800,000 infants of mothers living with HIV to be born HIV-free;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2020, PEPFAR directly supported HIV testing and counseling for 50,000,000 people;

Whereas the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was launched in 2002, and, as of 2020, has helped provide antiretroviral therapy to approximately 21,900,000 people living with HIV/AIDS and to 686,000 pregnant women to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS to their children, saving an estimated 44,000,000 lives;

Whereas the United States is the largest donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and every \$1 contributed by the United States leverages an additional \$2 from other donors, as required by law;

Whereas considerable progress has been made in the fight against HIV/AIDS, including a nearly 30-percent reduction in new HIV infections, an over 50-percent reduction in new HIV infections among children, and an over 45-percent reduction in the number of AIDS-related deaths between 2010 and 2020;

Whereas approximately 27,500,000 people had access to antiretroviral therapy in 2020, compared to only 7,800,000 people who had access to such therapy in 2010;

Whereas research funded by the National Institutes of Health found that HIV treatment not only saves the lives of people living with HIV, but people living with HIV on effective antiretroviral therapy and who are durably virally suppressed cannot sexually transmit HIV—proving that HIV treatment is prevention;

Whereas it is estimated that, without treatment, half of all infants living with HIV will die before their second birthday;

Whereas, despite the remarkable progress in combating HIV, significant challenges remain;

Whereas there were approximately 1,500,000 new HIV infections in 2020 globally, structural barriers continue to make testing and treatment programs inaccessible to highly vulnerable populations, and an estimated 6,100,000 people living with HIV globally still do not know their HIV status;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that nearly 37,000 people were diagnosed with HIV in the United States in 2018 and 14 percent of the 1,200,000 people in the United States living with HIV are not aware of their HIV status;

Whereas men who have sex with men (MSM), particularly young MSM of color, are the population most affected by HIV in the United States;

Whereas southern States bear the greatest burden of HIV in the United States, accounting for 51 percent of new infections in 2018;

Whereas people living with HIV are frequently susceptible to other infections, such as hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis;

Whereas the opioid and heroin epidemics have led to increased numbers of new HIV infections among people who inject drugs, and the crisis has disproportionately affected nonurban areas, where HIV prevalence rates have been low historically and have limited services for HIV prevention and treatment and substance use disorder treatment;

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has placed a significant burden on the public health systems across the United States and the globe;

Whereas December 1 of each year is internationally recognized as “World AIDS Day”; and

Whereas, in 2021, commemorations for World AIDS Day recognize the need for “Ending the HIV Epidemic: Equitable Access, Everyone’s Voice”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World AIDS Day, including the goal to achieve zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths;

(2) commends the efforts and achievements in combating HIV/AIDS through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act, the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Office of Minority Health, and the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(3) commends the efforts and achievements in combating HIV/AIDS made by PEPFAR, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

(4) supports efforts to end the HIV epidemic in the United States and around the world by 2030;

(5) supports continued funding for prevention, care, and treatment services, and research programs for communities impacted by HIV and people living with HIV in the United States and globally;

(6) urges, in order to ensure that an AIDS-free generation is achievable, rapid action by all countries toward further expansion and scale-up of antiretroviral treatment programs, including efforts to reduce disparities and improve access for children to life-saving medications;

(7) encourages the scaling up of comprehensive prevention services, including biomedical and structural interventions, to ensure inclusive access to programs and appropriate protections for all people at risk of contracting HIV, especially in communities disproportionately impacted;

(8) calls for greater focus on the HIV-related vulnerabilities of women and girls, including women and girls at risk for or who have survived violence or faced discrimination as a result of the disease;

(9) supports continued leadership by the United States in domestic, bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to fight HIV;

(10) encourages input from civil society in the development and implementation of domestic and global HIV policies and programs that guide the response;

(11) encourages and supports greater degrees of ownership and shared responsibility by developing countries in order to ensure the sustainability of the domestic responses to HIV/AIDS by those countries; and

(12) urges other members of the international community to sustain and scale up their support for and financial contributions to efforts around the world to combat HIV.

SENATE RESOLUTION 462—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2021 AS “NATIONAL LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH” AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT OF LUNG CANCER

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 462

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death among men and women in the United States, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined;

Whereas 1 in 15 men and 1 in 17 women in the United States will develop lung cancer during their lifetime;

Whereas it is estimated that, in 2021, 235,760 individuals in the United States will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and 131,880 individuals will die from the disease;

Whereas lung cancer incidence is decreasing twice as fast in men as in women, each year more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer, and by 2035, it is estimated that more women will die from lung cancer than men;

Whereas disparities in lung cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment, and mortality are well-documented, and Black men have the highest incidence of lung cancer and the highest mortality rate from lung cancer of any racial or ethnic group;

Whereas, annually, lung cancer in individuals who have never smoked is the seventh leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for between 17,000 and 26,000 deaths in the United States;

Whereas women who have never smoked are more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer than men who have never smoked;

Whereas, in the United States, the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed in individuals who have never smoked is increasing;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is 60 percent, yet only about 18 percent of lung cancers are diagnosed at this stage;

Whereas screening individuals at high risk of lung cancer using low-dose computed tomography can detect lung cancer earlier than other forms of screening and ultimately save lives;

Whereas lung cancer screening can effectively reduce lung cancer mortality, but, annually, only between 2.8 and 7.2 percent of individuals in the United States eligible for

lung cancer screening undergo lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography;

Whereas current lung cancer screening guidelines help catch cancer early for individuals at high risk of lung cancer, leading to a higher likelihood of successful treatment, but can preclude screening for individuals who develop lung cancer, including individuals who have never smoked but have other risk factors, such as family history of lung cancer, exposure to secondhand smoke, or exposure to radon, which is the second leading cause of lung cancer; and

Whereas educational efforts can increase awareness of lung cancer and lung cancer screening among the general public, patients and their families, and health care workers, thereby increasing the early detection of lung cancer; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2021 as “National Lung Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the purposes and ideals of National Lung Cancer Awareness Month;

(3) promotes efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, lung cancer among individuals in the United States;

(4) champions efforts to increase lung cancer screening by raising awareness among, and improving access for, individuals who are eligible for lung cancer screening;

(5) recognizes the need for research on the early screening, diagnosis, and treatment of lung cancer; and

(6) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Lung Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate awareness and educational activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 463—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 463

Whereas stomach cancer, also known as gastric cancer, is one of the most difficult cancers to detect in the early stages of the disease, which contributes to high mortality rates;

Whereas stomach cancer occurs when cancer cells develop in the lining of the stomach;

Whereas stomach cancer is the fifth most common type of cancer worldwide;

Whereas, in 2021, an estimated—

(1) 26,560 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed in the United States; and

(2) 11,180 people in the United States will die from stomach cancer;

Whereas the estimated 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer is only 32.4 percent;

Whereas, in the United States, stomach cancer is more prevalent among racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer among patients and health care providers could improve timely recognition of stomach cancer symptoms;

Whereas more research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer is needed; and

Whereas November 2021 is an appropriate month to observe Stomach Cancer Awareness Month; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month;

(2) supports efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer

among the general public of the United States;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer; and

(4) encourages States, territories, and localities of the United States to support the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 464—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH AND NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY BY PROMOTING NATIONAL AWARENESS OF ADOPTION AND THE CHILDREN WAITING FOR ADOPTION, CELEBRATING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES INVOLVED IN ADOPTION, AND ENCOURAGING THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO SECURE SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL CHILDREN

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KING, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BURR, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 464

Whereas there are far too many children outside of permanent family care and in the United States foster care system, who are waiting to be adopted;

Whereas the Children’s Bureau, an office of the Administration for Children and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services, supports programs, research, and monitoring to help eliminate barriers to adoption and find permanent families for children;

Whereas, every day, loving and nurturing families are strengthened and expanded when committed and dedicated individuals make an important difference in the life of a child through adoption;

Whereas the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges to—

(1) the United States;

(2) the foster care system, including kinship care;

(3) prospective adoptive parents; and

(4) the children awaiting permanency;

Whereas foster care systems, prospective adoptive parents, and the children awaiting permanency have stepped up in brave and inspiring ways in order to meet these challenges;

Whereas the President traditionally issues an annual proclamation to declare the month of November as National Adoption Month, and the President has proclaimed November 2021 as National Adoption Month;

Whereas National Adoption Day has been celebrated as a collective national effort to

find permanent and loving families for children in the foster care system; and

Whereas the Saturday before Thanksgiving has been recognized as National Adoption Day since at least 2000, and in 2021, the Saturday before Thanksgiving is November 20; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day;

(2) recognizes that every child should have a permanent and loving family; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to consider adoption during the month of November and throughout the year.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4861. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. ERNST, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4862. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4861. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. ERNST, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 1216. STRATEGY TO SUPPORT NATIONALS OF AFGHANISTAN WHO ARE APPLICANTS FOR SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISAS OR FOR REFERRAL TO THE UNITED STATES REFUGEE ADMISSIONS PROGRAM.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should increase support for nationals of Afghanistan who aided the United States mission in Afghanistan during the past 20 years and are now under threat from the Taliban, specifically such nationals of Afghanistan, in Afghanistan or third countries, who are applicants for—

(1) special immigrant visas under the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note; Public Law 111-8) or section 1059 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note; Public Law 109-163); or

(2) referral to the United States Refugee Admissions Program as refugees (as defined in section 101(a)(42) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42))), including as Priority 2 refugees.

(b) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a strategy for the safe processing abroad of nationals of Afghanistan described in subsection (a).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall include a detailed plan—

(A) to prioritize for evacuation from Afghanistan nationals of Afghanistan described in subsection (a);

(B) to provide for expedited initial security vetting for such nationals of Afghanistan, to be conducted remotely before their departure from Afghanistan;

(C) to facilitate, after such vetting, the rapid departure from Afghanistan by air charter and land passage of such nationals of Afghanistan who satisfy the requirements of such vetting;

(D) to provide letters of support, diplomatic notes, and other documentation, as appropriate, to ease transit for such nationals of Afghanistan;

(E) to engage governments of relevant countries to better facilitate evacuation of such nationals of Afghanistan;

(F) to disseminate frequent updates to such nationals of Afghanistan and relevant nongovernmental organizations with respect to evacuation from Afghanistan;

(G) to identify and establish sufficient locations outside Afghanistan and the United States that will accept such nationals of Afghanistan during case processing (including during the processes of vetting and establishing the eligibility of such nationals of Afghanistan before their travel to the United States, which shall include any in-person interview required for full adjudication of a case and, in the case of a special immigrant visa, issuance of such visa) for—

(i) the special immigrant visas described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a); or

(ii) referral to, and acceptance for resettlement in the United States by, the United States Refugee Admissions Program described in paragraph (2) of that subsection;

(H) to identify necessary resource, personnel, and equipment requirements to increase capacity to better support such nationals of Afghanistan and reduce their application processing times, while ensuring strict and necessary security vetting, including, to the extent practicable, by allowing such nationals of Afghanistan to receive referrals to the United States Refugee Admissions Program while they are still in Afghanistan so as to initiate application processing more expeditiously; and

(I) to provide for relocation outside Afghanistan to third countries for nationals of Afghanistan described in subsection (a) who are unable to successfully complete security vetting and application processing to establish eligibility to travel to the United States.

(3) FORM.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) MONTHLY REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and monthly thereafter until December 31, 2022, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on efforts to support nationals of Afghanistan described in subsection (a).

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The number of nationals of Afghanistan referred to the United States Refugee Admissions Program as Priority 1 and Priority 2 refugees since August 29, 2021.

(B) An assessment of whether each such refugee—

(i) remains in Afghanistan; or

(ii) is outside Afghanistan.

(C) With respect to nationals of Afghanistan who have applied for referral to the United States Refugee Program, the number of applications that—

(i) have been approved;

(ii) have been denied; and

(iii) are pending adjudication.

(D) The number of nationals of Afghanistan who have pending applications for special immigrant visas described in subsection (a)(1), disaggregated by the special immigrant visa processing steps completed with respect to such individuals.

(E) A description of the measures taken to implement the strategy under subsection (b).

(d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

SA 4862. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. ERNST) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3867 proposed by Mr. REED to the bill H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1216. STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Since May 2021, the escalation of violent conflict in Afghanistan has forcibly displaced an estimated 655,000 civilians, and 80 percent of those forced to flee are women and children.

(2) Since regaining control of Afghanistan in August 2021, the Taliban have taken actions reminiscent of their brutal rule in the late 1990s, including by cracking down on protesters, detaining and beating journalists, reestablishing the Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, and requiring women to study at secondary schools and universities in gender-segregated classrooms while wearing Islamic attire.

(3) Until the Taliban assumed control of the country in August 2021, the women and girls of Afghanistan had achieved much since 2001, even as insecurity, poverty, underdevelopment, and patriarchal norms continued to limit their rights and opportunities in much of Afghanistan.

