



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

No. 147

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 13, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, You have received into Your holy presence Your servant, Queen Elizabeth II. As she lays down her crown before Your throne, grant her rest from her labors and reward for her toil.

Remove from her shoulders the responsibilities You bestowed upon her, which she bore faithfully. Honor her for the devotion she has shown throughout her lifetime to You and to Your people.

Give peace to the people of the United Kingdom that in this period of mourning and transition, they will call upon their noble history and exercise the dignity of their heritage. Inspire in them the desire to uphold the divine values their Queen strove so diligently to protect.

May her memory be a blessing and her virtue a standard.

Then above all the pomp and circumstance, speak to leaders around the world to remind them that kingdoms and principalities are ever subject to Your will. Their rise and fall are at Your decree. Grant peace and pros-

perity to all who are placed in positions of power, who heed Your word and yield to Your authority. And may we who are called to serve You in these days, be a crown of beauty and a royal diadem in Your hand, O Lord our God. In Your sovereign name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 44. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the statue of Harry S. Truman from the people of Missouri.

FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR AMERICANS

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the recently passed Inflation Reduction Act and the massive financial relief it will bring to hard-working American families.

The Inflation Reduction Act is monumental. It is historic. It will do several things, including: lower prescription drug prices; lower the cost of healthcare for millions; lower energy costs; and lower the deficit and reducing inflation.

On top of this, President Biden recently went a step further in helping Americans by announcing his remarkable student loan relief program. This is huge for many young Americans.

It is simple. House Democrats and President Biden are producing results for the American people because together, we are putting people over politics.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to celebrating these key victories at the White House this afternoon alongside the President and following these remarks I will be going straight over there.

RIISING INFLATION

(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, this morning, we received data that highlights once again the failure of the Biden administration to provide for our economy and to provide for the economic well-being of America.

At home in Pennsylvania, I have heard stories of parents unable to afford back-to-school clothes and supplies for their children and patients unable to afford the gas to put in their cars to drive to doctors' appointments.

These problems are fruits from the same poisonous tree. Reckless government spending has sent prices skyrocketing across our economy. Instead

□ 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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of addressing this cost, liberals continue to double down by passing their so-called Inflation Reduction Act while the Congressional Budget Office now reports that this act will increase our deficit through 2026.

The fact is simple. President Biden has proven that he is unable to stop the runaway inflation that has raised the cost of housing, raised the cost of groceries, and continues to affect energy sources throughout America. The answer to this crisis will not be found in more government handouts.

Now more than ever, we need to stop the inflation that is crippling our economy and hurting Pennsylvania and all American families.

NASCAR RETURNS TO NORTH WILKESBORO

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on May 21, 2023, NASCAR's All-Star Race will return to North Wilkesboro Speedway for the first time in more than a quarter century.

Since its inception in 1947, North Wilkesboro Speedway has hosted 93 NASCAR Cup races, and has attracted household names, from Richard Petty to Dale Earnhardt, Sr.

Mr. Speaker, NASCAR's grassroots return to this historic track—is its former stomping grounds—is a testament to the rich history of motorsports in western North Carolina.

Generations of North Carolinians and motorsports enthusiasts from around the country will gather and watch history be made in North Carolina's Fifth District.

Though this event is months away, the anticipation and energy within the community are very palpable. We look forward to this event.

BIDENFLATION HURTS FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the absurd declaration of Biden last month of "zero inflation" is an insult to intelligence.

Inflation is at 8.5 percent, the highest in 40 years. American families know gasoline is up 44 percent; electricity, up 15.2 percent; food, up 13.1 percent; and transportation, up 9.2 percent, destroying jobs.

Americans are fortunate to have vibrant radio talk shows, modern Paul Reveres, such as Columbia's Morning News (560 AM) with Gary David and Christopher Thompson. Yesterday, they highlighted the Heritage Foundation analysis that the average American worker has lost \$3,400 in annual income since Biden took office due to Bidenflation.

Gary revealed the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2021 that Americans spent

more on taxes than they did on food, clothing, and healthcare combined. The Federal Reserve reported that household net worth fell \$6.1 trillion from March to June.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the safe haven in Afghanistan to America.

God bless Ukraine victory.

Queen Elizabeth II will always be cherished in America.

THE CARRICO FAMILY ANGELS IN ADOPTION RECIPIENT AWARD

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Carrico family of Fancy Farm, Kentucky, who recently received the Angels in Adoption Award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

Each year, CCAI selects individuals across the Nation who have demonstrated a commitment to improving the lives of children in need of loving homes.

I want to congratulate Janet, Ellen, Peyton, and the entire Carrico family on their well-deserved recognition. They opened their hearts and house by fostering over 10 children and adopting 6 into their family.

Their devotion to helping children extends to the Fancy Farm community, as well. They can often be seen directing and volunteering for various youth-centered programs within the St. Jerome Parish of Fancy Farm, Kentucky.

Fancy Farm and the entire First Congressional District of Kentucky should be proud of the Carrico family.

This beautiful Kentucky family has shown what love can really do.

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY TO KEN STINSON

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to wish Ken Stinson from Omaha, Nebraska, a happy 80th birthday.

A Notre Dame grad, a degree in civil engineering, two tours in Vietnam, a master's degree in civil engineering from Stanford, he had a wonderful career with Peter Kiewit Sons in Omaha, one of the Nation's largest general contractors.

He is an accomplished engineer credited with the McHenry Tube Tunnel in the Baltimore Harbor, which more than 43 million vehicles pass through annually.

He and his wife, Ann, live in Omaha with six children. He has changed lives in the State of Nebraska through his public service and through his philanthropy. Nebraska and America are a better place because of it.

On behalf of the people of the First District of Nebraska, all Nebraskans, and our Nation, a very happy birthday to Ken Stinson.

RECOGNIZING SENATOR NICOLE POOLMAN

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

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, tonight in Bismark, there is an event honoring the State senate career of Nicole Poolman.

Elected in 2012, Nicole served in the North Dakota State senate for a decade. She used her career as a teacher to educate members of the Senate on how to govern with intelligence, competence, and grace.

Mr. Speaker, I know this better than most. She was my seatmate on the floor of the State senate for 6 years. Because of her friendship, I have become a better public servant, and more importantly, I have become a better person.

She is retiring from the senate to continue to focus on her true passion, teaching.

This year marks her 25th year as an educator. In that time, she has taught in three high schools and has had such a positive impact on thousands of North Dakota students. The North Dakota State government is going to miss her dearly. But their loss is her students' gain. I am so very proud to call her my friend.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR LIVES LOST IN NORTH CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memoriam of those who lost their lives in the horrific wildfires that have once again plagued Northern California this fire season.

In what is known as the McKinney fire in Siskiyou County, we lost four of our neighbors: Kathleen Shoopman, who was 73; Charles Kays, 79; Judith Kays, 82; and John Cogan, 76—all sadly lost their lives in this fire.

Yet, another fire, also in Siskiyou County, known as the Mill fire, two women, ages 66 and 73—whose names have not been publicly revealed yet—sadly lost their lives, as well.

Season after season, our constituents are subject to fire danger. Our prayers are with the families and the souls of those that we have lost this season.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask for a moment of silence from the House.

(Mr. BIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I address you and this body because I know that you know more than most what it is like to have the impacts of illegal immigration in your State and across the border.

In the town of Yuma, a town of about 100,000 people, every day in their hospital, they get 11 people who go into the emergency room. They get an additional four or five women every day in Yuma, Arizona, who go into the maternity ward. Mr. Speaker, \$20.4 million in uncompensated care was provided by that hospital in just the first 6 months of this year.

Mr. Speaker, you and I both know that when the Vice President said on Sunday that our border is not open, she was not telling the truth. Our border is wide open, and it has inherent dangers and problems for the United States of America.

We can close it today. I encourage Members of this House to join me in getting my discharge petition out. We need to close this border.

RECOGNIZING JON VAN UTRECHT OF OTTUMWA

(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 recognize Jon Van Utrecht of Ottumwa.

Since its creation in 1854 in Fairfield, Iowa, the Iowa State Fair has been a yearly tradition for Iowans, attracting millions of people from across the country. With a wide variety of entertainment, food, and activities, such as the world-famous butter cow, it is not surprising why millions are attracted to the fair.

Each year, farmers across Iowa are encouraged to enter a variety of crops to be judged for size, weight, and quality. One of my favorite things to do at the State fair is attending competitions and seeing the impressive crops our farmers have grown.

That is why I was thrilled to see Ottumwa's Jon Van Utrecht's pumpkin as one of the winners of the big pumpkin competition. Jon's pumpkin came in sixth place and weighed 300 pounds.

Iowa's State Fair is filled with countless entertainment options for families across Iowa and shows why Iowa is the best place to live, work, play, and raise a family. I look forward to seeing what next year brings.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish a happy birthday to Helen Friell. On September 23, Helen will become 100 years old.

Happy birthday, Helen.

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS IS MISGUIDED

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, there are countless successful middle Tennesseans who did not go to college, yet President Biden expects them to pick up the tab for those who did.

It is simply wrong to take hard-earned dollars from blue-collar workers in Tennessee who have no student loan debt just to eliminate some or all of the student loan debts of usually higher paid college graduates. But it is also blatantly unconstitutional for President Biden to unilaterally take this cynical election year action without the required congressional authorization. He is, after all, the President, not our king or dictator.

Further, this misguided decision comes at the cost of more than \$500 billion, which will push inflation and the skyrocketing cost of everything even higher and add to the financial pain Tennesseans already feel from the record inflation caused by the President's other disastrous fiscal policies.

I ask the President to please join us instead of fighting us in trying to put our Nation's fiscal house back in order.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1431

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 2 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 a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or if the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

ELIMINATING LIMITS TO JUSTICE FOR CHILD SEX ABUSE VICTIMS ACT OF 2022

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3103) to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3103

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 "Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.