(4) Through strong support from the United States and the international community—

(A) female enrollment in public schools in Afghanistan continued to increase through 2015, with an estimated high of 50 percent of school age girls attending; and

(B) by 2019—

(i) women held political leadership positions, and women served as ambassadors; and

(ii) women served as professors, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, police, military members, health professionals, journalists, humanitarian and developmental aid workers, and entrepreneurs.

(5) Efforts to empower women and girls in Afghanistan continue to serve the national interests of Afghanistan and the United States because women are sources of peace and economic progress.

(6) With the return of Taliban control, the United States has little ability to preserve the internationally recognized human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan, and those women and girls may again face the intimidation and marginalization they faced under the last Taliban regime.

(7) Women and girls in Afghanistan are again facing gender-based violence, including—

(A) forced marriage;

(B) intimate partner and domestic violence;

(C) sexual harassment;

(D) sexual violence, including rape; and

(E) emotional and psychological violence.

(8) Gender-based violence has always been a significant problem in Afghanistan and is expected to become more widespread with the Taliban in control.

(9) Prior to the Taliban takeover in August 2021, approximately 7,000,000 people in Afghanistan lacked or had limited access to life-saving health services as a result of inadequate public health coverage, weak health systems, and conflict-related interruptions in care.

(10) Women and girls faced additional challenges, as their access to prenatal, childbirth, and postpartum care was limited due to a shortage of female medical staff, cultural barriers, stigma and fears of reprisals following sexual violence, or other barriers to mobility, including security fears.

(11) Only approximately 50 percent of pregnant women and girls in Afghanistan deliver their children in a health facility with a professional attendant, which increases the risk of complications in childbirth and preventable maternal mortality.

(12) Food insecurity in Afghanistan is also posing a variety of threats to women and girls, as malnutrition weakens their immune systems and makes them more susceptible to infections, complications during pregnancy, and risks during childbirth.

(13) With the combined impacts of ongoing conflict, drought, and COVID-19, Afghan households increasingly resort to child marriage, forced marriage, and child labor to address food insecurity and other effects of extreme poverty.

(14) In Afghanistan, the high prevalence of anemia among adolescent girls reduces their ability to survive childbirth, especially when coupled with high rates of child marriage and forced marriage and barriers to accessing prenatal and childbirth services.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) since 2001, organizations and networks promoting the empowerment of women and girls have been important engines of social, economic, and political development in Afghanistan;

(2) any future political order in Afghanistan should secure the political, economic, and social gains made by Afghan women and work to increase the equal treatment of women and girls in society;

(3) respecting the internationally recognized human rights of all people is essential to securing lasting peace and sustainable development in Afghanistan;

(4) in cooperation with international partners, the United States must endeavor to

preserve the hard-won gains made in Afghanistan during the past two decades, particularly as related to the social, economic, and political empowerment of women and girls in society;

(5) the continued provision of humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan should be targeted toward the most vulnerable, including for the protection, education, and well-being of women and girls;

(6) immediate and ongoing humanitarian needs in Afghanistan can only be met by a humanitarian response that includes formal agreements between local nongovernmental organizations, including women-led organizations, and international partners that promotes the safe access and participation of female staff at all levels and across functional roles among all humanitarian actors; and

(7) a lack of aid would exacerbate the current humanitarian crisis and harm the well-being of women and girls in Afghanistan.

(C) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS OF AFGHANISTAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of the United States—

(A) to continue to support the internationally recognized human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan following the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan, including through mechanisms to hold all parties publicly accountable for violations of such rights against women and girls and violations and abuses of international humanitarian law;

(B) to strongly oppose any weakening of the political or economic rights of women and girls in Afghanistan;

(C) to use the voice and influence of the United States at the United Nations to promote, respect, and uphold the internationally recognized human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan, including the right to safely work, including outside the home;

(D) to identify individuals who violate the internationally recognized human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan, such as by committing acts of murder, lynching, and grievous domestic violence against women, and to press for bringing those individuals to justice; and

(E) to systematically consult with Afghan women and girls (including women and girls who are part of the Afghan diaspora community), including through women-led organizations and networks, on their needs and priorities in the development, implementation, and monitoring of humanitarian action, diplomatic efforts, and foreign assistance activities.

(d) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND AFGHAN WOMEN.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, should work to ensure that Afghan women are employed and enabled to work in the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan, to the extent practicable.

(e) REPORT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter through 2024, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, and make available to the public, a report that includes the following:

(A) An assessment of, including recommendations on, the status of women and girls in Afghanistan following the departure of United States and partner military forces, including with respect to the access of such women and girls to primary and secondary

education, primary and emergency health care, and legal protections and status.

(B) An assessment of the political and civic participation of women and girls in Afghanistan.

(C) An assessment of the employment of women in both the public and private sectors in Afghanistan.

(D) An assessment of the prevalence of gender-based violence in Afghanistan and the status of access to justice and other dispute resolution mechanisms to redress incidents of gender-based violence.

(E) A report on funds for United States foreign assistance obligated or expended during the period covered by the report to advance gender equality and the internationally recognized human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan, including funds directed toward local organizations promoting such rights of women and girls, that includes the following:

(i) The amounts awarded to prime recipients and subrecipients for such purposes during the reporting period.

(ii) A description of each program for which such funds are used for such purposes.

(2) ASSESSMENT.—

(A) INPUT.—The assessment described in paragraph (1)(A) shall include the input of—

(i) Afghan women and girls;

(ii) Afghan and international organizations employing and working with Afghan women and girls; and

(iii) Afghan and international humanitarian organizations, including faith-based organizations, providing assistance in Afghanistan.

(B) SAFETY AND CONFIDENTIALITY.—In carrying out the assessment described in paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure the safety and confidentiality of personal information of each individual who provides information from within Afghanistan.

(3) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 10 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 Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, PRODUCT SAFETY, AND DATA SECURITY

The Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Lieutenant Colonel John Meyer be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon, Wednesday, December 1; 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 morning business be closed; and that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 4350, the National Defense Authorization Act.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:08 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 12 noon.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate November 30, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

COREY HINDERSTEIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL JOSEPH CAVALLERO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Michael Cavallero. Michael passed away to be with the Lord on November 2, 2021. He was a protector, family man, and helped so many in the community.

Michael was an officer for the Fresno Police Department (FPD) for 32 years. He has served on the Fresno Police Credit Union Board of Directors. Michael wanted what was best for his officers and worked hard to do what was best for them, even after his retirement. Michael has helped with the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) for region II, and Fresno Police Officers Association (FPOA). Always involved, Michael always wanted to be helpful the best way possible.

During his spare time, Michael enjoyed watching football; specifically his favorite team the San Francisco 49ers. For baseball, he enjoyed the San Francisco Giants and the Fresno Grizzlies. He loved being with his wife, Marsha, his siblings, and his two rescued cats from the Cat House, Max and Ruby.

Michael is survived by his loving wife, Marsha; siblings Libby, Steve, Jim, Joan, and Tim; and many nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Michael Joseph Cavallero. His service and contributions to the State of California and the San Joaquin Valley will always be celebrated.

HONORING DEACONESS EASTER MAE GREEN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Deaconess Easter Mae Green and her decades of service in our Bay Area community.

Deaconess Green was born in Waterproof, Louisiana on October 17, 1926. She was one of many African Americans to migrate West from the Jim Crow South, hoping to find a better life for her family. She arrived in the Bay Area in 1952 and began working in Oakland's manufacturing industry, eventually gaining the ability to move her brothers and her mother to California.

Deaconess Green understood the importance of establishing financial stability as a single mother, and thus became an entrepreneur in the Oakland community. She opened Easter's Beauty Salon in East Oakland, which operated for more than 30 years. The salon provided many services to the com-

munity and became a strong pathway of entrepreneurship for other female cosmetologists in the Oakland area.

Deaconess Green's good works in the community were truly remarkable. In addition to raising four biological children, she provided a safe and secure home to more than 158 foster children. She became a mentor for other young and single mothers and helped raise scholarship funds for students. Her service was recognized by Alameda County, and she would later publish her reflections in "The Value of Motherhood" in the Woman of Color Study Bible in 1999.

Deaconess Green was strongly devoted to faith as a 38-year member of the Allen Temple Baptist Church, where her daughter, Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson, now serves as senior pastor. She later became a Deaconess to provide physical and spiritual support to anyone in need.

She lived her life as a reflection of her values—equal opportunity for women, care for children, and protection of the most vulnerable around us. She will be missed.

My deepest condolences and prayers go to her family friends and loved ones, and my great respect and sympathies go to my dear friend and pastor, Reverend Thompson, who was a supportive and loving caregiver of her mother until the very end.

Today, on behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I commend Deaconess Green for her lifelong work as an entrepreneur, a mentor, and spiritual leader. As she returns to her maker, may this beautiful woman of God, Deaconess Easter Mae Green, rest in peace and power.

DOMINIC C. JONES

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, this month, I had the pleasure of presenting Dominic Jones with his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Dominic joined the cub scouts Pack 10 at South Vineland Methodist Church at the age of 6. In the Pack 10, he earned the cub scouts highest honor, the Arrow of Light. Dominic, with his friend Tyler, then became the founding member of Troop 2. He served as Quartermaster for Troop 2 for three years and became a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow. In October of 2019, Dominic earned scouting's highest rank, the Eagle Scout. For his Eagle project, he built raised garden beds for the residents of Baker Place Senior living. Dominic obtained all the materials for the garden beds through donations and worked with volunteers to construct the beds. This young man should be very proud of his accomplishments. It was my honor to have had the opportunity to recognize him for his service to the South Jersey community. God Bless Dominic and God Bless America.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROSALIND JACKSON AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise—along with HANK JOHNSON, Chair of the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet—to thank Rosalind Jackson for her decades of service to the Committee on the Judiciary. The House of Representatives has been fortunate to benefit from Rosalind's service during two separate stints.

When the public watches a congressional hearing or markup, they often do not know all of the work that goes into making those events come to fruition. For our Committee, we have been fortunate to have Rosalind working behind the scenes to ensure they go smoothly. From sending out notices and witness invites to compiling witness bios, working the timer, and getting committee reports and transcripts printed, Rosalind has played a key role from start to finish on more than a hundred hearings and markups during her time here. She has also performed an invaluable service in helping the Committee to save and archive its records each Congress.

While Rosalind has supported numerous Subcommittees, as well as the full Committee, over the years, she has worked especially closely with the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet. In this role, she played a critical role in supporting the Subcommittee staff as they worked on complex legislation, such as, among other things, the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, the PRO-IP Act, the Innovation Act and the America Invents Act—indeed every major copyright and patent law enacted over the last 15 years and earlier. Her active involvement has continued through the Committee's consideration several months ago of the SHOP SAFE Act as well.

Rosalind's dedication to public service, institutional memory, and work ethic have been a tremendous gift to the Committee over the years. Her warmth and kindness have not only served her well in developing good relationships across the Capitol but have created a welcoming environment for every staff member, Member of Congress, witness, intern, and visitor who has had the benefit of interacting with her.

Rosalind is a team player who is always willing to help out however is needed. We will miss her deeply on the Committee, but we are excited for her as she enjoys retirement after a career in public service. Our country is fortunate to have had Rosalind working in Congress these past decades.

We thank Rosalind for her service to the Committee and wish her the best of luck with this new chapter.

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PETER
ARAM KEZIRIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Peter Aram Kezirian, who passed away at the age of 67. Although he will be remembered for his service in the military and his contributions to the community of Fresno, California, he will mostly be remembered for his devotion to his family and friends, who he was always there for, whenever they needed him.

Peter graduated from Central High School and earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno. He was a hard worker and spent his entire life working for the Kezirian family businesses. First, he worked at Rolinda Farmers Store until 1997, when the store closed; and then he worked at managing the family farm.

Peter dedicated 30 years of his life serving with the 144th Fighter Wing of the California Air National Guard. Achieving the rank of Master Sergeant, he retired with an honorable discharge in 2003. When he was not serving in the military, he continued his work with the family businesses, and loved watching his favorite sports teams play. He loved the San Francisco Giants and was a true fan of the Chicago Bears. When it came to NASCAR, he was a grand prix enthusiast.

Peter is survived by his mother Alice Kezirian; brothers Vaughn Kezirian (Ann) and Robert Kezirian, sisters Terry Kezirian, Paula Cunningham (Brian), and Janice Kezirian (Dalton Bennett). He leaves behind his many nieces and nephews, family members and dear friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and achievements of my friend, Peter Aram Kezirian. He was a respected member in the community, a loving son and brother and a veteran, who had a passion for life and the people of the Central Valley.

CELEBRATING THE EAST BAY
AREA SECTION OF THE NATIONAL
COUNCIL OF NEGRO
WOMEN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the East Bay Area Section of the National Council of Negro Women. The National Council of Negro Women is a non-profit organization with the mission to "lead, advocate for, and empower women of African descent, their families and communities." NCNW was founded in 1935 by the influential educator and activist Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune and the iconic Dr. Dorothy Height served as president of the organization for more than fifty years. For seventy years, the East Bay Section of NCNW has followed in the footsteps of the organization's founder and its longtime president by serving as a pillar of the Bay Area community.

The strength of the East Bay Section lies in its exceptional members. Led by President Carlene Gray, the members of this Section are leaders in their industries and in their community. Some are students, others are educators, business owners, healthcare professionals, civil servants, and others have retired. What they all have in common is their commitment to improving their community and empowering its people. They believe they are their sister's keeper. They encourage African American women and their families to serve as ambassadors in the community and contribute to its success.

The East Bay Section continues to strengthen the community through innovative social, civic, and economic programs. These programs have supported so many members of the community including women, children, seniors, and veterans. They have also provided donations to the Alameda County Food Bank, donated hygiene supplies to women in need, purchased school supplies and hosted public forums on education. They have led innovative programs to support survivors of sexual assault, domestic abuse, and sex trafficking. During the pandemic, they have donated to community shelters and ensured that the community stayed informed with up-to-date resources.

For seventy years, the East Bay Section of the National Council of Negro Women has been dedicated to serving and uplifting the Bay Area. Its members serve as passionate community advocates and share a commitment to improving the lives of African American women, their families, and the community. In the face of great challenges, the women of the East Bay Section of the National Council of Negro Women continue to rise to the occasion and improve countless lives through their tireless work. Their leadership and vision is needed now more than ever. May the East Bay Section's impact continue to be felt across the community for many years to come. Congratulations on seventy years of impact and service.

JON PAWLOW RETIREMENT
TRIBUTE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Jonathan R. "Jon" Pawlow, our longtime Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee Senior Counsel. After 20 years of service on the Committee, Jon will be retiring at the end of this year. It's difficult to picture the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee without Jon here. In fact, it's difficult to imagine the water policy sphere throughout the entire Congress without Jon here. For 20 years, Jon has been an absolute go-to for all things Clean Water Act. He has been an immense resource for not just the Committee, but for the entire Congress. He has left his mark upon the work product created under a legion of full and subcommittee chairmen and ranking members. However, even prior to joining the Committee, Jon was accomplished. He graduated Rutgers University with both a bachelor's and master's degrees in water resources engineering and en-

vironmental science, and also holds a law degree from Georgetown University. He accumulated over 15 years of private law practice, gaining expertise in the environmental and intellectual property fields. After that, Jon served in the Office of Water at the Environmental Protection Agency for nine years and then moved on to the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy. These experiences allowed him to bring a host of policy and regulatory experience to the Committee. Jon has left his fingerprints on just about every piece of water legislation in the past two decades. He has also been a key participant in five Water Resources Development Acts, including the last four, where Congress got its act together and began passing bipartisan WRDAs consistently every two years. Finally, throughout his professional life, Jon has been a teacher and a mentor. At various times in his career, he has instructed at institutions such as the George Washington University Center for Career Education and the Old Dominion University College of Engineering and Technology. This has carried over to his time on the Hill. He has always made time for anyone he meets to walk through the ins-and-outs of water policy, from Full Committee Chairs, to leadership staff, to personal office legislative assistants. Jon is a dedicated professional and devoted staffer, and we will all greatly miss his knowledge, expertise, and guidance. I am personally grateful for his service to this Committee and to Congress. I thank him so much for dedicating his career to water policy and service to the American public. I hope he and Terry make the most of their well-deserved retirements. I thank him for all he has done.

NAFTA DEVASTATION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, today President Biden hosted Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau and Mexican President Lopez Obrador for the North American Leaders' Summit.

I urge them to address the continental challenges unleashed by NAFTA job losses in the U.S. and the rising illicit drug trade.

An often overlooked impact of NAFTA trade is the evisceration of Mexico's white corn market.

As Mexican farmers lost their livelihoods, many turned to planting poppy crops for income, which is now blended with Chinese fentanyl.

We know too NAFTA devastated our Industrial Heartland leading to massive job loss and a continuing surge of narcotics into the U.S.—killing nearly a million people.

I urge the President and continental leaders to not ignore the harms of NAFTA on American workers, Mexican farmers, and communities ravaged by job losses and the opioid epidemic.

Let us chart a new path forward for continental trade—but not based on penny wage labor. The Americas need fair trade.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB OF
CAPE MAY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Women's Community Club of Cape May as they celebrate 100 years of volunteer and philanthropic service. The Club was officially formed in November of 1921 with 169 members who elected officers and became affiliated with the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. These founders were women who advocated for women's suffrage. Over the past 100 years, the WCCM has enabled major projects like the Cape May Lewes Ferry, establishing a local hospital, and adding American G.I.'s and war victims during World War II. This Club truly has an incredible 100-year history of community activism, projects, good works, fun, and fellowship. I thank them for their work and dedication to our Cape May community, and congratulations on their 100-year milestone. God Bless the Women's Community Club of Cape May, and God Bless America.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KMPH TELEVISION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor KMPH Television on its 50th anniversary. On October 11, 2021, this broadcasting institution will have been providing the Central Valley with high quality television programming for 50 years.

KMPH first took the air in 1971 and operated as an independent station. It was founded by the Pappas brothers, Mike, Pete, and Harry, whose initials make up the name of the station. Seven years later, it completely launched its news department and began airing The 10 O'clock News from Monday through Friday. It covered news from the Fresno and Visalia areas, as well as national stories.

Since then, the station has expanded to most weekdays and for Saturdays, including Great Day which airs on multiple mornings a week. Through these programs, KMPH has served as a vital source of information for viewers all across the Central Valley of California.

Even while news organizations across the United States have undergone serious challenges to their livelihoods, KMPH Television has remained a staple of Central Valley journalism. During this age of misinformation, KMPH has remained committed to ensuring the integrity of local news, something I and my constituents are very grateful for.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring KMPH Television on their 50th anniversary.

HONORING DR. LESTER L.
CANNON, SR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Lester L. Cannon, Sr. on the occasion of his retirement as a pastor and a spiritual leader at the Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in Oakland, California.

Dr. Cannon is a native of Maben, Alabama, the husband of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Cannon, father of Minister Lester L. Cannon, Jr., and Tammy Cannon, the grandfather of five, and the great-grandfather of nine. He served his first pastorage at Morning Star Baptist Church from 1974 to 1979, and later received both his Master of Theological Studies his Doctor of Ministry from Faith Seminary in Tacoma, Washington.

Dr. Cannon has guided the Cornerstone Baptist Church according to his values of evangelism, education, youth ministry, and stewardship. With these priorities, Dr. Cannon has helped the church increased both its presence in the community and its long-term prosperity.

Dr. Cannon also has been active in the community. He served as the Chairman of the Board of Nationwide Evangelism Training for 25 years, and currently serves as Executive Board Chairman of First Northern Christian Network. He also has served as Chairman of the Evangelical committee for the Baptist Ministers' Union of Oakland, and a trustee for the Golden State Convention, East Bay Baptist Association, and the Southern Baptist Convention. He also established a "Thurgood Marshall Program" which serves men in recovery from substance abuse in conjunction with the Comprehensive Action Network.

Dr. Cannon authored a book on prayer called "Helpful Hints on Practical Prayer." He has encouraged others to become pastors themselves and continued his work of teaching by opening a Christian school at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church in 2009.

Today, on behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I commend Dr. Cannon for his lifelong work as a community and spiritual leader.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEBRASKA URBAN INDIAN HEALTH COALITION

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Native American Heritage Month and to honor the 35th anniversary of the Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, a private nonprofit organization in Nebraska.

The Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition provides community healthcare and services targeting the urban American Indian and Alaska Native population in the greater Omaha metropolitan area, Lincoln area, and Sioux City, Iowa, since 1986. Their rehabilitative healthcare services and their diabetes self-

management program are nationally recognized. Currently, they are led by their CEO, Dr. Donna Mays Polk.

Donna Lee Mays was born in 1943 in Denver, CO, to a young WWII submariner Hosey Mays and his wife Tommy Lee Gadling Mays. Dr. Polk was only 7 years old when her mother was killed in a car accident by a drunk driver on Christmas Day. Dr. Polk credits her grandmother, Annie Lee Gadling, as her inspiration because of her spirituality and Wisdom. Dr. Polk firmly believes in having vision and that you have to be able to see how things can be. If you don't, Mr. Speaker, you don't work to effect change.

Between 1972 to 1985, Dr. Polk served as an affirmative action and equal opportunity officer at the Nebraska Department of Labor. She volunteered in the Nebraska Correction's system for 26 years and starred in her own TV show called "Frankly Female, a show for and about women. She is the mother of four sons, Mark, Imani, Marcus, and the Honorable Judge Marlon Polk.

Dr. Polk earned her bachelor's degree in university studies, her master's in counseling psychology, and a doctorate in administration, instruction, and curriculum, all from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In addition, she is a published author. She wrote her book, "Black Men and Women of Nebraska, in 1981 to shine the light on prominent African-American individuals in our State.

She joined the NE Urban Indian Health Coalition in 1991 after leaving the Lincoln Indian Center. She continues to lead a team of over 50 employees. Programs and services include: Behavioral Health Substance Use Disorder Services, transitional housing, Nebraska Urban Indian Medical Center in Lincoln, and transportation. Dr. Polk also takes immense pride in the Eagle Heights Affordable Housing located in South Omaha and two community-based programs—Project Upstream serving families with children in Omaha Public Schools, and the Tired Moccasins a nutrition-based program for elders. Dr. Polk is thrilled about the inauguration of their new headquarters scheduled to open in the spring of 2022.

In recognition of the Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition, we shine a spotlight on 35 years of helping elevate the health status and eliminating disparities of urban Indians and other underserved populations in Nebraska and Iowa through education, collaboration, advocacy, and health service delivery.

Congratulations to Dr. Polk and her team for 35 years of excellence and serving our great community.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
BARRETT BURNS

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor not just a resident of Connecticut's 4th Congressional District, but my friend, Barrett Burns.

Barrett is the founding President & CEO of VantageScore Solutions. Under Barrett's guidance, VantageScore went from being a startup housed in the basement of Barrett's home to a well-recognized national brand.

Prior to joining VantageScore Solutions, Barrett served as executive vice president at U.S. Trust, where he was head of the National Private Banking Group and a member of U.S. Trust's Executive Committee, as well as a member of the Senior Management Team of U.S. Trust's parent company, The Charles Schwab Corporation.

During his career, Barrett served as a board member and advisor for numerous groups. Barrett not only served on the Federal Reserve Board's Community Advisory Council and its predecessor, the Consumer Advisory Council; he also served as a director of the Homeownership Preservation Foundation, as a member of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition's Mortgage Finance Collaborative Council, and on the National Fair Housing Alliance's Fair Housing Act 50th Anniversary Advisory Council.

As Barrett's career and trajectory indicate, he has always understood the capacity of the private sector to improve lives, provide opportunity, and open doors. It has been a pleasure to work with Barrett and I look forward to seeing the next stage of his remarkable journey.

**HONORING SONIA PARRAS
KONRAD AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK**

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Sonia Parras Konrad, an attorney, visionary, and co-founder of various non-profits, as Iowan of the Week.

For someone who never intended to become a lawyer and advocate, Sonia Parras Konrad exceeded her personal expectations and became an influential member of the Latina community in Iowa. While attending college in Spain, Sonia had the chance to study at Central College for a year in 1993 through 1994. After her first year in Iowa, Sonia firmly believed that Iowa chose her and felt as though many factors kept her coming back. As soon as she started to work with the Latina community, she saw the immense need for advocacy in support of its members. Furthermore, she feels honored to be a part of the road to change in Iowa and more specifically, her ability to work to change policies that affect a vulnerable population. Within Iowa, she found a lot of mainstream support and allies, which pushed her to continue her work.

As Sonia's passion for activism progressed, she went on to become a co-founder of multiple non-profits such as Latinas Unidas por un Nuevo Amanecer (LUNA), MUNA Legal Clinic, Latina Leadership of Greater Des Moines (LLI), and the ALMAS Pro Bono Legal Clinic. In addition to her work in the non-profit sector, Sonia is well-versed in international consulting throughout Latin America in which she serves as a consultant to both the Department of State and the Mexican Government. As a result of all of her extraordinary work, Sonia has received many prestigious awards and honors from various organizations. In 2021 only, Sonia has received both the Pro Bono Award from the Iowa-Nebraska Chapter of American Immigration Lawyers and the Businesswoman of the Year 2021 from the Business Record. In

all, Sonia's goals are to always do more, continue to grow, and open roads for women and immigrants in Iowa.

Sonia has dedicated her life to helping the Latina community in Iowa through her leadership and legal prowess. Her optimistic and humble mindset has propelled her to success and makes her truly worthy of being nominated for this award. Sonia serves as an inspiration and role model to all, and it is my honor to name her Iowan of the Week.