Section 2255 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—There shall be no time limit for the filing of a complaint commencing an action under this section."

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall—

(1) take effect on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) apply to—

(A) any claim or action that, as of the date described in paragraph (1), would not have been barred under section 2255(b) of title 18, United States Code, as it read on the day before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) any claim or action arising after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3103.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3103, the Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act of 2022 is bipartisan legislation that would ensure that survivors of child sex abuse are not barred by a statute of limitations when seeking civil damages in court.

Data suggests that 86 percent of child sexual abuse goes unreported. Also common is delayed disclosure, or the tendency of survivors of child sexual abuse to wait many years before disclosing abuse to others.

This is because survivors of sexual abuse often take a long time to process their trauma, and many survivors who were abused as a child may not even recognize the abuse they suffered until much later in life.

Unfortunately, because survivors of child sexual abuse often delay reporting, any statute of limitations may prevent survivors from accessing justice and seeking damages in civil court.

The current Federal civil remedy statute for victims of child sexual abuse includes a statute of limitations requiring all claims to be filed within 10 years of the injury or not later than 10 years after the victim turns 18 years old.

These statutes of limitation can serve to protect the abusers and enable them to continue to exploit their power by allowing victims' claims to expire.

This bill will enable survivors who are victims of Federal child sex abuse offenses, including aggravated sexual abuse, sex trafficking, human trafficking, forced labor, and sexual exploitation, to seek civil damages in Federal court regardless of the amount of time that has passed since the abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ROSS) for joining Senator DURBIN in introducing this important legislation and recognizing that the challenges survivors face in reporting the trauma they have experienced should not bar them from accessing justice in the courts.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3103 eliminates the statute of limitations for a minor victim of a human trafficking offense or a Federal sex offense, to file a civil action to recover damages.

Studies indicate that many of these crimes go unreported or victims sometimes wait years to disclose their abuse to others under current law. A victim may file a Federal civil claim up until when the victim reaches the age of 28 or up to 10 years after the discovery of the violation or injury.

This legislation would allow victims of human trafficking or sex offenses to seek civil remedies regardless of when the crime took place.

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ROSS), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair of the Judiciary Committee for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am heartened that today we will vote to send this bill to the President's desk to guarantee justice for victims of child sex abuse.

Experts estimate that more than 85 percent of child sex abuse goes unreported. Kids experiencing abuse face a variety of the barriers to reporting. Often they don't know how to recognize abuse, they don't know how to talk about their experiences, or they don't have a trusted adult they can contact.

Even when survivors do report their abuse, their experiences often fail to reach the people in the justice system who can stop the predator. For all of these reasons, the process of disclosure of abuse can take decades. The average age of reporting child sex abuse is 52 years old.

Tragically, statutes of limitations often prevent survivors who disclose their abuse as adults from getting their day in court. But justice systems are

slowly beginning to understand how delayed disclosure impacts access to justice.

In the past two decades, 48 States and Washington D.C., have amended child sex abuse laws to expand or eliminate statutes of limitations. Congress previously eliminated the Federal criminal statute of limitations for child sex abuse and sex trafficking and slightly lengthened the Federal civil statute of limitations.

However, this short extension of the civil statute of limitations does not reflect current data on just how long most survivors delay disclosure of their abuse.

All survivors deserve access to justice no matter how long it takes them to talk about the trauma they have suffered.

Today, 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 13 boys experience sex abuse before their 18th birthday. I have heard about far too many cases of child sex abuse in my home State of North Carolina.

A case currently before the North Carolina Supreme Court involves the wrestling team at a Gaston County high school where teenage athletes were sexually abused by their coach.

While the coach was convicted and sentenced to decades in prison, the athletes were initially unable to sue in civil court because of the statute of limitations.

This case is currently before the North Carolina Supreme Court because a three-judge panel ruled that the State law opening a window for adult survivors of sexual abuse was unconstitutional.

We cannot provide effective remedies to survivors while the Federal civil statute of limitations remains in place.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representative SWALWELL, Representative SALAZAR, and Representative RESCHENTHALER for leading this effort with me in the House, as well as Senator DURBIN and Senator BLACKBURN for leading this bill in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3103 is bipartisan legislation that would ensure that survivors of child sex abuse are not barred by a statute of limitations when seeking justice in the courts.

This bill recognizes that many victims of child sexual abuse delay reporting the trauma they have experienced. Therefore, it will enable survivors who are victims of more than a dozen Federal sex abuse offenses to seek civil damages in Federal court regardless of the time that has passed since the abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3103, the "Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act of

2022," bipartisan legislation that would eliminate the statute of limitations for victims of federal child sexual abuse offenses to file civil claims against their abusers in federal court.

This legislation would allow survivors of more than a dozen federal child sex abuse offenses to have their day in court no matter the time it takes them to disclose their abuse.

Oftentimes victims of offenses, such as aggravated sexual abuse, sex trafficking, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child pornography require years of treatment to process and disclose their victimization.

This is particularly true for young victims of these despicable crimes, who continue to process trauma inflicted upon them well into adulthood—only to be barred by statutes of limitations that prevent them from holding their abusers accountable when they are able to name them.

We have come to understand the effects of fear, depression, and shame that result from the trauma of sexual abuse, and the power dynamics between child victims and adult abusers, that explain why victims may not immediately report abuse—or delay disclosure for decades.

Although we extended the statute of limitations in 2018 for federal civil child sex abuse claims for damages until the victim reaches age 28 or until 10 years after discovery of the offense, that extension does not reflect current findings on the delayed disclosure of child sex abuse.

A study by the Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (IDVSA) at The University of Texas found that, in my home state of Texas, there are almost 79,000 minors and youth victims of sex trafficking, while data from CHILD USA suggests that almost 90 percent of child sexual abuse goes unreported.

Countless examples of delayed disclosure—by adults victimized as children—fill the headlines of newspapers, televised news reports, and social media posts from every corner of the country.

One study of more than 1,000 survivors found that the average age of survivors at the time of disclosure was roughly 52 years old.

Historically, statutes of limitations have silenced victims and favored their abusers—allowing them to escape accountability.

However, since 2002, 49 states and 2 territories have amended their laws to extend, eliminate, or revive civil statutes of limitations for child sexual abuse.

Congress must take note of the available research, data, and trends before us, making certain that federal law does not deny survivors the ability to have their day in court or force victims into court before they are psychologically ready to do so, causing further victimization and trauma.

Instead, we are duty bound to ensure survivors of child sexual abuse, exploitation, and trafficking can seek justice against their abusers regardless of the timing and, through successful litigation, have the means to access life-sustaining treatment and other services necessary to make them whole.

Justice should never be denied to any person in this country, especially victims who have been robbed of their innocence and childhoods.

S. 3103 is a commonsense, bipartisan bill that will provide a pathway to justice and healing for many victims and survivors while holding abusers accountable for the harms they

cause. I encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3103.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4785) to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4785

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND.

Section 3014(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "September 11" and inserting "September 30".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 4785.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 4785 is bipartisan legislation that would extend until September 30 of this year, 2022, the mandatory special assessment of \$5,000 imposed on those convicted of certain offenses involving sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a multi-billion-dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 24.9 million people around the world and generates more than \$150 billion annually in illicit profits. It is a reprehensible crime that touches communities across the country—from major cities to suburban enclaves and rural back roads—and can cause devastating, sometimes irreparable harm to victims who fall prey to cunning traffickers.

The fight against human trafficking requires a comprehensive, multidisci-

plinary strategy that includes prosecution of traffickers so that they cannot harm again, protection of victims through services to increase safety and treat trauma, and prevention efforts to alleviate social vulnerabilities to exploitation.

From providing immediate, emergency care when victims are identified to long-term care that helps survivors recover from their victimization, victim assistance is vital to the Federal anti-trafficking strategy and efforts to combat sexual abuse and exploitation as well as child pornography, which continue to be a threat to our children and other vulnerable persons.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, commonly referred to as the JVT Act, requires Federal sentencing judges to impose a special assessment of \$5,000 on those convicted of Federal crimes involving sexual abuse, child pornography, sexual exploitation, or human trafficking.

The fees collected from the special assessment are transferred to the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund and used to fund and enhance vital services and programming that assist victims and survivors who have been abused, exploited, and/or trafficked.

This past Sunday, the provision that requires judges to impose the special assessment expired, which necessitates the passage of this extension until the end of the fiscal year when it can be renewed as part of other ongoing legislation to fund the government.

Congress must do all we can to ensure that resources are available to support the needs of victims and survivors of human trafficking, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation, who often have complex needs requiring a broader array of trauma-focused services and treatment.

Although we are considering the bill as introduced by Senators KLOBUCHAR and CORNYN, I must also thank Representative KAREN BASS for her work to introduce the House companion, H.R. 8684, and for her continued dedication to helping victims and survivors of human trafficking, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support the extension of the \$5,000 special assessment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1445

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation extends the authorization for a special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund for 19 days. The special assessment is a \$5,000 fine levied against someone convicted of certain Federal trafficking and sexual abuse offenses. These offenses include human smuggling, human trafficking, and sexual abuse of minors, among others.

This \$5,000 fine is in addition to other restitution or compensation that offenders might be forced to pay, such as court-ordered fines, orders of restitu-

tion, and other fines related to victim compensation.

Of course, an additional \$5,000 fine can never adequately deter criminals from committing these heinous acts. A much more effective solution would be to make it more difficult for criminals to traffic and smuggle people across our borders in the first place.

Unfortunately, House Democrats are flat-out unwilling to do anything to stop the Biden border crisis. For 21 months, we have seen how dangerous criminals have exploited our open borders to smuggle people and drugs, particularly fentanyl, into our country.