RICHARD K. FOSTER

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize and honor the life of Richard Foster of Nutley, New Jersey. Richard graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1954 and joined the Air Force reserves shortly after. After his time in the Air Force, he worked for Prudential Insurance company for almost 40 years until his retirement. In 1994, when in Ocean City, New Jersey, with his wife, Richard encountered a violent, horrific storm. The riptides and winds were unlike anything the city had ever seen. While near the beach, Richard noticed two women struggling to return to shore because of the storm. Without hesitation, Richard entered the water to help save them. Unfortunately, because of the severity of the storm and tides, Richard nearly drowned and suffered from cardiac arrest while trying to save the women, but never regained consciousness. Richard truly is a selfless hero. May he rest in peace. God Bless Richard and God Bless America.

HONORING FRESNO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) in honor of their 40th Anniversary. Since 1981, EDC has served the San Joaquin Valley by expanding economic growth in Fresno County.

EDC effortlessly works to facilitate site selection for new companies within the county and assist in retention and expansion of local businesses. They market Fresno County as the premier location to develop core industries. Their staff hosts annual events and publish special reports such as their Real Estate Forecast and Investor's Meeting. With this, they have provided their investors, community leaders, and elected officials with crucial marketing intelligence, economic trends and networking opportunities.

In 2018, EDC received the International Economic Development Council Gold Award for the New Employment Opportunities Expanded Subsidized Employment Program. This innovative program matches the needs of industries with individuals seeking jobs. EDC uses their website, social media outlets, and

community outreach to provide their clients, investors, and community members with important news, resources, and information. They connect people with one another in the community and it enhances relationships with businesses. Continuously, they have promoted business investment and job creation by informing economic development policy, programs, and legislation to the cities and companies it serves.

With the support of its Board of Directors and network of over a hundred investors, they use their creative license to bring about innovative ideas and collaborative opportunities to put forth Fresno County's economic evolution and growth. Their steady leadership has played a vital role in solidifying the economic strength of Fresno County and the future needs of the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Fresno County Economic Corporation for their commitment to improving the quality of life in the local community. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor them on the celebration of their fortieth anniversary. I wish them all the best and continued success in the future.

HONORING MR. H. ROSS PEROT, JR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the distinguished career and public service of my dear friend Mr. H. Ross Perot, Jr.

A native Texan, Mr. Perot graduated from St. Mark's School of Texas and earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Vanderbilt University.

As a 23-year-old, Mr. Perot was the first to circumnavigate the world in a helicopter. The 26,000-mile trip was completed in less than 30 days. The Spirit of Texas, a Bell 206 helicopter, is on display at the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum.

Just weeks after completing his record-breaking flight, Mr. Perot, announced he was joining the Air Force where he piloted the F-4 Phantom fighter and served for over seven years on active and reserve duty. Proud of his Air Force service, he chaired the Air Force Memorial Foundation where he led a 14-year effort to build the United States Air Force Memorial.

Following his military service, Mr. Perot made his mark in business. Founding Hillwood, one of the top industrial, commercial, and residential real estate companies in the world. His leadership has undoubtedly contributed to the development of North Texas into the booming economy it is today.

Mr. Perot has received numerous awards throughout his lifetime in recognition of his dedication and service to our country, including the Gold Medal Award for Extraordinary Service from President Ronald Reagan, the Woodrow Wilson Award for Corporate Citizenship, and the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service. Perot has been named one of the Most Powerful Business Leaders in Dallas-Fort Worth and was inducted into the Junior Achievement's Dallas

Business Hall of Fame in 2017. Alongside his father, he was co-awarded the inaugural Vision Award from the Urban Land Institute North Texas District Council.

Mr. Perot is not only a principled business leader, but he continually dedicates time to serve his community. He serves on the Boards of Trustees of Vanderbilt University and the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. He serves as Chairman of the Board of the East-West Institute, St. Mark's School of Texas, and the Perot Companies.

It is a pleasure and honor to join Mr. Perot's family and friends to celebrate his distinguished career and thank him for his leadership, service to our country and dedication to public service.

HONORING THOMAS HOBART
KELLER

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. PINGREE. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and remember Army veteran, retired police lieutenant, and social justice advocate, Thomas Hobart Keller. He lived a life of service with a commitment to advocacy, and his indefatigable focus on fairness, kindness, and equality improved the lives of so many of my constituents.

Tom loved the ocean, residing at various times in Maine, Nova Scotia, and the Florida Keys. He was a foodie and a cook. He was fiercely devoted to his family and close friends. He was a Veteran for Peace. He embraced recovery to craft a life he described as "second to none." And he was a pioneering law enforcement leader in Maine's movement to end violence against women. Tom both challenged and changed policing practices to better protect and support survivors. In his profession and as a volunteer and board member at the local women's shelter, he was compassionate, knowledgeable, and influential.

Tom knew that one's judgement did not define others so much as it defined oneself. To that end, he was accepting and open hearted. He faced death as he had lived—with dignity, grace, and good humor.

Tom Keller served his country and his community. He changed lives, and I am grateful for the legacy he left in my state and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MAJOR GENERAL JAY LINDELL

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I, along with Representative PERLMUTTER, Representative DEGETTE, Representative LAMBORN, Representative NEGUSE, Senator HICKENLOOPER, and Senator BENNET rise today to recognize the service and accomplishments of Major General Jay Lindell and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy and Veteran of Operation Desert Storm, Major

General Lindell served our nation as a fighter pilot and as Commander of the 35th Fighter Squadron at Kunsan Air Base in South Korea and the 27th Operations Group at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico.

In his highly decorated career, Major General Lindell logged more than 4,000 flying hours and was a recipient of the Silver Star—the third-highest military decoration for valor in combat. After leaving his combat role, he went on to serve as a Colonel, a Brigadier General, and was eventually promoted to Major General to serve as the Director of Global Power Programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition.

After over 33 years of valiant service to our country, Major General Lindell left the Air Force and was appointed by the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade as Colorado's Aerospace & Defense Industry Champion. Due in no small part to Major General Lindell's dynamic and inspirational leadership, Colorado soon ranked No. 1 in the nation in aerospace employment per capita. During his tenure, Colorado became the proud home of the United States Space Command Headquarters at Peterson Space Force Base and saw two bases redesignated: Buckley Space Force Base in Aurora and Schriever Space Force Base in Colorado Springs.

Beyond Major General Lindell's dedication to the aerospace and defense industry, he has given back to our community and made it his mission to advocate on behalf of active duty veterans and their families. Major General Lindell has served on several boards committed to strengthening our community through providing youth space education programs, creating economic opportunities for veterans, and ensuring we fulfil our sacred promise to care for veterans and their families when they return from duty.

Major General Lindell's contributions to our country and the community epitomize what it means to go above and beyond the call of duty. We congratulate Major General Lindell on his retirement and thank him for his service to our community and nation.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fig Garden Woman's Club on the occasion of its centennial anniversary. Founded on March 9, 1921, the Fig Garden Women's Club is celebrating 100 years of friendship and contributions to our local community.

The Fig Garden Woman's Club was founded in 1921, by 13 young women who lived in the Fig Garden neighborhood in Fresno, California. The club was founded based on the shared values of friendship and finding ways to help improve their community. As interest, membership and work in the neighborhood grew, the club members began an effort to raise funds to build a clubhouse for their members to use and the community to enjoy. In 1926, the clubhouse was built with the help of friends and local developer J.C. Forkner and

was established as a California Historical Landmark in 1987. The club is recognized under the California Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Today, the club continues to thrive and has over 180 dedicated members.

Since 1921, the Fig Garden Woman's Club has made contributions to local non-profits for victims of domestic violence, provided food for hard-working college students, and actively participates in many other local efforts. They also fundraise to provide scholarships for nursing students from Fresno City College, among other philanthropic efforts. Past efforts have included, providing transportation and meals to school children, donations to local nonprofit organizations, Christmas donations for needy families and neighborhood beautification projects.

The Fig Garden Woman's Club members regularly sacrifice their time to help the Old Fig Garden neighborhood, in addition to their work within the City and County of Fresno. Annually, they donate their time to provide life-long memories for Central Valley families by contributing to the beloved local tradition, Christmas Tree Lane. Members bake over 1,000 cookies to promote donations for Christmas Tree Lane, the two mile stretch of beautifully decorated homes in Old Fig Garden.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Fig Garden Woman's Club on their centennial anniversary. It is my honor to congratulate past and present members on this momentous accomplishment and thank them for the joy they have brought to the community.

RECOGNIZING SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT NHAN H. VO'S RETIREMENT FROM THE 193RD SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING, PENNSYLVANIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Senior Master Sergeant (SMSgt) Nhan H. Vo upon his retirement as the Quality Assurance and Self-Assessment Program Manager of the 193rd Special Operations Wing (SOW), Pennsylvania Air National Guard.

SMSgt Vo began his military career in the United States Navy in 1991, as a Yeoman on the USS *Nassau* (LHA-4) where he deployed to Norway, Guantanamo Bay, Haiti, and two tours in the Mediterranean through 1995. In addition, he is an honorary Blue Nose and Shellback.

In 1999, he enlisted with the United States Air Force at the 193rd SOW where he served in various positions with its Communications Squadron, Readiness Squadron, and the 148th Air Support Operations Squadron.

Within the 193rd SOW, SMSgt Vo also served as Diversity Facilitator, Security Forces Augmentee, Physical Fitness Training Augmentee, Special Operations Logistic Readiness Squadron Top Three President, 148th Air Support Operations Squadron First Sergeant, FEMA Region III Homeland Response Force, and Joint Task Force /District of Columbia during Presidential Inauguration operations in 2009 and 2013.

SMSgt Vo's many deployments were in support of Operations Support Democracy, Deny Flight, Sharp Guard, Provide Promise, Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and Inherent Resolve. During his career, he twice was awarded the Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for the 193rd SOW, earning the designation with the 193rd Regional Support Group and 193rd SOW. His numerous medals earned throughout his decorated career of service include the: Air Force Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Force Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster; Army Commendation Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

I am honored to honor SMSgt Nhan H. Vo's career of distinguished service to the 193rd SOW, the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and our United States of America. I wish him God's many blessings as he departs this phase of his life and embarks upon his next adventure.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF CEDRIC STOUT

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Navy Motor Machinist Second Class (MM2C) Cedric Stout of Bridge City, Texas. Mr. Stout enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1941 and was aboard the USS *Utah* anchored at Pearl Harbor the morning of December 7. At 100-years-old, he is believed to be the only remaining Pearl Harbor survivor in Southeast Texas.

Mr. Stout was born to Frank and Rita Nezat Stout and spent his childhood in Leonville, Louisiana. Growing up, he labored with his six brothers and seven sisters as sharecroppers working the fields by hand to make ends meet for their family. Like many others in rural Louisiana during the Great Depression, the Stout home was without electricity or indoor plumbing. At the age of 17, Mr. Stout joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) where he helped build national parks in Oregon.

After returning to Louisiana, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy on March 23, 1941. Following boot camp in San Diego, he was stationed in Hawaii at Pearl Harbor aboard the USS *Utah*. On the morning of December 7, Mr. Stout was awakened by the sound of Japanese aircraft attacking our Pacific Fleet. With the ongoing bombardment happening around him, he knew his chances of survival were slim. Yet, by the grace of God, he managed to get to safety. Tragically, the USS *Utah*, and many on board, were not so lucky. The battleship's substantial damage made it capsize and sink in a mere seven minutes.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Stout was reassigned to a light cruiser, the USS *Detroit* (CL-8). Later, while participating in the invasion of Saipan, his landing craft sank, leaving him and the other surviving crew members to be rescued. For his military service, Mr. Stout received the following commendations: the Navy Expeditionary Medal, American Campaign Medal, American Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

While on leave in 1944, Mr. Stout married Delma Courville of Sunset, Louisiana. The couple had nine children together. Their names are Shirley Harmes, Julie Pike, Gerald Stout, Darlene Montagne, Janet Johnston, Janine Carter, Denise Evavold (passed away in 1997), Daniel Stout, and Theresa Hock. Mr. Stout and his wife also had 20 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. After his service in World War II, Mr. Stout moved his family to Bridge City, Texas, in 1959 and began driving a city bus in Port Arthur, Texas, for two years before becoming a salesman for the Price Cigar and Candy Company. He retired in 1988.

Sadly, Delma passed away in 1999. He married his second wife, Cherry Tiller, in 2000. Together, they remain committed to their large family, including the Stout and Tiller children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Mr. Stout and Cherry enjoy attending mass together, sharing household chores, and gardening. In fact, this impressive centenarian can still be spotted mowing the yard on his John Deere tractor.

Madam Speaker, I salute this American hero for his valiant service in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in recognition of a fortitude few share, but all are grateful for. I congratulate this newly-minted centenarian on a life well-lived. May God continue to bless him for his service to his country, community, and family.

SALUTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ BALCÁZAR

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise to salute Javier Hernández Balcázar for his many positive contributions to Los Angeles, both as a prominent soccer player and as an active member of our Los Angeles community.

Javier was born on June 1, 1988, in Guadalupe, Jalisco, Mexico, to Silvia Balcázar and Javier Gutiérrez. He began playing soccer at the junior club level when he was 7 years old. After signing his first professional contract with a local club at the age of 15, he was selected for the Mexico national under-17 team. In July 2010, he was acquired by the Premier League club Manchester United and became the first-ever Mexican player to be selected for one of the leading Premier League teams.

Javier's extraordinary soccer career and his hard work to reach his goals are an inspiration to young people around the world. As a new member of the Los Angeles Galaxy, he has become an incredible role model throughout Southern California.

Javier joined the Galaxy as the team's Designated Player on January 21, 2020. Since joining the team, Javier's passion for giving back has inspired his many philanthropic efforts in the Los Angeles community.

On December 5, 2021, Javier will once again support his community by appearing for fans in Bell Gardens, California, in my 40th Congressional District. The event will be one of the largest toy giveaways in the history of Southern California and will be hosted by DEL

Records, the largest Latino record label in the region.

Madam Speaker, Javier Hernández Balcázar has shown exemplary commitment to the people of Los Angeles and beyond, and I am pleased to recognize his work as an athlete and philanthropist. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his many contributions and his positive impact.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHNNY DENIZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Johnny Deniz. Johnny passed away on September 24, 2021. He was 90 years old. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean war, and after returning home, dedicated his life as a farmer in the Counties of Madera and Fresno.

Johnny was born on July 24, 1931 to Manuel and Rosa Deniz. He was raised in Madera, California.

Growing up, he went to Dixieland Grammar School and Madera High School. During school, he was elected President of the Madera F.F.A. Later, he served the Madera F.F.A. as Secretary of State and was awarded the American F.F.A. Degree. Johnny attended Fresno State University for a degree in engineering, but was soon drafted into the Army and served as Military Police Officer in Europe.

After serving in the military, Johnny returned back home and he married his first wife, Wilma. He became a dedicated farmer in the Counties of Madera and Fresno, in which he grew multiple crops such as tomatoes, cotton, stone fruit, and table and wine grapes. Johnny was a successful businessman and established the Madera Pump Company, Almond Tree Hauler Inc., and Deniz Packing Inc. His work for the protection of Madera County's water supply left a legacy in which he dedicated 24 years of service as a Director, and 15 years as President, of the Madera Irrigation District.

Johnny remarried in 2009 to his wife Dorie and continued the dedicated work for his community. In 2010, he was awarded Senior Farmer of the Year in the County of Madera for his dedication and hard work with the water district and for helping the needs of others. As one who was always civically engaged, he belonged to the Knights of Columbus as a 4th degree knight; the Madera County Farm Bureau; the Elks Club; and last but not least, the Veterans of Foreign Wars. His contributions and efforts on behalf of these organizations, made a lasting impact on the Valley.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Johnny Deniz. His service and contributions to the Central Valley and the State of California will be missed. I join his family and friends in celebrating Johnny's life.

THE STORY OF THE MARBLEHEAD
LIGHTHOUSE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Marblehead Lighthouse in Marblehead, Ohio. On Sunday, November 20, 2021, I joined with residents and congregants of First United Church of Christ-Congregational in Marblehead to kick off the celebration through 2022. I am honored to include in the RECORD the history as stated during the celebration. The history was written by Lorrie Halblaub.

Welcome. Today we will rededicate the Marblehead Lighthouse which was built in 1821 and commissioned in 1822. It was originally called the Sandusky Bay Light Station but the name changed to Marblehead in 1870. Starting today, this peninsula will be honoring the light with a year-long celebration featuring many events. There is something about a lighthouse that makes us compare it to God. Its leading light, its steadfastness, its help to those who are in trouble, so a church is a fitting place to begin this journey.

THE STORY OF THE MARBLEHEAD LIGHTHOUSE IN
WORDS AND MUSIC

After the War of 1812, the United States turned its attention to shipping on the Great Lakes and lighthouses were necessary to aid in navigation. In 1819 Congress budgeted \$5,000 for a light between the Grand River in Ohio and the Detroit River in Michigan. Another \$5000 was budgeted in 1820.

Because Sandusky Bay was the safest harbor in that stretch of Lake Erie, it was decided that a light would be erected at the entrance. So, the United States purchased 3 acres of land for \$277.45 on what was known then as Rocky Point, a small peninsula on the east end of the larger Marblehead peninsula.

Instructions on the size and shape of the lighthouse were given to the builder, William Kelly, from Sandusky. His workers quarried the native limestone and built the 50-foot tower that was to become the light. They started on September 14 and finished on November 10, 1821 at a cost of \$7,282. Two of Kelly's grandsons, John Jr. and Joab were founders of this church.

Over the rest of the winter and spring of 1822, the top of the light tower was fitted with the light source; 13 Argand whale oil lamps with reflectors and a set of windows, called a lantern, that the light shone through.

The lighthouse was the first permanent structure built on the peninsula. The second structure was a stone keeper's house next to the light. Then William Kelly also built a third stone dwelling for the man who would become the first keeper of the light, Benajah Wolcott, the first permanent settler of Danbury Township. By June 22, 1822, the light was officially lit and Wolcott began 10 years of service at \$350 per year.

What was it like to be a lightkeeper back then? In a word "difficult". First, you had to stay up all night long to keep the light going. You had to haul heavy containers of oil up a series of wooden ladders to fuel the flame. The wicks needed trimming, the lamps and window glass needed polishing, the tower needed maintenance and painting, the grounds and the keeper's house had to be cleaned and kept in repair.

Remember, back then, the Marblehead Peninsula was a prairie. Settlers lived in log cabins with no towns, roads, stores, schools, churches or local government. Travel on land was by horse or on foot so you couldn't run to a store if you needed something. Shopping required a rowboat trip across Sandusky Bay to the nearest town where you turned in your monthly lighthouse reports and picked up your pay.

All the early keepers grew their own food and kept livestock. All keepers kept a log where they wrote down the weather and what ships passed.

For the first 55 years of the light, the keepers were also required to aid any ship in distress. If they couldn't mount a rescue of volunteers, they had to do the rescuing themselves.

There were 15 lightkeepers over the years, including two women. After Benajah Wolcott died of Cholera, his wife, Rachel, became the first female lightkeeper on the Great Lakes.

Then, in 1875, something happened that changed the keeper's duty of mounting rescues. In May of that year, a gale swept over the lake. The schooner *Consuelo* began to sink about 3 miles from the Lighthouse. Lucien Clemons, whose father started the first quarry business on the peninsula, saw their plight and along with his brothers Hubbard and Ai mounted a rescue.

They rowed a 12-foot boat for nearly an hour in a raging storm, risking their own lives. They saved two of the crew, who were clinging to the ship. The captain, three seamen and a female cook were lost.

For their heroic effort, the three were given the first Congressional gold lifesaving medals ever awarded.

Then, because of the number of shipwrecks in the area, the government built a lifesaving station here and it took over the rescues from the lightkeepers.

The Point Marblehead Lifesaving Station opened June 24, 1876 with Lucien Clemons as the first keeper. He served for 21 years.

His brothers, Hubbard and Ai were members of this church, which was built in 1900. The brothers served on the building committee. Because the lifesaving station was small, they made a deal with the church that people who were rescued could shelter here if needed. The sign of that covenant is on the top of our church steeple. Instead of a cross, we have a symbolic Astrolabe, a device that helped early sailors navigate.

The Lifesaving station became part of the Coast Guard and the station was rebuilt and enlarged twice. Today the Marblehead Coast Guard station is the one of the busiest on the Great Lakes.

A replica of the first lifesaving station is on display on the grounds of our lighthouse.

Because the Coast Guard was part of the Navy during World War II, they have their own verse in the next song, also known as the Navy Hymn. We will now sing Eternal Father Strong to Save with the Coast Guard verse.

As the years went by, the lighthouse changed, always for the better, and always to make the light beam farther and brighter.

Around the turn of the 20th century, two additions to height, a bigger lantern and a bigger lens were added. The light fuel went from oil to kerosene to electricity and from a lantern with simple reflectors to a magnificent Fresnel lens, to several big LED bulbs.

In 1903 the Light gained a clockwork mechanism that only needed to be wound every few hours. Today it is automated. The color of the light has been white, red and now is green so as to distinguish it from other air beacons.

Two keepers oversaw most of these changes. Joanna McGee, our second female

keeper, and Charles Hunter, who were both members of this church. The McGee's came to the lighthouse as a newly-weds when George was hired as the 12th keeper. They gave birth to 10 children while living there. Joanna became the keeper after her husband George passed away. Together, George and Johanna McGee served 30 years.

By 1881, the keeper's original stone house was in such poor condition that George built them a shed to live in. When the light house inspector saw that, it wasn't long before the old keepers house was torn down and a new two-story wooden home was built that serves as the lighthouse museum today.

Charles Hunter came as a single man but married at age 55. He served from 1903-1933, and was quite a character. He was a storyteller, taught a woodworking class at the local school. He built a boat that was too heavy to float and a house made of wood that had washed up on shore.

Before 1920, he owned a car, a Hupmobile, but didn't drive it. His wife drove while he sat in the back smoking his pipe! He also created pictures out of crewel embroidery like the one on display. And without knowing how to play the piano, he wrote a song about the lighthouse called The Lighthouse by the Bay that will be sung by soloist Bill Bird.

200 years after the lighthouse was built it is still beaming light every night. It has the honor of being the oldest continuously operating Lighthouse on the Great Lakes. Four other Great Lakes lighthouses were built prior to 1821, but all of them have been decommissioned.

Over the years, many old lighthouses have been torn down or rebuilt a few times, but the original Marblehead Light still stands because of several factors; it was built on solid bedrock, built of the finest limestone, a stone that is nearly waterproof, built by an excellent mason who mixed the right mortar consistency and let the building cure properly, and because it has been lovingly maintained over the years. It has withstood many Nor'Easter storms with waves that splash the windows 65 feet up. It has withstood the wrath of Lake Erie, known as the toughest, meanest and most unpredictable of the Great Lakes.

As playwright George Bernard Shaw wrote: 'I can think of no other edifice constructed by man as altruistic as a lighthouse. They were built to serve. They weren't built for any other purpose.' We will now sing the hymn Brightly Beams our Father's Mercy.

HONORING THE TIMELESS
ZOROASTRIAN LEGACY

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to issue this recognition of "Timeless Zoroastrian Legacy" to all Zoroastrians for their extraordinary contributions to history and civilization, in pioneering the first universal human rights, world democracy, abolishment of slavery, and freedom of religion. The Zoroastrian legacy has greatly influenced the American founding fathers, the American Constitution, and the design of the Statue of Liberty.

Please join me in recognizing the remarkable contributions of the Zoroastrian community in the United States and throughout the world.

HONORING THE WORK AND
RETIREMENT OF KEN MALLOY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of CBS47 anchor and Central Valley news icon, Ken Malloy. Ken has served as a journalist, reporter, and anchor for nearly 39 years, and he will be dearly missed by the Central Valley.

Ken was born and raised in Los Angeles. There, he attended and graduated from the prestigious University of Southern California. Ken began his career as an anchor and reporter at KESQ in Palm Springs, California, where he was recognized for his breaking news coverage.

Thereafter, he moved to New Hampshire, where he reported at WMUR and hosted an award-winning weekly political talk show that took home two Golden Mike Awards. Ken continued his pursuit of groundbreaking news coverage when he ventured to Providence, Rhode Island. He served as a co-anchor and reporter at WJAR, the number one-rated station in the city.

While there, Ken served on the Board of Directors for the state's adoption exchange program and produced weekly "Tuesday's Child" segments and half-hour specials on child adoption. These efforts served as a true testament to his purposeful reporting.

Ken came to Fresno, California, to join CBS47 after a stint at KTVT, the CBS Owned and Operated station in Dallas, Texas, where he anchored and reported for almost 12 years. In Fresno, Ken started as the weekend co-anchor, before launching the station's first morning show and serving as the primary anchor.

Ken has covered some of the most prolific moments in American history. This includes his coverage of the Oklahoma City Bombing, Timothy McVeigh's execution, and the capture of the "Texas Seven." He took on the courageous responsibility of covering the 9–11 attacks, along with the 2000 presidential race. Ken's diligence and work ethic was put on full display while he stayed on the road for six weeks during the Election Cycle.