The blame for the border crisis, and also our crime crisis, lies squarely at the feet of the radical left's agenda and their anti-law enforcement agenda.

House Republicans are more than willing to increase penalties for human trafficking and human smuggling, but the House can and should do much more to address the catastrophic border crisis caused by President Biden's failures.

Literally, in 20 months, we have gone from a secure border to no border. It would help if we actually had a border again to deal with these issues that we are discussing here today.

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

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

S. 4785 is bipartisan legislation that would extend the \$5,000 special assessment that provides funding to help victims and survivors of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child pornography, and human trafficking, through services, programming, and treatment tailored to their specific needs.

Each of us should make every effort to support programs that help rescue survivors of these reprehensible crimes and provide them with the resources they need to become whole again, while also holding perpetrators accountable for the harms they cause.

I urge all my colleagues to support S. 4785, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 4785, bipartisan legislation that would extend the authorization of the \$5,000 special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund.

Human trafficking is one of the greatest ongoing threats to human rights in the world—and in this country.

An estimated 25 percent of human trafficking victims are reportedly in my home state of Texas, with Houston being one of the largest hubs for human trafficking in the country. And although some populations are at greater risk of victimization than others, human trafficking spans all races, ages, genders, and every socioeconomic status.

In 2020, the National Human Trafficking Hotline identified more than 16,000 victims of human trafficking, who likely represent only a fraction of the actual problem.

In that same year, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 21.7 million reports, most of which were related to child sexual abuse material, online

entice ment, child sex trafficking, and child sexual molestation.

Victims who have been exploited or abused sexually or trafficked, whether for labor or sex, require and deserve victim-focused, culturally informed responses from well-trained providers and law enforcement, that direct them towards emergency and long-term services critical to sustaining them as they heal.

Funding and grants—from the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund to develop, expand, strengthen, and provide these victim services and programming—derive from the mandatory special assessment, which is imposed on perpetrators convicted of human trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation, and child pornography.

Because it is our duty not only to ensure victims and survivors of these ghastly crimes are not re-victimized but also to provide them with services that help them successfully re-integrate into society, we must extend the authorization of the \$5,000 special assessment.

I support S. 4875 and encourage my colleagues to do the same.

We must also continue to shape legislation to improve upon the U.S. antitrafficking response—as well as other legislation and programming aimed at preventing sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and protecting victims and survivors—particularly our children and youth.

That is why I introduced H.R. 7566, the Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act, to ensure schools are safe havens for students.

It is my hope that my bill, which was ordered to be reported favorably by voice vote, will be brought to the floor for consideration soon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 4785.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

DRONE INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTION GRANT ACT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5315) to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish in the Department of Transportation a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and training grant 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. 5315

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 “Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant Act”.

SEC. 2. DRONE INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTION GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) *AUTHORITY.*—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a drone infrastructure inspection grant program to make grants to governmental entities to facilitate the use of eligible small unmanned aircraft systems to increase efficiency, reduce costs, improve worker and community safety, reduce carbon emissions, or meet other priorities (as determined by the Secretary) related to critical infrastructure projects.

(b) *USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.*—A governmental entity may use a grant provided under this section to—

(1) purchase or lease eligible small unmanned aircraft systems;

(2) support operational capabilities of eligible small unmanned aircraft systems by the governmental entity;

(3) contract for services performed with an eligible small unmanned aircraft system in circumstances in which the governmental entity does not have the resources or expertise to safely carry out or assist in carrying out the activities described under subsection (a); and

(4) support the program management capability of the governmental entity to use an eligible small unmanned aircraft system.

(c) *ELIGIBILITY.*—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a governmental entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such form, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including an assurance that the governmental entity or its contractor will comply with relevant federal regulations.

(d) *SELECTION OF APPLICANTS.*—In selecting an applicant for a grant under this section, the Secretary shall prioritize projects that propose to—

(1) carry out a critical infrastructure project in a historically disadvantaged community; or

(2) address a safety risk in the inspection, operation, maintenance, repair, modernization, or construction of an element of critical infrastructure.

(e) *LIMITATION.*—Nothing in this section shall be construed as to interfere with an agreement between a governmental entity and a labor union.

(f) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 1 year after the first grant is provided under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that evaluates the program carried out under this section, including—

(1) a description of the number of grants awarded;

(2) the amount of each grant;

(3) the activities funded under this section; and

(4) the effectiveness of such funded activities in meeting the objectives described in subsection (a).

(g) *FUNDING.*—

(1) *FEDERAL SHARE.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using a grant under this section shall not exceed 80 percent of the total project cost.

(B) *WAIVER.*—The Secretary may increase the Federal share requirement under subparagraph (A) to up to 100 percent for a project carried out using a grant under this section by a governmental entity if such entity—

(i) submits a written application to the Secretary requesting an increase in the Federal share; and

(ii) demonstrates that the additional assistance is necessary to facilitate the acceptance and full use of a grant under this section, such as alleviating economic hardship, meeting additional workforce needs, or such other uses that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(2) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(A) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2023; and

(B) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 3. DRONE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) *AUTHORITY.*—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a drone education and training grant program to make grants to educational institutions for workforce training for eligible small unmanned aircraft system technology.

(b) *USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.*—Amounts from a grant under this section shall be used in furtherance of activities authorized under sections 631 and 632 of the FAA Reauthorization Act 2018 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note).

(c) *ELIGIBILITY.*—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an educational institution shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such form, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2023; and

(2) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.*—The term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given such term in section 1016(e) of the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

(2) *CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT.*—The term “critical infrastructure project” means a project for the inspection, operation, maintenance, repair, modernization, or construction of an element of critical infrastructure, including mitigating environmental hazards to such infrastructure.

(3) *COVERED FOREIGN ENTITY.*—The term “covered foreign entity” means an entity—

(A) included on the Consolidated Screening List or Entity List as designated by the Secretary of Commerce;

(B) domiciled in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation;

(C) subject to influence or control by the government of the People's Republic of China or by the Russian Federation; or

(D) is a subsidiary or affiliate of an entity described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(4) *EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.*—The term “educational institution” means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) that participates in a program authorized under sections 631 and 632 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note).

(5) *ELEMENT OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.*—The term “element of critical infrastructure” means a critical infrastructure facility or asset, including public bridges, tunnels, roads, highways, dams, electric grid, water infrastructure, communication systems, pipelines, or other related facilities or assets, as defined by the Secretary.

(6) *ELIGIBLE SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.*—The term “eligible small unmanned aircraft system” means a small unmanned aircraft system manufactured or assembled by a company that is domiciled in the United States and is not a covered foreign entity.

(7) *GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.*—The term “governmental entity” means—

(A) a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a territory of the United States, or a political subdivision thereof;

(B) a unit of local government;

(C) a Tribal Government;

(D) a metropolitan planning organization; or

(E) a combination of the entities described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

(8) *SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT; UNMANNED AIRCRAFT; UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.*—The terms “small unmanned aircraft”, “unmanned aircraft”, and “unmanned aircraft system” have the meanings given such terms in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5315, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5315, the Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant Act, legislation sponsored by Mr. STANTON of Arizona and Mr. GRAVES from Louisiana.

In recent years, small unmanned systems, also known as drones, have been valuable assets in the inspection, maintenance, and repair of the Nation's critical infrastructure. Drones have many uses, from surveying transmission lines and inspecting bridges, to assessing damage from natural disasters. As this aviation technology continues to evolve, State and local governments should have the opportunity to leverage these systems to help identify and address the growing infrastructure needs across the country.

H.R. 5315 establishes a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and workforce training grant program at the U.S. Department of Transportation to help increase efficiency, reduce costs, improve worker safety, and reduce carbon emissions related to critical infrastructure projects.

Specifically, the bill authorizes competitive Department of Transportation grants for State, Tribal, and local governments to purchase, lease, contract for services, or support the operational management of small drones to perform certain infrastructure projects. H.R. 5315 ensures that these Federal funds can only be used for small drone technology manufactured or assembled by a U.S. company, includes safeguards for related labor agreements, and prioritizes projects conducted in historically disadvantaged communities.

In order to help equip the future U.S. transportation workforce with the skills necessary to capitalize on drone technology and compete globally, H.R. 5315 also invests Federal funding in drone workforce training and education programs at universities and community colleges. This program will be particularly beneficial as the U.S. aviation sector works to achieve a workforce that better reflects the diversity of the country as a whole.

H.R. 5315 has the support of cosponsors from both sides of the aisle and the endorsement of several key organizations representing the U.S. aviation

and aerospace sector, and State, Tribal, and local governments.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter of support from these organizations.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. STENY HOYER,
Majority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. STEVE SCALISE,
Minority Whip, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, MAJORITY LEADER HOYER, MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY AND MINORITY WHIP SCALISE: We write in strong support of H.R. 5315, the bipartisan Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant (DIIG) Act, and respectfully request that the bill be added to the House floor schedule. The DIIG Act addresses the urgent critical infrastructure inspection backlog our nation faces today, while also investing in the drone workforce of tomorrow.

The bill's purpose is twofold. First, it would authorize the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to provide competitive grants to state, tribal, and local governments to use secure small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) to perform critical infrastructure inspections. Drones provide states with a safe and cost effective way to identify and repair critical infrastructure problems in early stages, saving money, time, and preventing needless consumer and worker injuries and death.

Second, the bill would invest in our nation's future workforce by authorizing USDOT competitive grants for workforce training and education at institutions of higher education, including community colleges. This would position current and future workers to capitalize on the fast-growing drone economy, and help to cultivate a diverse workforce. To date, over 90 institutions have been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration as VAS-Collegiate Training Initiative Schools. This bill would nurture a dynamic workforce—ready to adapt to the technological advancements of the future.

The DIIG Act passed out of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee by a bipartisan vote of 54-4 on April 28th. We hope you join us in supporting the DIIG Act by adding it to the House floor schedule as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

National League of Cities (NLC), National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), National Association of Counties (NACo), National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Association of Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), Commercial Drone Alliance (CDA).

NATE: The Communications Infrastructure Contractors Association, Northeast UAS Airspace Integration Research Alliance, Inc (NUAIR), Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Kansas UAS Joint Task Force, Texas Association of Counties, San Bernardino County.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5315 is bipartisan legislation that addresses problems we have seen in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we had a bridge collapse in Minnesota; we had a bridge collapse in Georgia; and, more recently, right on the Tennessee-Arkansas line on the interstate, we saw a bridge collapse.

All of these accidents that resulted in deaths and injuries and incredible impacts to traffic, they could have been prevented. They could have been prevented by lowering the threshold by doing safety inspections to critical infrastructure, like bridges; and this legislation helps to facilitate that.

Mr. Speaker, over 90 percent of the drones that were flown in the United States used to be foreign-made, in fact, from China. This legislation not only helps to facilitate the incorporation of drone inspection, which is cheaper, it is more thorough, it is more easily accessible, and it lowers the threshold to safety inspections. It doesn't put workers at risk. But it also ensures that we continue making progress on this domestic drone industry and no longer cede this leadership role to China.

This bill ensures that this is a domestic industry, U.S. technology, American jobs. And as the gentlewoman just said, this legislation also ensures that we have the workforce able to do this.

This bill is for 2 years. It is not designed to be in perpetuity. It is 2 years. It is helping to seed this industry; helping to incorporate this technology into our State DOTs, into our programs related to utilities and transmission lines, and even in the aftermath of disasters which, unfortunately, in my home State of Louisiana, we often experience.

I thank my friend for working with us on a bipartisan basis on this legislation, the gentleman from Arizona, the sponsor of this legislation.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON).

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this commonsense, bipartisan legislation, and I thank Chairman DEFazio and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) for working with me on it.

Our country must do a better job inspecting infrastructure. There is a nationwide backlog, and it is because traditional methods of inspecting critical infrastructure are often time-consuming, dangerous, and expensive. Inspections are essential, though, and we have seen tragic results around the country when structural flaws go unnoticed.

Modern technology has given us a great tool that we can use for inspections: Drones. Using a drone to inspect infrastructure in hard-to-reach places, such as underneath bridges, can speed up the inspection process so that we

can get through the backlog more quickly, and it can help save money, as well.

In fact, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials estimate that utilizing drones reduces the cost of infrastructure inspections by 74 percent and the time needed to conduct the inspection by 88 percent.

Not only that, but drone inspections are much safer for the workers than having a human hang under a tall bridge. It is an easy way to improve job safety.

In my home State, the Arizona Department of Transportation has been using drones for several years to inspect hard-to-reach areas on bridges, and survey near highways where falling rocks or ground movements are potential hazards.

What this bill does is simple: It gives more States, Tribes, and local governments the opportunity to use drones. It creates competitive grants to purchase, contract for services, or develop program capability for American-made, small, unmanned aircraft systems to perform critical infrastructure inspection, maintenance, operation, or repair projects. And it provides resources to train the next generation and upskill our existing workforce.

This bill has broad support from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, National Conference of State Legislatures, National Association of State Aviation Officials, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, and many, many others.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill.

□ 1500

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5315, 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. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

NATIONAL AVIATION PREPAREDNESS PLAN ACT OF 2022

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 884) to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national

aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 884

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 “National Aviation Preparedness Plan Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL AVIATION PREPAREDNESS PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the heads of such other Federal departments or agencies as the Secretary of Transportation considers appropriate, shall develop a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks.

(b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan developed under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum—

(1) provide airports and air carriers with an adaptable and scalable framework with which to align the individual plans, including the emergency response plans, of such airports and air carriers and provide guidance as to each individual plan;

(2) improve coordination among airports, air carriers, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, other appropriate Federal entities, and State and local governments and health agencies with respect to preparing for and responding to communicable disease outbreaks;

(3) to the extent practicable, improve coordination among relevant international entities;

(4) create a process to identify appropriate personal protective equipment, if any, for covered employees to reduce the likelihood of exposure to a covered communicable disease, and thereafter issue recommendations for the equipping of such employees;

(5) create a process to identify appropriate techniques, strategies, and protective infrastructure, if any, for the cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitization of aircraft and enclosed facilities owned, operated, or used by an air carrier or airport, and thereafter issue recommendations pertaining to such techniques, strategies, and protective infrastructure;

(6) identify and assign Federal agency roles in the deployment of emerging and existing technologies and solutions to reduce covered communicable diseases in the aviation ecosystem;

(7) clearly delineate the responsibilities of the sponsors and operators of airports, air carriers, and Federal agencies in responding to a covered communicable disease;

(8) incorporate, as appropriate, the recommendations made by the Comptroller General of the United States to the Secretary of Transportation contained in the report titled “Air Travel and Communicable Diseases: Comprehensive Federal Plan Needed for U.S. Aviation System’s Preparedness”, issued in December 2015 (GAO-16-127);

(9) consider the latest peer-reviewed scientific studies that address communicable disease with respect to air transportation; and

(10) consider funding constraints.

(c) CONSULTATION.—When developing the plan under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation shall consult with aviation industry and labor stakeholders, including representatives of—

(1) air carriers, which shall include domestic air carriers consisting of major air car-

riers, low-cost carriers, regional air carriers and cargo carriers;

(2) airport operators, including with respect to large hub, medium hub, small hub, and nonhub commercial service airports;

(3) labor organizations that represent airline pilots, flight attendants, air carrier airport customer service representatives, and air carrier maintenance, repair, and overhaul workers;

(4) the labor organization certified under section 7111 of title 5, United States Code, as the exclusive bargaining representative of air traffic controllers of the Federal Aviation Administration;

(5) the labor organization certified under such section as the exclusive bargaining representative of airway transportation systems specialists and aviation safety inspectors of the Federal Aviation Administration;

(6) trade associations representing air carriers and airports;

(7) aircraft manufacturing companies;

(8) general aviation; and

(9) such other stakeholders as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the plan is developed under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that includes such plan.

(e) REVIEW OF PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which a report is submitted under subsection (d), and again not later than 5 years thereafter, the Secretary shall review the plan included in such report and, after consultation with aviation industry and labor stakeholders, make changes by rule as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(f) GAO STUDY.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall conduct and submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a study assessing the national aviation preparedness plan developed under subsection (a), including—

(1) whether such plan—

(A) is responsive to any previous recommendations relating to aviation preparedness with respect to an outbreak of a covered communicable disease or global health emergency made by the Comptroller General; and

(B) meets the obligations of the United States under international conventions and treaties; and

(2) the extent to which the United States aviation system is prepared to respond to an outbreak of a covered communicable disease.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—The term “covered employee” means—

(A) an individual whose job duties require interaction with air carrier passengers on a regular and continuing basis and who is an employee of—

(i) an air carrier;

(ii) an air carrier contractor;

(iii) an airport; or

(iv) the Federal Government; or

(B) an air traffic controller or systems safety specialist of the Federal Aviation Administration.

(2) COVERED COMMUNICABLE DISEASE.—The term “covered communicable disease” means a communicable disease that has the potential to cause a future epidemic or pandemic of infectious disease that would constitute a public health emergency of international concern as declared, after the date of enactment of this Act, by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319

of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. 884, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Aviation Preparedness Plan Act of 2022, legislation sponsored by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN).

If there is one lesson of the coronavirus pandemic, it is that we were not prepared for a pandemic and must be prepared for the next one.

While a number of mitigation efforts were eventually implemented in aviation, they should not have taken almost a year to put in place. In fact, in 2015, the Government Accountability Office issued a recommendation to develop a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks.

The Government Accountability Office has since found that had the Department of Transportation implemented such a plan, it “could have improved coordination between public health and aviation sectors during COVID-19 to address issues like passenger screening.”

H.R. 884 seeks to resolve this oversight by requiring the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security, to develop a national aviation preparedness plan.

That plan, at a minimum, would lay out the responsibilities of airports, airlines, and government entities in responding to future pandemics, improve coordination among stakeholders, and identify appropriate equipment to protect frontline aviation employees, among other things.

This means we could establish the necessary procedures and methodologies to combat pandemics prior to their onset and eliminate the confusion surrounding who should take action.

Fortunately, we have come a long way since the start of the pandemic. Vaccines are widely available, daily COVID hospitalizations and death rates have decreased, and air travel is returning to prepandemic levels.

But we could have done better. This bill, which received overwhelming bipartisan support in committee, will ensure the lessons learned from the cur-

rent pandemic are not forgotten during the next one.

For these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 884, the National Aviation Preparedness Plan Act, responds to a 2015 Government Accountability Office recommendation and looks to establish clear roles and responsibilities among Federal agencies and air transportation operators in the event of a communicable disease outbreak.

I want to be clear that this bill only applies to future disease outbreaks, and it is intended to guarantee that the confusion we have seen among Federal agencies and air carrier operators is addressed and does not repeat itself as we saw in the past few years.

America’s aviation sector is absolutely critical to our economy. It is critical to moving travelers for business, travelers to visit family, and for tourism purposes. Goods must be transported all across the United States and the globe.

We have to make sure that we are able to limit, contain, and reduce the impact of these disease outbreaks in a timely, decisive, and coordinated manner.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman LARSEN and Chairman DEFAZIO for working on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, again, I reiterate that this bill is only for future outbreaks. It only applies to future communicable disease outbreaks. What is more, it grants no additional pandemic-related authority to Federal agencies. It simply ensures there is a plan in place among U.S. carriers so they can develop a timely and decisive response plan in the event of a future outbreak.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 884, 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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

EXPEDITING DISASTER RECOVERY ACT

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

(H.R. 5774) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that unmet needs after a major disaster are met, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5774

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 “Expediting Disaster Recovery Act”.