Today, we pride Ken for his work as an award-winning journalist, anchor, and community leader. Since 1984, he has anchored more than 30,000 newscasts, written more than 10,000 stories, and received countless awards and recognitions. His presence, charisma, and consistency will always be missed as a part of his greater legacy here in the Central Valley. I join his wife Michelle, their three wonderful children, and friends in congratulating Ken for all his achievements.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the work and retirement of Ken Malloy. His service and contributions to the Central Valley will be missed and we wish him all the best for the future.

HONORING KIM FORREST

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kim Forrest to

commemorate her 45 years of service with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Raised in Seaside on the Monterey Peninsula of California, Kim Forrest's youth was marked by adventure, spending her days exploring the vast biodiversity of the Pacific coast. Each summer, Kim and her parents would camp in the High Sierra where her appreciation of wildlife grew. Shortly after her college graduation from Utah State University, Kim's steadfast admiration of wildlife led her to join the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an entry level employee at Bear River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Later, Kim became acting Manager of Fish Springs NWR.

After a brief stint at the Charles M. Russell NWR in Montana, Kim returned to her home state of California where she became the primary manager of the Merced NWR in the San Joaquin Valley. Subsequently, she became Deputy Project Leader at the Sacramento NWR, supervising a crew of equipment operators and biologists. Furthermore, Kim became project leader at the San Luis NWR complex, a wildlife refuge with an area of 40,000 acres, establishing herself as a well-respected conservationist.

Kim's contributions to California wildlife are plentiful, including the development and acquisition of riparian zones, the elimination of invasive plant species, and the recovery of the endangered Riparian Brush Rabbit. Kim's conservation efforts are continued through her work to connect wildlife corridors and protect the wildlife that remains in California's Central Valley. November 11th marks Kim's 45th anniversary of working for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Kim Forrest has made an everlasting impact on Californian wildlife conservation efforts through years of dedicated service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CONGRATULATING DETECTIVE
TIMOTHY METZGER FOR HIS RE-
TIREMENT FROM THE ROCK IS-
LAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Timothy Metzger, who is retiring from the Rock Island Police Department after 28 years of service. His last day was Friday, November 12.

Detective Timothy Metzger joined the Rock Island Police Department in December 1992. A graduate of Blackhawk College and Western Illinois University, Detective Metzger reported to duty each day with impeccable work ethic and compassion for the neighbors he strived to protect. After nearly 20 years, his peers and principals rewarded him for his commitment to the City of Rock Island by promoting him to Detective of the Police Department. For almost 10 years, Detective Metzger has handled every facet of investigations conducted by the Police Department. He specialized in computer, cellphone, and video forensics and helped with the Illinois Attorney General Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force at a local level. When he was not putting himself in harm's way, he enjoyed giving back to the

area he served, helping coach youth softball and baseball teams in Rock Island.

It is because of committed and honorable leaders such as Detective Metzger that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to, again, formally congratulate Detective Timothy Metzger on his retirement and thank him for his 28 years of service to our community.

SUPPORTING H.R. 951, THE
MATERNAL VACCINATION ACT

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 951, the Maternal Vaccination Act. The pandemic has laid bare the historical inequities that exist in our health care system for Black Americans, especially for Black parents. My constituency is painfully aware of the pervasive, systemic and institutional influences that have contributed to these disparities.

And let's be clear, these disparities have only been exacerbated by the pandemic, which is why me and my colleagues have been so adamant in the inclusion of policies to end our nation's maternal mortality crisis and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes.

As we are almost two years into a global pandemic that has disproportionately harmed communities of color, the risks facing Black women and other birthing people of color are at a crisis point. Any legislative proposal that will successfully and meaningfully address the pandemic's impact on people of color must directly address the effects of coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) on pregnant people and new moms.

As many of us know, the United States has the highest maternal mortality rate of any high-income country and the only rate that is rising. The pregnancy-related mortality rate for Black women in the U.S. is three to four times higher than the rate for white women, and other women and birthing people of color also face elevated rates of mortality and morbidity.

The risks for pregnant people have only grown during COVID-19: according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "pregnant and recently pregnant women are at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 compared to nonpregnant women." The CDC also found that pregnant people with COVID-19 are at an increased risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes. In addition to clinical risks, the pandemic has affected social determinants of health that contribute to maternal health disparities, like increased food insecurity, which disproportionately impacts Black and Hispanic families.

Without bold and immediate action to address the heightened clinical and non-clinical threats to pregnant people and their growing families, our national recovery from COVID-19 will only exacerbate the inequities that existed before the pandemic and worsened over the past year.

Recognizing the urgent need to address these alarming trends, President Biden's American Families Plan includes a much-

needed \$3 billion investment in maternal health. The President's proposal provides an opportunity to make considerable investments in federal funding to address this crisis, including policies included in the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021 and a permanent expansion of yearlong postpartum Medicaid coverage. By advancing these two priorities in the recent recovery package, we comprehensively addressed every driver of our nation's maternal health crisis.

The Momnibus includes investments that will be needed during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, including investments in community-based organizations, policies to grow and diversify the perinatal workforce, expanded access to maternal mental health care treatments and support, measures to address the impacts of climate change on maternal and infant health outcomes, and provisions to protect pregnant people during this pandemic and any future public health emergency.

My bill, the Maternal Vaccination Act or H.R. 951, directly addresses the health of both moms and babies. This bill is critically important because although we know that maternal vaccinations are important for the health of moms and babies, only half of pregnant people get their flu vaccines and less than half get Tdap vaccinations to protect against pertussis.

With pertussis on the rise and outbreaks occurring across the United States, we need to invest in initiatives to promote maternal immunizations and address racial and ethnic disparities in maternal vaccination rates. Even though, white adults have higher vaccination coverage than Black, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American adults, there is more that can be done to close this gap.

I was proud to author the Maternal Vaccination Act because it provides funding for programs to increase maternal vaccination rates, protecting both new moms and their babies.

Specifically, the Maternal Vaccination Act will provide funding for a public and provider awareness campaign to promote maternal and child vaccinations. This includes initiatives to increase awareness about the safety, importance, and effectiveness of vaccines for pregnant and postpartum people and their children; provide targeted, evidence-based, culturally and linguistically appropriate resources about vaccines to pregnant and postpartum people, particularly in communities with historically low vaccination rates; and provide evidence-based information and resources on the safety and importance of maternal and child vaccinations to public health departments, maternal health care providers, and perinatal health workers.

This bill, like the Build Back Better Act legislation, will provide historic investments from the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act to save moms' lives, end racial and ethnic maternal health disparities, and advance birth equity across the United States.

ALBERT ZONA

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Albert Zona of Pleasantville, South Jersey. At the age of 18, Albert was drafted into the Army during World War II and

was stationed in Japan. He was honorably discharged from the Army as a Sergeant in 1947. After he was discharged, Albert worked several full-time jobs as an auto mechanic until he was able to start his own business. He then opened his first service station at Edgewater Avenue and Main Street and was one of the eight original founding members of the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Company, Station 2. Around 1952, Al moved his service station to Absecon and transferred from Pleasantville to Absecon Volunteer Fire Department. He then sold that service station in 1998, ending his career as a volunteer firefighter. Al should be proud of his accomplishments and service to the South Jersey community and to America. I thank Al for his service. God Bless Al and God Bless America.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN JOAQUIN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the San Joaquin Memorial High School on its 75th anniversary. On October 1, 2021, this phenomenal educational institution will have been serving the youth of the San Joaquin Valley for 75 years.

San Joaquin Memorial was founded in 1945 by the late Most Reverend Philip G. Scher and was the first Diocesan Catholic High School with junior high students in the Monterey-Fresno Diocese. San Joaquin Memorial was named by individuals from the San Joaquin Valley who gave their lives in World War II.

That same year of 1945, classes commenced after the construction was completed on the first three buildings. Shortly thereafter, the fourth and fifth buildings were constructed and ready to be filled with students. The first mass was held on October 3rd; the first rally was on November 9th and the first football game on November 19th. The first yearbook was released in May of 1946. The school has continuously expanded and more programs were added. Since then, the high school has become a premiere educational institution in the Valley.

During the 1970s, Brother Phillip and Sister Ann Veronica became the first Vice-Principals of the high school. In 1981, Mary Alice Diener Library was built, and the science building was dedicated to the memory of Br. S. Albert FSC and Sr. Paola Harbeke CSC. Both individuals were the founding principals for San Joaquin Memorial.

The school is home to state-of-the-art technology, strong community service involvement, and several programs outside of standard scholarly activity for their students to take advantage of. They won the 1991 Valley Football Championship over Garces in the Super Holy Bowl and continuing into the 2000s, they dominated in athletics with many talented young student athletes and a talented coaching staff. Because of these advancements, many athletes enjoyed new equipment and renovations by generous individuals who had a passion for the school.

Over the years, San Joaquin Memorial has emphasized their commitment to faith, service,

and community within a rigorous college-preparatory learning environment that effectively prepares their students for their university education and the work force.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring my Alma Mater, San Joaquin Memorial High School on its 75th anniversary. Its service and contributions to the State of California and the San Joaquin Valley will always be celebrated.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Government Accountability Office Home Rule Act. This bill would repeal the authority of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) over the District of Columbia.

GAO, a federal agency that conducts investigations and audits for Congress, has the same authority over D.C. that it has over federal agencies. GAO's authorizing statute defines D.C. as a federal agency. In addition, GAO's authorizing statute and the D.C. Home Rule Act require GAO to engage in specific types of oversight of D.C.

D.C. is not a federal agency, and it should never be treated as such. The District already has a locally appointed auditor and inspector general, so GAO's authority over D.C. is both redundant and offensive. GAO does not have general authority over states and cities, and therefore should not have such authority over D.C.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District and does not require statehood. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING MADAME JOSEPHINE BAKER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today on a very historic occasion for the international community as we celebrate the life of American-born singer, dancer, World War II hero and civil rights icon Josephine Baker.

On November 30th, Madame Baker will be reinterred in a ceremony at the Pantheon monument in Paris, France. This will make her the first American, the first Black woman, and the first entertainer to receive the country's highest honor. Madame Baker's induction into the Paris Pantheon will put her among the company of the highest French achievers in Arts, Letters, and Science.

Though born an American citizen, Madame Baker lived most of her life in France and became a French citizen in the 1930s. Growing up homeless and in poverty, she became an internationally recognized entertainer and actress. However, her contributions did not stop

in the arts. She was also a key member of the French Resistance movement during World War II, acting as a spy, as she gathered intelligence and smuggled messages for resistance forces.

After the war, Madame Baker was awarded with one of France's top military honors, the Croix de Guerre, for her role in resisting occupation under the Nazis.

Even as France became her home, Madame Baker never turned her back on the United States and the social injustice happening here. She used her celebrity to push against Jim Crow segregation and leveraged her platform to support the Civil Rights Movement happening at the time. On numerous occasions, she returned to the United States to perform. However, she refused to play in segregated establishments and championed racial equality—including right here in the San Francisco Bay Area.

In the 1950's Madame Baker appeared with Paul Robeson supporting better pay for Oakland dock workers and longshoreman, she took part in Berkeley protests demanding Black people be hired as transit workers on the Key Line, and she warned that she would not perform at San Francisco's Golden Gate Theatre unless Black patrons could buy tickets to her concerts.

For her civil rights activities in challenging racial segregation, Madame Baker was labeled "a communist troublemaker" and put on the FBI watchlist. She lost her U.S. citizenship rights for over a decade.

It was not until the intervention of then U.S. Attorney General, Robert Kennedy, that she was finally allowed to return to the U.S. in 1963 to speak at the March on Washington.

Wearing her French Resistance military uniform, Madame Baker was one of the few women speakers to address the crowd that day as a quarter million people gathered before the Lincoln monument.

"You know I have always taken the rocky path," she told the crowd. "I never took the easy one, but as I get older, and as I knew I had the power and the strength, I took that rocky path and I tried to smooth it out a little. I wanted to make it easier for you. I want you to have a chance at what I had."

This is the legacy of Madame Josephine Baker that we celebrate and uplift on the global stage. From the Pantheon in Paris to the halls of the U.S. Congress, we honor her contributions, courage, and conviction to make this world a better place for us all.

On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of California, I commend Madame Josephine Baker for her service and dedication.

SEA ISLE CITY BEACH PATROL

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, in October, I had the opportunity to attend the Sea Isle City Beach Patrol Annual Hall of Fame Induction. The Sea Isle Beach Patrol was officially formed in 1919 to protect beachgoers who vacationed in the popular resort town. It started as just two lifeguards and three volunteers and has now grown into a large group. At the induction I attended, Robert Herzog, Bill

Feaster, Jr., Jim Guntle, Jordy Troyan, Danny Rodgers, and Pat Scannapieco were inducted into the Beach Patrol Hall of Fame. These individuals should be proud of their accomplishments and service to South Jersey, and it was my honor to watch the ceremony. God Bless the Sea Isle Beach Patrol, and God Bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MONDAIRE JONES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, due to personal reasons, I was unable to record my vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 386.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KATHRYN BONNIE HASSETT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kathryn Bonnie Hassett. Kathryn passed away in her Merced home on August 26, 2021 after a seven-year battle with cancer. Kathryn was a mother, daughter, grandmother, and friend.