SEC. 2. UNMET NEED ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 431. UNMET NEEDS ASSISTANCE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—After the declaration of a major disaster, the President may direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide to the State, subject to amounts made available from appropriations, assistance necessary for meeting unmet needs as a result of such disaster.

“(b) FUNDING.—

“(1) AMOUNT OF FUNDING.—Subject to appropriations and not later than 30 days after a declaration is made under section 401, the President acting through the Administrator may allocate an amount that equals up to 10 percent of the estimated aggregate amount of the grants to be made pursuant to sections 406 and 408 for the major disaster in order to provide technical and financial assistance under this section and such set aside shall be deemed to be related to activities carried out pursuant to major disasters under this Act.

“(2) ESTIMATED AGGREGATE AMOUNT.—Not later than 180 days after each major disaster declaration pursuant to this Act, the estimated aggregate amount of grants for purposes of paragraph (1) shall be determined by the President and such estimated amount need not be reduced, increased, or changed due to variations in estimates.

“(3) NO REDUCTION IN AMOUNTS.—The amount set aside pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not reduce the amounts otherwise made available for sections 403, 404, 406, 407, 408, 410, 416, and 428 under this Act.

“(c) UNMET NEEDS.—Financial assistance provided under this section may be used to provide assistance, in addition to other amounts made available under this Act, for the following unmet needs:

“(1) Disaster-related home repair and rebuilding assistance to families for permanent housing purposes, including in conjunction with eligible expenditures under section 408.

“(2) Disaster-related unmet needs of families who are unable to obtain adequate assistance from other sources.

“(3) Other services that alleviate human suffering and promote the well-being of disaster victims.

“(4) Economic and business activities (including food and agriculture) after a disaster to implement post-disaster economic recovery measures, including planning and technical assistance for long-term economic recovery plans, infrastructure improvements, business or infrastructure financing, market or industry research, and other activities authorized under a comprehensive economic development strategy.

“(d) ACCOUNTING AND FISCAL CONTROLS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after receipt of funds and every 6 months thereafter until all such funds are expended, a State shall submit a report to the Administrator that includes—

“(A) the criteria established for determining how the funds are spent;

“(B) the allocation of those funds; and
 “(C) the process for public notice and comment.

“(2) COMPLIANCE.—Any individual who receives assistance pursuant to this section shall comply with section 312(b).

“(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—A State that receives funds under this section may expend not more than 5 percent of the amount of such funds for the administrative costs of providing financial assistance to individuals and households in the State.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall apply to funds appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. REPAIR AND REBUILDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(c) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i) by striking “to a safe and sanitary living or functioning condition”;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by striking “A recipient of” and inserting “(i) EVIDENCE OF OTHER MEANS OF ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) COORDINATION WITH OTHER ASSISTANCE.—Assistance allowed under this paragraph may be used in coordination with other sources for the repair and rebuilding of an owner-occupied residence.”; and

(2) in paragraph (4) by striking “in cases in which” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting “if the President considers it a cost effective alternative to other housing solutions, including the costs associated with temporary housing provided under this section, and long-term rebuilding costs associated with section 431.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall apply to funds appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. REVIEW BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review on the fiscal controls by States that receive funds under section 431 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and shall make recommendations to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 5. DUPLICATION OF BENEFITS.

Section 312(b)(4) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155(b)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(D) LIMITATION ON USE OF INCOME CRITERIA.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the President may not impose additional income criteria on a potential grant recipient who has accepted a qualified disaster loan in determining eligibility for duplications of benefit relief.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. 5774, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 5774, the Expediting Disaster Recovery Act, legislation introduced by Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

This legislation is designed to expedite the delivery of Federal disaster assistance and address the unpaid, unmet needs of disaster survivors.

The authorizations in this bill allow the Federal Emergency Management Agency to estimate the total cost of disaster recovery and provide States up to 10 percent of this estimate when a major disaster is declared.

States would be able to use these funds to administer a broad range of recovery solutions not covered by FEMA's individual assistance program. Such activities could include home repair and support for business activities.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5774 is designed to do two primary things. Number one, it is to prevent the Federal Government from revictimizing disaster victims. Number two, it is designed to save money.

In the aftermath of a disaster, we watch as countless Federal agencies, the alphabet soup of Federal agencies, come rushing to the aid of these disaster victims, offering everything from food assistance, housing assistance, and you will see them having organizations coming in and offering clothes, offering loans. You see all of these uncoordinated activities.

Yet, we have one Federal agency that is responsible for disasters, and that is FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA comes in, and what happens with all of these other programs? You see disjointed responses.

Let me give you an example, Mr. Speaker. In the aftermath of the 2016 1,000-year flood that we had in my hometown, FEMA came in and started offering assistance. We saw disparate aid offered to different folks.

You had another recovery program come in and provide \$1.7 billion, Mr. Speaker. Here we are, 6 years after this disaster, and of the \$1.7 billion, less than \$700 million has actually been granted to flood victims, granted to disaster victims.

Mr. Speaker, I know your home State of Texas got pounded by Hurricane Harvey, some areas experiencing 42 inches of rain in 36 hours.

You have recovery and assistance programs that are disjointed among the Federal agencies. They cause a bureaucracy. They actually revictimize these people who have lost everything in these disasters.

This is designed to get recovery dollars where they are needed, to expedite recovery, to save money because you are saving funds that are being spent on long-term shelters; saving funds that are being spent, in some cases, approaching \$300,000 to provide a trailer for someone to temporarily live in; saving money, again, on hotel rooms and getting people back in their homes faster.

We still have people from our disaster 6 years ago who have homes that have been mucked and gutted, stripped down to the studs, without any additional recovery because they can't connect the dots.

So, as the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia said, this is designed to, within 30 days of a disaster, estimate the impacts and provide an initial payment to where States and local governments can lead the charge in directing and prioritizing recovery dollars where they need to go. This, importantly, has a 5 percent administrative cap.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years after the disaster I mentioned in my home State, we had more money that was paid to the program managers 2 years later than we had actually given to the disaster victims. These programs aren't designed to enrich contractors, to enrich program managers, to enrich people that are running these programs. These dollars are designed by Congress to get to the victims, to expedite recovery, to allow for the community and the economy to recover as quickly as possible.

I want to be very clear. My cosponsor, the cosponsor who worked very closely with us on this legislation, Congresswoman PLASKETT from the Virgin Islands, who in 2018 was incredibly affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria, hosted us down there to see the devastation. Years later, again, she still has her constituents that are adversely impacted, unable to recover, and requiring additional Federal funds.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be very clear: This legislation is intended to reduce the expenditure of Federal funds. It is designed to expedite recovery. It is designed to cap the bureaucracy and ensure no more than 5 percent of these funds are actually going to program management.

That way, the dollars can get immediately to the disaster victims, so we stop seeing years and years of Federal Government dollars being shelled out for temporary housing and temporary recovery efforts. We need long-term recovery. We need our economy restored. We need our communities restored.

There are two types of Members who are in this House: people who have been through disasters, like the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and I, and those that will. Those that will are going to want to ensure that they have supported legislation like this designed to reform, to modernize, to apply lessons learned from disasters and make sure that we are treating these victims

as true priorities, that we have Federal programs that reflect the urgency of the situation that they are in when their homes have been destroyed, when they have lost their vehicles, lost their clothes, lost their possessions, lost all of these family heirlooms, making sure that we are able to restore that family back in their community and, importantly, get the economies restored again as quickly as possible.

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

□ 1515

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5774, the "Expediting Disaster Recovery Act of 2022" which promotes swift strategic implementation of resources by the president following natural disasters.

After the declaration of a major disaster, the Expediting Disaster Recovery Act of 2022 authorizes the President to direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide assistance for unmet needs of those impacted by the disaster.

The President may also provide financial or direct assistance to individuals or households to construct permanent or semi-permanent housing in areas outside the continental United States if the President deems it a more cost-effective solution.

According to the National Center for Environmental Information, the U.S. spent approximately \$152 Billion just last year from various environmental events such as the Deep Freeze in Texas and Hurricanes across the Gulf Coast.

One of the most critical and unprecedented natural disaster emergencies was the Deep Freeze in Texas, resulting in a number of unforeseen complications for Texas residents.

Millions of households lost power during the Deep Freeze, disrupting their heating, food and water supplies, and communication systems.

Based on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission report for the Deep Freeze, estimated costs for damages in Texas reached a staggering \$80 Billion, with \$35 Billion alone due to physical damages, of which insurance only covered \$20 Billion.

Texas residents will need to pay for a large portion of the damages, putting their own lives on hold until they are financially stabilized. Meanwhile, families who are unable to meet the expenses out of pocket are stuck in bleak living conditions.

Alongside the unprecedented winter storms in Texas, were the devastating effects of Hurricane Ida, which ravaged many coastal cities and counties. The National Center for Environmental Information estimated that there were \$75 Billion in damage costs.

Unfortunately, most home insurance policies do not cover flood damages, including damages caused by Hurricane Ida. This means that individuals would have needed to purchase separate policies dedicated for flood damages on top of the already rising home insurance prices.

Recent flood disasters, such as those in Kentucky, have once again highlighted the

dangers of inadequate planning and the overall expenses incurred by its residents.

Outdated federal flood zone maps underestimate the occurrence of floods within certain communities. Therefore, insurance companies, which base their policies on federal flood zone maps, end up paying for a small portion of damages to households.

For residents of some of the poorest counties in the U.S., this means they will be forced to pay mostly out of pocket for all damage expenses, further hindering their chances of recovery from future disasters.

H.R. 5774 can help families with unmet needs, easing financial burdens by distributing funds for the purpose of rebuilding homes and communities. This can provide these families the opportunity to dedicate their finances towards health concerns, exploring education, and other basic living expenses.

Millions of families suffer from natural disaster events without the ability to recover effectively. With the help of the Expediting Disaster Recovery Act of 2022, families with unmet needs will be able to recover more fully and more rapidly, allowing them to reinvest themselves in their communities and return to their normal lifestyles.

The Expediting Disaster Recovery Act of 2022 sets forth the requirements for the President to establish swift and effective financial and technical assistance to aid in the recovery of families who may be unable to cover financial costs for repair and rebuilding.

I urge my colleagues to support this very helpful legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5774, 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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION REAL ESTATE LEASING AUTHORITY REVOCATION ACT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1468) to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1468

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 "Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act".

SEC. 2. LEASING OF SPACE FOR SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3304 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) LEASING OF SPACE FOR SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on and after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Securities and Exchange Commission may not lease general purpose office space. The Administrator may lease such space for the Securities and Exchange Commission under section 585 and this chapter."

(b) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) may not be construed to invalidate or otherwise affect a lease entered into by the Securities and Exchange Commission before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INDEPENDENT LEASING AUTHORITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the review described in subsection (b).

(b) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General shall complete a review under which the Comptroller General shall update the 2016 report of the Comptroller General (GAO-16-648) with a specific focus on the following:

(1) Updating the information included in Appendix II: Federal Entities That Reported Having Independent Leasing Authority for Domestic Offices and Warehouses of such report.

(2) Determining to what extent Federal entities with independent leasing authorities have had such authorities rescinded or amended and the number and amount of office and warehouse space such entities lease.

(3) Determining to what extent have agencies with independent leasing authority utilized the General Services Administration for leasing, including utilization of delegation of authority.

(4) Identifying progress made on implementing the recommendations in such report.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. 1468, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act, which I introduced, will revoke the independent real estate leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission and direct the Government Accountability Office to update its 2016 report on independent real estate leasing authority in the Federal Government. While a number of Federal agencies have independent leasing authority, the SEC has a history of egregious real estate practices.

In 2005, the SEC disclosed that it had unbudgeted costs of approximately \$48 million for the construction of its headquarters near Union Station. In

2007, after moving into the headquarters, the SEC shuffled its employees to different office space at a cost of over \$3 million without any cost-benefit analysis or justifiable explanation.

In 2010, the SEC conducted a deeply flawed analysis to justify the need to lease 900,000 square feet and to commit over \$500 million over 10 years, overestimating its space needs by over 300 percent. In addition, the SEC failed to provide complete and accurate information and prepared a faulty and backdated justification and approval after it had already signed the lease.

In August 2016, the General Services Administration and the SEC entered into an occupancy agreement to authorize the GSA to secure a new 15-year lease. In December 2016, the GSA, with the approval of the SEC, submitted a prospectus to Congress for approximately 1.3 million square feet, which Congress approved in 2018. By July 2019, the GSA had received final bids, resolved all protests, and even selected a final bidder. A month later, the SEC canceled the occupancy agreement, citing concerns about the value of the purchase option, which the SEC refused to document to Congress. The SEC effectively vetoed the entire 3-year procurement process, despite not having the authority or funding to exercise the purchase option without the GSA's involvement.

Finally, after much back and forth between the two agencies, the GSA entered into a lease for a new SEC headquarters in September 2021. The SEC says it will continue to have the GSA do its leasing in the future, but the SEC's history of egregious leasing conduct, having squandered hundreds of millions of dollars, makes this bill necessary.

These public blunders also risk undermining the reputation of the GSA and the Federal Government among the developers and building owners that participate in Federal lease procurements and ultimately driving up the costs of all GSA real estate procurement due to the threat of uncertainty.

It is time for Congress to return the SEC's leasing authority to the GSA, the Federal Government's civilian real estate arm. As the SEC has demonstrated over three decades, it is incredibly inefficient, wasteful, and redundant to have the SEC involved in real estate procurements when the GSA exists for that very reason. Like other Federal agencies, the SEC would continue to have input and involvement in the real estate decision-making process, but the GSA will have the ultimate authority.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1468, as the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia indicated, helps to restore the SEC's

leasing authority back to the confines of the General Services Administration. It ensures that we have a uniform approach to leasing space in Federal agencies.

I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia for her perseverance on this bill. I know this has been a priority of hers for a very long period of time. But I want to give you a little bit of background.

In 2012, the SEC leased approximately 1.4 million square feet of office space for \$566 million. I want to say that again. The SEC leased 1.4 million square feet of office space for \$566 million, in violation of the law. They exceeded their authority when they entered into this lease.

When there was Republican leadership, there was an investigation that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure did over the SEC's actions. The SEC Inspector General similarly commissioned an investigation.

The conclusion of these investigations found that not only did the Securities and Exchange Commission exceed their authority in that lease, but this was a trend. They had a history of mismanagement of their leasing authority.

Unfortunately, recent actions by the SEC during the GSA's procurement of leased space for the SEC indicates that they may be returning back to their old ways.

I want to say again, I commend the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, ensuring that we have a uniform approach, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are being managed in a way that we can all be proud of, respecting the people who have worked hard for those dollars, and we don't need to be mismanaging them.

The bill will ensure that the Securities and Exchange Commission, like other Federal agencies, uses the GSA, the General Services Administration, for its space needs and provide more safeguards for taxpayer dollars.

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

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

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

In closing, H.R. 1468 will better protect taxpayer money by ensuring the SEC works with the General Services Administration on leasing to improve oversight, reduce costs, and minimize Antideficiency Act violations in the future.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House

suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1468, 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.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

WILDFIRE RECOVERY ACT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1066) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the cost share for fire management assistance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1066

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 "Wildfire Recovery Act".

SEC. 2. FIRE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COST SHARE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 420 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of assistance under this section shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of such assistance.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall only apply to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the President, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall conduct and complete a rulemaking to provide criteria for the circumstances under which the Administrator may recommend the President increase the Federal cost share for section 420 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5187). Such criteria shall include a threshold metric that assesses the financial impact to a State or local government from responding to a fire for which fire management assistance is being provided.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. 1066, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1066, the Wildfire Recovery Act, a bill introduced by Mr. NEGUSE from Colorado. This legislation will remove some of the financial burdens communities face after suppressing a wildfire.

Wildfires are causing an unprecedented amount of damage to the natural and built environment. This bill will require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to cover at least 75 percent of the costs to suppress wildfires that qualify for a Fire Management Assistance Grant. Local officials have said that this fix would allow them to speed up the recovery process and invest more money in mitigation efforts.

Rural communities that typically receive this type of grant assistance will benefit most from this legislation. Providing more Federal assistance in the wake of the worst fires will assist stretched local budgets.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the Wildfire Recovery Act ensures that communities affected by wildfire disasters are treated similarly as communities affected by other disasters.

The bill provides parity by making a Federal cost share amount adjustable for Fire Management Assistance Grants, ensuring it is consistent with other FEMA assistance programs at 75 percent.

H.R. 1066 also clarifies the ability for Fire Management Assistance Grants to help communities recover after wildfire disasters and rebuild their infrastructure.

I thank my colleagues, including Mr. LAMALFA of California, who is a cosponsor, for their leadership on this legislation. I urge support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

In closing, I urge support of this legislation, thank our colleagues for cosponsoring, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1066, 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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1530

CIVILIAN RESERVIST EMERGENCY WORKFORCE ACT OF 2021

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2293) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2293

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 “Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce Act of 2021” or the “CREW Act”.

SEC. 2. PERSONNEL PERFORMING SERVICE RESPONDING TO PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED MAJOR DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES.

Section 306 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5149) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PERSONNEL PERFORMING SERVICE RESPONDING TO DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES.—

“(1) USERRA EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS.—The protections, rights, benefits, and obligations provided under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, shall apply to intermittent personnel appointed pursuant to subsection (b)(1) to perform service to the Federal Emergency Management Agency under sections 401 and 501 or to train for such service.

“(2) NOTICE OF ABSENCE FROM POSITION OF EMPLOYMENT.—Preclusion of giving notice of service by necessity of service under subsection (b)(1) to perform service to the Federal Emergency Management Agency under sections 401 and 501 or to train for such service shall be considered preclusion by ‘military necessity’ for purposes of section 4312(b) of title 38, United States Code, pertaining to giving notice of absence from a position of employment. A determination of such necessity shall be made by the Administrator and shall not be subject to review in any judicial or administrative proceeding.”.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS TO FEMA RESERVISTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4303 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by inserting before “, and a period” the following: “, a period for which a person is absent from a position of employment due to an appointment into service in the Federal Emergency Management Agency as intermittent personnel under section 306(b)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5149(b)(1))”;

(2) by redesignating the second paragraph (16) (relating to uniformed services) as paragraph (17); and

(3) in paragraph (17), as so redesignated, by inserting before “and any other category” the following: “intermittent personnel who

are appointed into Federal Emergency Management Agency service under section 306(b)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5149(b)(1)) or to train for such service.”.

(b) MODIFICATION OF EXCEPTION FOR REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERS OF UNIFORMED SERVICES TO PROVIDE NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS TO OBTAIN CERTAIN EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS.—Section 4312(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the second sentence;

(2) by inserting “(1)” before “No notice”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) A determination of military necessity for purposes of paragraph (1) shall be made—

“(A) except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense;

“(B) for persons performing service to the Federal Emergency Management Agency under section 327 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165f) and as intermittent personnel under section 306(b)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5149(b)(1)), by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as described in sections 327(j)(2) and 306(d)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5165f(j)(2) and 5149(d)(2)), respectively; or

“(C) for intermittent disaster-response appointees of the National Disaster Medical System, by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as described in section 2812(d)(3)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–11(d)(3)(B)).