Kathryn was the daughter of Ken and Midge Riggs. She went to school in Merced, California at Merced High School and later went on to study at California State University, Fresno where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Health Sciences. After graduating from Fresno State, Kathryn attended the University of San Francisco where she graduated with her Master of Arts Degree in Educational Psychology, with an emphasis on Marriage and Family.

She was reunited with Frank "Flip" Hassett while attending Fresno State, as they had first met when they were much younger at the Skimmers swim meets. During their time in college, they dated until they were married in 1975, after Kathy began her career in Social Services with Merced County while Flip coached swimming and water polo. They had two children together in 1977 and 1979.

In her free time, Kathy always enjoyed trying new things while spending time outdoors and traveling. She and her husband Flip especially loved rafting in Class 5 rivers all over the West and even in the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. In addition to rafting, Kathy was skilled at snow and water skiing in Yosemite, Lake Tahoe, China Peak, and various other locations.

Once she retired after 35 years with Merced County, Kathy continued her love for travel and exploration by partaking in several sea and river cruises all over the world, including a Disney Cruise in 2018 to Cabo San Lucas, when she was able to bring all of their children and grandchildren along for the trip.

Kathy was an active member of various community organizations in Merced including the League of Women Voters, Leadership Merced—Class 14, United Way, the Hospital

Assistance League, MCMC Foundation, Federal Emergency Management Team, Continuity of Care Committee, Specialized Management Area Response Team, Adult Services Committee, and CalWorks Advisory Committee. In addition to her commitment to Merced County, Kathy also worked in associations at the state level, including Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, and Human Services Directors.

Her dedication to her community demonstrated her immense faith in humanity. Her warm spirit and loving charm was something she never failed to share with her children, family, and the community of the Central Valley and California as a whole.

Kathy is survived by her loving husband Frank "Flip" Hassett; her children Heather Shepherd (Kelcey) and Frank Hassett (Amber); and siblings Karen Davey (Erwin), Curtis Riggs (Gaye), and Kraig Riggs (Robin).

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Kathryn Bonnie Hassett. Her service and contributions to the Central Valley and the State of California will be long remembered. I join her family and friends in celebrating Kathryn's life.

HONORING DAVID N. SHAFER

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor David N. Shafer, a constituent who lives in Whittier, California, as he retires after 31 years of work providing affordable housing for American families.

David has dedicated his life to increasing access to affordable housing for Californians. During his tenure at WNC, a leading affordable housing fund, David served as Chief Legal Officer and oversaw all legal affairs. In this role, he was instrumental in the underwriting, negotiation, and acquisition of more than 1,400 affordable housing communities representing over 93,000 apartment units for low-income families, senior citizens, and veterans.

David contributed his extensive insight and knowledge of affordable housing to his industry by serving as president and long-time member of the board of directors of the California Council for Affordable Housing and as director for the Council of Affordable and Rural Housing. Guided by an unwavering commitment to "do the right thing," David has been a respected mentor to a countless number of colleagues in his career.

David has been married for 34 years to his wife Monica. David and Monica are blessed with three children and seven grandchildren. David's children describe him as the rock and foundation of their family. They praise him for his kindness, compassion, attentiveness, and love.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing David Shafer a happy retirement and thanking him for years of service in the affordable housing space. His work has improved the lives of many individuals and will continue to do so for years to come.

REMEMBERING KEVIN NISHITA

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Kevin Fumito Nishita, a retired San Francisco Bay Area police officer who was murdered in a senseless act of gun violence while working as a security guard for a television crew in Oakland, CA.

Kevin's death has devastated not only his family and friends, but also the Bay Area's law enforcement and journalism communities, which had come to know him as an energetic, professional protector and a supportive friend. He died protecting practitioners of one of our nation's most sacred rights: the freedom of the press.

Kevin served as an officer with the Oakland Housing Authority Police Department and the Hayward Police Department before joining the San Jose Police Department in 2001. There, he worked as a Gang Investigations detective as well as working the Gaming/Vice Unit. In addition to his police assignments, Kevin also spent some time representing his peers as a director with the San José Police Officers Association.

He then joined the Colma Police Department in 2012, serving as a Detective, Field Training Officer, and Officer in Charge before being promoted to Sergeant in 2015 and retiring in 2018. Since early 2020, Kevin worked with the Star Protection Agency, often accompanying personnel from various Bay Area television stations into unsafe areas.

He was protecting a KRON4 news crew in downtown Oakland at midday on Nov. 24 when a group of men attempted to rob the crew of its camera. Kevin intervened and was shot; he succumbed to his injuries three days later.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Nishita; his mother, Mary Yukiko Nishita; his father, Dan Fumito Nishita; his stepson, Enrique Ramiro Serrano; his daughter-in-law, Elaine Hebron Edjan; his daughter, Maureen Campos; his son-in-law, Marlowe Campos; and his grandsons, Titus Mackoa Campos, Kahuna Cudi Campos, and Dash Wilfred Campos.

Colleagues remember Kevin by nicknames including "Turbo" and "Stitch," after the animated character, for his high-energy, always-moving persona. His family says he was an extremely hard worker who never asked for anything in return, who opened his home to so many people who needed help, a man of deep compassion.

Kevin Nishita's death should be a wake-up call that gun violence is a scourge upon our communities that must be addressed and stopped. His life should be remembered as a celebration of public service and fellowship, a model for all who knew and loved him. I offer his family, friends, and colleagues my deepest condolences on this terrible loss.

COMMEMORATING THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN'S 50TH NATIONAL DAY

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, on December 16, the Kingdom of Bahrain will mark its 50th National Day. I'm joined by many of my colleagues in congratulating the Bahraini people on this impressive milestone.

The contributions of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the peace and security of the wider Middle East region cannot be understated; look no further than the support of Bahrain in assisting U.S. evacuation efforts in Afghanistan, or to the Kingdom's hosting of the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet. Bahrain also assists U.S. counterterrorism efforts in marginalizing the use of drones by Iranian proxy groups.

Bahrain remains an instrumental security partner and ally of the United States. In 2002, Bahrain became a Major Non-NATO Ally, a designation given only to close partner states. Through our enhanced defense cooperation, we have been able to curtail the malign and toxic influence of the Iranian regime.

The Kingdom of Bahrain has so clearly augmented the prospect for regional peace through its participation in the Abraham Accords, and now maintains an embassy in Israel. Bahrain's Constitution continues to enshrine freedom of religion guarantees for all Bahraini citizens—to include women's right to vote and run for office.

In recognition of its 50th National Day, I warmly congratulate the people of Bahrain on the founding of their young nation, and wish them good health, prosperity, and security for many more years.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY BETH WALKER AND HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise—along with HANK JOHNSON, Chair of the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet—to thank Mary Beth Walker for her service to the Committee as a counsel detailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet.

Over the past two-and-a-half years, Mary Beth has helped the Committee achieve a great deal. This includes the passage last Congress of the Trademark Modernization Act, which, among other things, responded to the growing number of fraudulent trademark applications as well as the documented large number of unused marks on the register by creating two new ex parte proceedings to remove registered trademarks that were not in use when the application was made, or had never been used. This will help those seeking new registrations, like small businesses, have a better chance at obtaining a strong trademark of their initial preference.

Mary Beth was also instrumental in advancing the SHOP SAFE Act in this Congress. This bill seeks to address the scourge of counterfeits being sold by third parties on online e-commerce platforms by reforming a decade-old liability structure established by case law rather than Congress. Mary Beth worked tirelessly with stakeholders and other Congressional staff to try to ensure that the bill strikes the right balance to make a meaningful difference in reducing the number of counterfeits being sold to unsuspecting consumers.

Mary Beth has shown herself to be a dedicated public servant and a true team player, willing to help out on other hearings and intellectual property issues that came before the Committee. We will miss her greatly, but we are glad that her expertise will remain in service to the public with her return to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as an Associate Solicitor.

We thank Mary Beth for her service to the Committee and wish her the best of luck with the next chapter in her career.

HONORING DR. DAVID VIERRA FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE ANTELOPE VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. David Vierra for 40 years of service in public education and the lasting contributions he has made to the Antelope Valley, his lifelong home. In August of this year, David retired from his position as Antelope Valley Union High School District Superintendent after serving for nearly two decades in that role.

Upon graduating from Antelope Valley High School in Lancaster, California, one of the very schools that he would later serve as District Superintendent, David earned his bachelor's degree from California State University, Northridge, and subsequently began his career in education in 1981 as a teacher in the Lancaster Elementary School District. Soon after, he took his talents abroad, serving in the U.S. Department of Defense as an instructor at Kaiserslautern American High School in Germany, where he also coached football and basketball.

In 1998, David became the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services at the Antelope Valley Union High School District and just four years later—a true testament to his inherent leadership skills—David was tapped to lead the school district as Superintendent. Under David's direction, the Antelope Valley Union High School District has transformed into a vastly successful school system that prepares students for the 21st century and has even been internationally recognized. In 2018, Antelope Valley Union High School District received a special, six-year districtwide accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), a world-renowned accrediting association in the United States that works closely with the Office of Overseas Schools under the Department of State. The Antelope Valley Union High School

District is the first school district in the continental United States to receive district-wide WASC accreditation.

Over the past few decades, Antelope Valley students have received full-ride scholarships to prestigious universities and have been awarded national recognitions for their successes. David also worked to establish Students on Academic Rise (SOAR), an early college high school program that prepares students, many of which come from disadvantaged backgrounds, seeking alternative career paths to successfully enter the workforce.

David's passion for education reflects his own academic journey, as he earned a master's degree from Azusa Pacific University and a PhD in education philosophy from Claremont Graduate University, all while balancing his leadership obligations and commitment to helping students pursue their interests in and outside of the classroom. David is also well-known in the Antelope Valley community as being exceptionally generous with his time and talent, dedicating countless hours to local civic, athletic, and educational organizations. David has served the Antelope Valley Hospital Foundation as a Director, the University of Antelope Valley as Chairman of the Board, and the Antelope Valley Board of Trade as a Board Member on its Education Committee. This past summer, David received the key to the City of Lancaster, a well-deserved honor.

Known for his personal approach to education and leadership, David spent his time as Superintendent building relationships with students, parents, and teachers. The President of the Antelope Valley Union High School District's Board of Education noted that this special quality, along with David's integrity and "unwavering commitment to solving the near impossible"—especially during the coronavirus pandemic—helped him lead the Antelope Valley Union High School District "through the unthinkable." On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of California, I wish David, his wife, and three children all the best as they enter this exciting new chapter of life.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REVEREND ELIZABETH COLEMAN

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Reverend Elizabeth V. Coleman.

A lifelong Bay Area resident, Elizabeth was born in 1965 and raised in San Pablo. She graduated from San Francisco University Law School in 1999, launching her legal career. Elizabeth went on to earn a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Community Leadership from American Baptist Seminary. She became an ordained Reverend in 2011.

Elizabeth's desire to help children and families was evident throughout her career. After working for some time as a corporate lawyer, Elizabeth realized her passion for advocacy. Elizabeth supported young people as a court appointed advocate with Alameda and Contra Costa County's Juvenile Dependency Courts. Elizabeth also played a significant role in establishing the Justice Rising Youth Court at

the Berkeley Technology Academy, a program aimed at reducing suspension rates. Additionally, Elizabeth worked with a number of nonprofits throughout her career to advance the needs of children, including the San Francisco Children's Legal Defense Fund. Elizabeth was a champion of children's issues and fought tirelessly to promote justice through her work.

Elizabeth was also deeply passionate about her community. She was an Associate Pastor at McGee Avenue Baptist Church in Berkeley and ran programs focused on restorative justice and addressing food insecurity. Elizabeth will be remembered for her compassionate nature and her commitment to service.

Sadly, Elizabeth passed away earlier this month. She was a cherished member of the East Bay community and will be remembered for her leadership, integrity, and compassion. Please join me in honoring Elizabeth for her many contributions to our community.

CONGRATULATING THE AUSABLE VALLEY GIRLS SOCCER TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WIN

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the AuSable Valley girls' varsity soccer team on winning the New York State Championship title.

For the first time since the start of the program, the AuSable Valley girls' soccer team earned their place in the Final Four game led by head coach Lindsey Douglas. They carried this momentum with them through to the state championship game, and on November 14th, the AuSable Valley girls' soccer team made program history when they valiantly defeated the Carle Place Frogs in a 1-0 win.