“(3) A determination of military necessity under paragraph (1) shall not be subject to judicial review.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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 S. 2293.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2293, the Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce Act of 2021, which extends Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act protections to the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s reservist workforce.

Reservists assist disaster survivors and first responders on an on-call basis. They are prepared to deploy when disaster strikes and make up the majority of FEMA’s workforce. While reservists are critical to Federal disaster response, these essential personnel are only paid by FEMA during deployments and have no protections that prevent them from losing their full-time jobs when called to a disaster.

FEMA’s workforce has been stretched to its limits by increasingly

frequent and intense disasters, climate change, and the coronavirus pandemic. A larger reservist workforce is required to meet the current challenge, but FEMA has reported that it is difficult to retain reservists and recruit a diverse workforce without being able to offer them basic protections. FEMA Administrator Deanna Criswell has stated that the ability to recruit and maintain a skilled reservist workforce is necessary if the agency is to fulfill its mission of helping people before, during, and after disasters.

This bill will help FEMA continue to fulfill that mission and ensure that these brave women and men do not have to worry that they could lose their livelihoods when they are called by their country to serve.

It is time we give reservists the respect they deserve and provide them protections. I would like to express my gratitude to reservists who have answered the call and to those who will do so in the future.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 2293, the CREW Act, extends protections under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, commonly referred to as USERRA, to FEMA reservists.

FEMA reservists are a critical component to supporting disaster survivors and our first responders.

The CREW Act would provide FEMA further tools to retain and recruit a workforce. By having a strong workforce, FEMA is then able to respond quickly and effectively to disasters, thereby fulfilling its mission to disaster victims.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in support of S. 2293, the Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce, or CREW, Act, appropriately named, which is the Senate companion to legislation I introduced to protect FEMA reservists. It would protect them from losing their full-time employment when they are called up to assist our communities during and after disasters.

FEMA reservists have in the past and continue to step up time and time again when communities need help in the wake of severe storms, wildfires, and other climate events. We also saw them on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unlike military reservists, however, FEMA's workforce is not afforded employment protections during deployment. When these men and women are answering the call of duty, they shouldn't have to worry about losing their means of income back home

where they can take care of their own families.

I am proud to lead the House companion to this bill along with my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO). I thank him for his leadership, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2293 will help support FEMA's intermittent workforce and enable the agency to better meet its mission to respond to disasters.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2293, the "Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce Act of 2021" or "CREW Act."

This bill would amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reservists.

FEMA reservists are temporary, on-call, and intermittent employees who are crucial to the agency's mission to swiftly respond to disasters—but, they currently do not have employment protections.

The bill makes employment protections under the Uniformed Services and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) applicable to FEMA reservists who deploy to major disaster and emergency sites.

It allows reservists to claim such rights under USERRA even if they do not provide notice of their absence from work due to deployment.

The bill ensures that reservists will be able to return to their full-time jobs once their disaster response mission is complete.

These FEMA workers were essential during the Texas Freeze of 2021, the historic natural disaster Hurricane Harvey, and the initial outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We need to protect intermittent FEMA employees' rights to return to their full-time jobs after performing life-changing and life-saving work in our communities.

Currently, FEMA faces a large shortfall of reservists because it is difficult to recruit and retain Americans who can balance reservist duties and full-time employment.

With this bill's protections for employees, FEMA's ability to recruit and retain employees would be enhanced. With more FEMA employees, we can combat disasters and crises quicker.

Our Nation must never again be so ill-prepared to weather a disaster like Hurricane Harvey or a crisis like COVID-19.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2293.

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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PLANNING FOR ANIMAL WELLNESS ACT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4205) to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to establish a working group relating to best practices and Federal guidance for animals in emergencies and disasters, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4205

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 "Planning for Animal Wellness Act" or the "PAW Act".

SEC. 2. WORKING GROUP GUIDELINES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(2) WORKING GROUP.—The term "working group" means the advisory working group established under subsection (b).

(b) WORKING GROUP.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall establish an advisory working group.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The working group shall consist of—

(1) not less than 2 representatives of State governments with experience in animal emergency management;

(2) not less than 2 representatives of local governments with experience in animal emergency management;

(3) not less than 2 representatives from academia;

(4) not less than 2 veterinary experts;

(5) not less than 2 representatives from nonprofit organizations working to address the needs of households pets and service animals in emergencies or disasters;

(6) representatives from the Federal Animal Emergency Management Working Group; and

(7) any other members determined necessary by the Administrator.

(d) DUTIES.—The working group shall—

(1) encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities working to address the needs of household pets, service and assistance animals, and captive animals, as appropriate, in emergency and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery; and

(2) review best practices and Federal guidance, as of the date of enactment of this Act, on congregate and noncongregate sheltering and evacuation planning relating to the needs of household pets, service and assistance animals, and captive animals, as appropriate, in emergency and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

(e) NO COMPENSATION.—The members of the working group shall serve on the working group on a voluntary basis.

(f) GUIDANCE DETERMINATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the working group shall determine whether the best practices and Federal guidance described in subsection (d)(2) are sufficient.

(g) NEW GUIDANCE.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of this Act, if the Administrator, in consultation with the working group, determines that the best practices and Federal guidance described in subsection (d)(2) are insufficient, the Administrator, in consultation with the working group, shall publish updated Federal guidance.

(h) SUNSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the working group shall terminate on the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Administrator may extend the date described in paragraph (1) if the Administrator determines an extension is appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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 S. 4205.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 4205, the Planning for Animal Wellness Act. The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee marked up the companion bill, H.R. 7789, introduced by Representative TITUS earlier this summer.

This bill requires the Federal Emergency Management Agency to establish a working group of experts to review and, if necessary, update its guidance for addressing the needs of animals and pets before, during, and after disasters.

Animals are among the most vulnerable when disaster strikes. Like people, they may be displaced or require evacuation and sheltering. However, disaster shelters are often unable or unwilling to accommodate animals. Pets are beloved members of the family, and owners should not have to choose between abandoning their animals and getting to safety. When individuals are forced to make this terrible decision, they often refuse to evacuate before a natural disaster.

This bill will remove barriers to ensure animal welfare is properly considered in emergency planning so that all members of the family—human and pet—are safe during disasters.

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

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

S. 4205, the Planning for Animal Wellness, or PAW Act, establishes a FEMA working group to determine Federal guidance on animal care during emergencies and natural disasters.

We have seen citizens impacted by disasters reluctant to evacuate if they can't bring their pets with them. This can greatly affect the ability of emergency managers and local first responders to keep individuals safe.

Whether it is service animals, household pets, or farm animals, we have made improvements to address this issue; however, problems still persist.

Given this fact, the bill establishes a working group to review FEMA's policies, determine best practices, and make recommendations to help better prepare and respond to disasters.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, I rise in support of S. 4205, the Planning for Animal Wellness, or PAW Act. This is the Senate companion to legislation I introduced along with Chairman DEFAZIO to help protect our beloved pets during disasters.

When preparing for and responding to disasters, animal welfare often is not taken into consideration. Sadly, some owners make the risky decision of refusing to evacuate in order to stay with their pets. We have seen heartbreaking pictures of people on their roofs during floods clinging to their animals, along with their children and a few household possessions.

The PAW Act establishes a FEMA advisory group to align agency guidance with current best practices in animal welfare for emergency preparedness. This will ensure first responders and Federal disaster response workers can help pet owners plan to keep every member of their family, even the furry and feathered ones, safe during a disaster.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation. I also thank Senators PETERS and JOHNSON for their leadership on this in the other Chamber. I urge your vote in support.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Mr. Speaker, the PAW Act will help identify persistent problem areas and best practices when it comes to dealing with pets and animals in disasters and ultimately improve our response to disasters to save more lives.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues as well to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 4205.

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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

BULB REPLACEMENT IMPROVING GOVERNMENT WITH HIGH-EFFICIENCY TECHNOLOGY ACT

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 442) to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to procure the most lifecycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting products and to issue guidance on the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of those products, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 442

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 “Bulb Replacement Improving Government with High-efficiency Technology Act” or the “BRIGHT Act”.

SEC. 2. GUIDANCE.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of General Services shall—

(1) issue guidance to Federal agencies for the procurement and use of the most lifecycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems (as determined in accordance with section 3313 of title 40, United States Code) to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of the Federal Government; and

(2) publish on the internet or otherwise make available to State, local, and Tribal entities information on ways to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and economy by procuring and using the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems (as determined in accordance with section 3313 of title 40, United States Code).

SEC. 3. PROCUREMENT OF LIFE-CYCLE COST EFFECTIVE AND ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING SYSTEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3313 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (h);

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g) as subsections (f) through (i), respectively;

(3) by striking the section designation and heading and all that follows through the end of subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“§ 3313. Procurement of life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Administrator of General Services.

“(2) LIGHTING SYSTEM.—The term ‘lighting system’ means the elements required to maintain a desired light level, including lamps, light fixtures, fixture distribution, sensors and control technologies, interior design elements, and daylighting sources.

“(b) PROCUREMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator shall—

“(A) procure the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems; and

“(B) ensure that procurements after the date of enactment of the BRIGHT Act of lighting systems or the individual components of lighting systems maximize life-cycle cost effectiveness and energy efficiency.

“(2) USE.—Each public building constructed, altered, acquired, or leased by the Administrator shall be equipped, to the maximum extent practicable as determined by the Administrator, with the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems for each application.

“(c) MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—Each individual component of a lighting system, including a lamp or fixture, that is replaced by the Administrator in the normal course of maintenance of public buildings shall be replaced, to the maximum extent practicable, with the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting system possible for the application.