This momentous win was not achieved overnight. The team was focused and determined to reach this goal all season. The Patriots' unity and dedication was evident in their impressive performance in the championship game. The New York State Public High School Championship game was fiercely competitive and not easily won. Their win was no small feat and deserves to be celebrated.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the AuSable Valley girls' varsity soccer team on their tremendous win and their well-deserved state championship title. I hope that their hard work and dedication serves as inspiration for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO JULIA TAYLOR

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julia Taylor, an innovative business leader, trailblazer, and the president of the Greater Milwaukee Committee (GMC) for 19 years. In 2002, Ms. Taylor became the first woman to become president of the Civic Group and tirelessly served for almost two decades.

GMC is a private sector civic organization whose mission is to contribute to the cultural and economic base of the Milwaukee Metropolitan area. The organization was formed in the late 1940s and is comprised of leaders in business, the professions, labor, education and philanthropy, and nonprofit community development. The GMC is made up of almost 200 leaders of businesses, financial institutions, law firms, nonprofit groups, and educational institutions in the metropolitan area and is dedicated to improving Southeastern Wisconsin's civic life and economy.

Since 2002, the GMC and the City of Milwaukee progressed exponentially under Ms. Taylor's leadership. Julia Taylor brought greater diversity to the membership and the GMC board. GMC now has a record number of minorities and women serving in leadership roles. Ms. Taylor expanded GMC's work to develop and innovate all areas of Milwaukee, especially impoverished areas that are too often forgotten. She worked tirelessly to build new relationships with local community leaders and stakeholders. Because of Ms. Taylor's work, GMC is having a much greater impact in neighborhoods, education and economic development at the most basic levels.

Under Ms. Taylor's leadership, the GMC won local and national support for its projects that include efforts to promote and support economic prosperity, vibrancy of place, and development of innovation and talent. Due to Ms. Taylor's work, the work of the GMC in building a better, greater Milwaukee for all of our citizens is more important than ever.

Ms. Taylor serves on several boards and was the Executive Director of the Milwaukee YWCA for many years before assuming her current position. She is being honored and recognized for her decades of community engagement in the Greater Milwaukee Area. In fact, Ms. Taylor continues to set a strong example to us all by displaying humor, grace and good will to all and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Julia Taylor for her contributions to the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin. She has helped transform the lives of many people in our community.

CONGRATULATING BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT, TINA MARQUIS, ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tina Marquis, the President of the Boulder Valley School District Board of Education, in Colorado for her many years of service to our community and our students.

Tina has been a Board Member of Boulder Valley since 2013, and during her tenure she also served as the Board Treasurer and four years as President.

She has a more than decade-long history of volunteerism and service to the Boulder Valley community, beginning with the elementary school her two children attended—and eventually at the district-level through the District Accountability Committee, where she served as the chairwoman for two years.

She is a tireless advocate for public education, equity and student safety and has worked closely with local municipalities and state legislators to address the safety needs of students.

Finally, during the pandemic and the other challenges she has been a stalwart leader, approaching each challenge with an open mind, while also being committed to doing what was best for students.

She was recently recognized for her outstanding leadership by the Colorado Association of School Boards—who bestowed upon her their McGuffey Award.

I would like to thank Tina Marquis for her outstanding service to the Boulder Valley

School District, to the State of Colorado and to our great country. She, no doubt, has been a beacon of leadership—and her influence has benefited the lives of many children in BVSD and beyond.

TYLER WILSON

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, this month, I had the pleasure of presenting Tyler

Wilson with his Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Tyler began as a Tiger Cub at a young age and proceeded through the Scout ranks up to Eagle Scout in October of 2019. Throughout his time as a Scout, Tyler became a member of The Order of the Arrow and is now a Vigil member. Additionally, with his friend Dominic, he founded Troop 2. For his Eagle Scout project, Tyler constructed a therapeutic riding arena for handicap kids at the Gloucester County 4H grounds. Scouting has had a major influence in Tyler's life, and it was my honor to have had the opportunity to recognize him for his service to the South Jersey community. God Bless Tyler and God Bless America.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S8805–S8836

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3276–3288, and S. Res. 460–464. **Page S8829**

Measures Passed:

National First-Generation College Celebration Day: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 437, expressing support for the designation of November 8, 2021, as “National First-Generation College Celebration Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S8826**

National Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 462, designating November 2021 as “National Lung Cancer Awareness Month” and expressing support for early detection and treatment of lung cancer. **Page S8826**

Stomach Cancer Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 463, expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month. **Page S8826**

National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 464, expressing support for the goals of National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children waiting for adoption, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging the people of the United States to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children. **Page S8826**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S8805–11, S8811–12, S8812–26

Pending:

Reed/Inhofe Modified Amendment No. 3867, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8805**

Reed Amendment No. 4775 (to Amendment No. 3867), to modify effective dates relating to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration and the Service Acquisition Executive of the Department of the Air Force for Space Systems and Programs. **Page S8805**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 12 noon on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. **Page S8836**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Corey Hinderstein, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration. **Page S8811**

Messages from the House:

Page S8827

Executive Communications:

Pages S8827–29

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S8829–31

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S8831–34

Additional Statements:

Page S8827

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S8834–36

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S8836

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S8836

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:08 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S8836.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

CARES ACT OVERSIGHT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine CARES Act oversight of the Department of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve, focusing on building a resilient economy, after receiving testimony from Janet L. Yellen, Secretary of the Treasury; and Jerome H.

Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

HIDDEN HOLIDAY HAZARDS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security concluded a hearing to examine hidden holiday hazards, focusing on product safety during the holiday season, after receiving testimony from Trista Hamsmith, Reese's Purpose, Lubbock, Texas; Ben Hoffman, American Academy of Pediatrics, Washington, D.C.; Hannah Rhodes, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Chicago, Illinois; and Joan Lawrence, The Toy Association, New York, New York.

U.S. POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States policy on democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean, after receiving testimony from Brian A. Nichols, Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, and Todd D. Robinson, Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, both of the Department of State.

FEDRAMP REFORM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine

Fedramp reform, focusing on recommendations to reduce burden, enhance security, and address inefficiencies in the government cloud authorization process, including S. 3099, to amend title 44, United States Code, to establish the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program within the General Services Administration, after receiving testimony from Ashley Mahan, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Technology Transformation Services, and David Shive, Chief Information Officer, both of the General Services Administration; Eric Mill, Senior Advisor to the Federal Chief Information Officer, Office of Management and Budget; Jeff Stern, Chain Security, Reston, Virginia; Anthony Fisic, OCLC, Dublin, Ohio; Steve Kovac, Zscaler, San Jose, California; and Ross Nodurft, Alliance for Digital Innovation, Washington, D.C.

NOMINATION

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Shannon Corless, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of the Treasury, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Cornyn, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 6083–6098; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 823–824, were introduced. **Pages H6710–11**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6711–13**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 550, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to immunization system data modernization and expansion, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–178);

H.R. 951, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national campaign to increase awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their children, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–179);

H.R. 2355, to facilitate responsible, informed dispensing of controlled substances and other prescribed

medications, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–180);

H.R. 2364, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide for a public education campaign to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–181);

H.R. 1550, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to human papillomavirus, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–182);

H.R. 3743, to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (H. Rept. 117–183);

H.R. 4026, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human

Services to address social determinants of health (H. Rept. 117–184);

H.R. 4045, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force” (H. Rept. 117–185);

H.R. 2685, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–186);

H.R. 3894, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue and disseminate guidance to States to clarify strategies to address social determinants of health under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–187);

H.R. 5679, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code (H. Rept. 117–188);

H.R. 5677, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 2, United States Code, title 50, United States Code, and title 52, United States Code (H. Rept. 117–189);

H.R. 5695, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions which were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code (H. Rept. 117–190);

H.R. 5705, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to provisions reclassified to title 34, United States Code (H. Rept. 117–191);

H.R. 5982, to make revisions in title 51, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code (H. Rept. 117–192); and

H.R. 5961, to make revisions in title 5, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current, and to make technical amendments to improve the United States Code (H. Rept. 117–193). **Page H6710**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McGovern to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6679**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rear Admiral Brent W. Scott, U.S. Navy, Chief of Chaplains, Washington DC. **Page H6679**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:13 p.m. and reconvened at 3:31 p.m. **Page H6680**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Maternal Vaccination Act: H.R. 951, amended, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services

to carry out a national campaign to increase awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their children; **Pages H6681–82**

Promoting Resources to Expand Vaccination, Education and New Treatments for HPV Cancers Act of 2021: H.R. 1550, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to human papillomavirus; **Pages H6682–84**

Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021: H.R. 550, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to immunization system data modernization and expansion, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 294 yeas to 130 nays. Roll No. 388; and **Pages H6684–87, H6698–99**

Social Determinants of Health Data Analysis Act of 2021: H.R. 4026, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to address social determinants of health, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 399 yeas to 28 nays, Roll No. 389. **Pages H6696–97, H6697–98**

British-American Interparliamentary Group—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Representatives Meeks, DelBene, Kilmer, Crow, Gomez, and Jeffries. **Page H6697**

Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker’s appointment of the following individual on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy to fill the existing vacancy thereon: Ms. Maria Zoe Dunning of Oakland, California. **Page H6697**

Communication from the Committee on Ethics: Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding a fine imposed upon Representative Greene (GA) pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which she did not file an appeal. **Page H6697**

Communication from the Committee on Ethics: Read a communication from the Committee on Ethics regarding a fine imposed upon Representative Greene (GA) pursuant to H. Res. 38, for which she did not file an appeal. **Page H6697**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Understanding Cybersecurity of Mobile Networks Act: H.R. 2685, amended, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications

and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks; **Pages H6687–89**

Future Uses of Technology Upholding Reliable and Enhanced Networks Act: H.R. 4045, amended, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force to be known as the “6G Task Force”; **Pages H6689–90**

American Cybersecurity Literacy Act: H.R. 4055, amended, to establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign; **Pages H6690–91**

Opioid Prescription Verification Act of 2021: H.R. 2355, amended, to facilitate responsible, informed dispensing of controlled substances and other prescribed medications; **Pages H6691–93**

Synthetic Opioid Danger Awareness Act: H.R. 2364, amended, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to provide for a public education campaign to raise public awareness of synthetic opioids; **Pages H6693–94**

Supporting the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration Act: H.R. 3743, to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health; and **Pages H6694–95**

Collecting and Analyzing Resources Integral and Necessary for Guidance for Social Determinants Act of 2021: H.R. 3894, amended, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue and disseminate guidance to States to clarify strategies to address social determinants of health under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program. **Pages H6695–96**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:50 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H6697**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6697–98 and H6698–99.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider the nominations of Jessica Rosenworcel, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, Jaimey Kumar Bavishi, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Arun Venkataraman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, and routine lists in the Coast Guard; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Gigi B. Sohn, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, and Alan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Jed David Kolko, of California, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Viquar Ahmad, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Commerce, 10:15 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider H.R. 4660, to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 1125 Chapline Street in Wheeling, West Virginia, as the “Frederick P. Stamp, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse”, H.R. 390, to redesignate the Federal building located at 167 North Main Street in Memphis, Tennessee as the “Odell Horton Federal Building”, S. 2938, to designate the United States Courthouse and Federal Building located at 111 North Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the “Joseph Woodrow Hatchett United States Courthouse and Federal Building”, and the nominations of Carlton Waterhouse, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Amanda Howe, of Virginia, David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, and Henry Christopher Frey, of North Carolina, each to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Jennifer Clyburn Reed, of South Carolina, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission, and 4 General Services Administration Resolutions; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Scott A. Nathan, of Massachusetts, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, and John R. Bass, of New York, to be an Under Secretary (Management), Mark Brzezinski, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Michael M. Adler, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–G50/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Erik

Adrian Hooks, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Michael Kubayanda, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, Laurel A. Blatchford, of the District of Columbia, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, Ebony M. Scott, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and Donald Walker Tunnage, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 11 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Leonard Philip Stark, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Victoria Marie Calvert, and Sarah Elisabeth Geraghty, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Jacqueline Scott Corley, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Dale E. Ho, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Katherine Vidal, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine an end-of-year look at the state of VA, 3 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SVC-217.

House

Committee on Education and Labor, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Examining the Policies and Priorities of the

Corporation for National and Community Service", 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Holding Big Tech Accountable: Targeted Reforms to Tech's Legal Immunity", 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Treasury Department's and Federal Reserve's Pandemic Response", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights, hearing entitled "FY 2022 Budget and U.S.—Africa Relations", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled "The Administrative Procedure Act at 75: Ensuring the Rulemaking Process is Transparent, Accountable, and Effective", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled "The Future of Federal Work", 10:15 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics; and Subcommittee on Research and Technology, joint hearing entitled "A Review of the Decadal Survey for Astronomy and Astrophysics in the 2020s", 11 a.m., Zoom.

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, Full Committee, business meeting on a report recommending that the House of Representatives cite Jeffrey B. Clark for criminal contempt of Congress and refer him to the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia for prosecution under 2 U.S.C. §§ 192, 194, 7 p.m., 390 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Wednesday, December 1

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 4350, National Defense Authorization Act.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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