“(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(1) CONTRACTING OPTIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall consider appropriate contracting options for the procurement of the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems.

“(2) PROCUREMENT AND USE.—In making a determination under this section concerning the practicability of procuring and installing the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting system, the Administrator shall consider—

“(A) the compatibility of the lighting system with existing equipment, including consideration of a cost effective retrofit;

“(B) whether procurement and use of the lighting system could result in interference with productivity;

“(C) the aesthetics relating to the use of the lighting system; and

“(D) such other factors as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

“(e) LIFE-CYCLE COST EFFECTIVE.—The Administrator shall use the procedures and methods established under section 544(a) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8254(a)) in determining whether a lighting system is life-cycle cost effective.”;

(4) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “lighting fixture or bulb” and inserting “lighting system”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “the fixture or bulb is” and inserting “the lighting system or the individual components of the lighting system are”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “fixture or bulb” and inserting “lighting system”;

(5) in subsection (g) (as so redesignated), by inserting “procurement and” before “use in public buildings”; and

(6) in subsection (h) (as so redesignated), by inserting “procurement and” before “use of energy efficient”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 3313 and inserting the following:

“3313. Procurement of life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting systems.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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 S. 442.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 442, the BRIGHT Act. The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee marked up the companion bill, H.R. 7636, introduced by Representative TITUS, earlier this summer.

This legislation encourages the General Services Administration to use the most up-to-date and efficient lighting for all routine maintenance, alterations, and construction and gives GSA the flexibility to choose the most efficient option for each installation.

Additionally, this bill asks that GSA provide guidance to Federal agencies and State, local, and Tribal entities on how cost-effective and energy-efficient lighting systems can help achieve broader efficiency goals.

□ 1545

While the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 did include guidelines for energy-efficient light bulb utilization, GSA managers are not incentivized to choose the most energy and cost-efficient options in procurements.

By directing GSA to acquire and use the most cost-and energy-efficient lighting systems practicable over the life cycles of the systems, this legislation aims to maximize resource conservation and use of taxpayer dollars in all GSA lighting procurements.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 442, the BRIGHT Act, ensures the General Services Administration, GSA, updates building lighting systems with the most life cycle cost-effective and energy-efficient options, so long as the change does not interfere with productivity and is a cost-effective retrofit.

It also requires GSA to issue guidance to other Federal agencies on deploying these lighting systems and make the information available to State, local, and Tribal government entities.

Updating outdated lighting systems with the most cost-effective and energy-efficient options will lessen the Federal Government's energy bill, saving taxpayers money. Efficient lighting systems tend to be lower-cost solutions with higher return on investment. This is commonsense legislation that ensures that lighting updates are made only if a retrofit is cost-effective.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, based on the bipartisan backing in the House and the Senate, I think it is appropriate to say we can call this bill a bright idea. It will make public buildings more energy efficient and ensure that taxpayer dollars are being spent as judiciously as possible.

Simply put, the BRIGHT Act directs the GSA to procure the most life cycle cost-effective and energy-efficient lighting in public buildings to the extent practicable.

Recognizing that each installation is unique, and that technology is ever changing, this bill doesn't endorse, nor does it prohibit any specific technology, but rather, guides the GSA to purchase and pursue the most efficient option which will save millions when fully implemented.

For example, simply replacing compact fluorescent downlight lamps and linear fluorescent lamps with LEDs could save taxpayers up to \$15.6 million every year.

I am proud to sponsor the House companion to this House Resolution that is led by Senators PETERS and JOHNSON. It promotes taxpayer savings at all levels of government and is good for the planet.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, the BRIGHT Act will implement only cost-effective retrofits that will save taxpayers money and lower the Federal Government's energy bill.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 442.

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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

STUDENT VETERAN EMERGENCY RELIEF ACT OF 2022

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

(H.R. 7939) to make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7939

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Educational assistance benefits during emergency situations.
- Sec. 3. Extension of time limitations for use of entitlement.
- Sec. 4. Extension of payment of vocational rehabilitation subsistence allowances.
- Sec. 5. Payment of work-study allowances during emergency situations.
- Sec. 6. Payment of allowances to veterans enrolled in educational institutions closed for emergency situations.
- Sec. 7. Apprenticeship or on-job training requirements.
- Sec. 8. Prohibition of charge to entitlement of students unable to pursue a program of education due to an emergency situation.
- Sec. 9. Department of Veterans Affairs approval of certain study-abroad programs.
- Sec. 10. Eligibility for educational assistance under Department of Veterans Affairs Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of certain individuals who receive sole survivorship discharges.
- Sec. 11. Uniform application for Department of Veterans Affairs approval of courses of education.
- Sec. 12. Notice requirements for Department of Veterans Affairs education surveys.
- Sec. 13. Exception to requirement to submit verification of enrollment of certain individuals.
- Sec. 14. Expansion of eligibility for self-employment assistance under veteran readiness and employment program.
- Sec. 15. Possible definitions of certain terms relating to educational assistance.
- Sec. 16. Department of Veterans Affairs loan fees.
- Sec. 17. Termination of certain consumer contracts by servicemembers and dependents who enter into contracts after receiving military orders for permanent change of station but then receive stop movement orders due to an emergency situation.
- Sec. 18. Residence for tax purposes.
- Sec. 19. Portability of professional licenses of members of the uniformed services and their spouses.
- Sec. 20. Determination of budgetary effects.

SEC. 2. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subchapters I and II as subchapters II and III, respectively; and

(2) by inserting before subchapter II, as so redesignated, the following new subchapter:—

“SUBCHAPTER I—EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

“§ 3601. Definition of emergency situation

“In this chapter, the term ‘emergency situation’ means a situation that—

“(1) the President declares is an emergency; and

“(2) the Secretary determines is an emergency for purposes of the laws administered by the Secretary.

“§ 3602. Continuation of educational assistance benefits during emergency situations

“(a) **AUTHORITY.**—If the Secretary determines under subsection (c) that an individual is negatively affected by an emergency situation, the Secretary may provide educational assistance to that individual under the laws administered by the Secretary as if such negative effects did not occur. The authority under this section is in addition to the other authorities of the Secretary to provide benefits in emergency situations, but in no case may the Secretary provide more than a total of four weeks of additional educational assistance by reason of any other such authority and this section.

“(b) **HOUSING AND ALLOWANCES.**—In providing educational assistance to an individual pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary may—

“(1) continue to pay a monthly housing stipend under chapter 33 of this title, during a month the individual would have been enrolled in a program of education or training but for the emergency situation at the same rate such stipend would have been payable if the individual had not been negatively affected by the emergency situation, except that the total number of weeks for which stipends may continue to be so payable may not exceed four weeks; and

“(2) continue to pay payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, 33, and 35 of this title and chapter 1606 of title 10 during a month for a period of time that the individual would have been enrolled in a program of education or training but for the emergency situation, except that the total number of weeks for which payments or allowances may continue to be so payable may not exceed four weeks.

“(c) **DETERMINATION OF NEGATIVE EFFECTS.**—The Secretary shall determine that an individual was negatively affected by an emergency situation if—

“(1) the individual is enrolled in a covered program of education of an educational institution or enrolled in training at a training establishment and is pursuing such program or training using educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary;

“(2) the educational institution or training establishment certifies to the Secretary that such program or training is truncated, delayed, relocated, canceled, partially canceled, converted from being on-site to being offered by distance learning, or otherwise modified or made unavailable by reason of the emergency situation; and

“(3) the Secretary determines that the modification to such program or training specified under paragraph (2) would reduce the amount of educational assistance (including with respect to monthly housing stipends, payments, or subsistence allowances) that would be payable to the individual but for the emergency situation.

“(d) **EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENT PERIOD.**—If the Secretary determines that an individual who received assistance under this section did not make progress toward the completion of the program of education in which the individual is enrolled during the period for which the individual received such assistance, any assistance provided pursuant to this section shall not be counted for purposes

of determining the total amount of an individual’s entitlement to educational assistance, housing stipends, or payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of this title and chapter 1606 of title 10.

“§ 3603. Continuation of educational assistance benefits for certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergency situations

“In the case of a program of education approved by a State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted from being offered on-site at an educational institution or training establishment to being offered by distance learning by reason of an emergency or health-related situation, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may continue to provide educational assistance under the laws administered by the Secretary without regard to such conversion, including with respect to paying any—

“(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter 33 of this title; or

“(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of this title and chapter 1606 of title 10.

“§ 3604. Effects of closure of educational institution and modification of courses by reason of emergency situation

“(a) **CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL.**—Any payment of educational assistance described in subsection (b) shall not—

“(1) be charged against any entitlement to educational assistance of the individual concerned; or

“(2) be counted against the aggregate period for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt of educational assistance by such individual.

“(b) **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED.**—Subject to subsection (d), the payment of educational assistance described in this subsection is the payment of such assistance to an individual for pursuit of a course or program of education at an educational institution under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or 35 of this title or chapter 1606 of title 10, if the Secretary determines that the individual—

“(1) was unable to complete such course or program as a result of—

“(A) the closure of the educational institution, or the full or partial cancellation of a course or program of education, by reason of an emergency situation; or

“(B) the disapproval of the course or a course that is a necessary part of that program under this chapter because the course was modified by reason of such emergency; and

“(2) did not receive credit or lost training time, toward completion of the program of education being so pursued.

“(c) **HOUSING ASSISTANCE.**—In this section, educational assistance includes, as applicable—

“(1) monthly housing stipends payable under chapter 33 of this title for any month the individual would have been enrolled in a course or program of education; and

“(2) payments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of this title and chapter 1606 of title 10 during a month the individual would have been enrolled in a course or program of education.

“(d) **PERIOD NOT CHARGED.**—The period for which, by reason of this section, educational assistance is not charged against entitlement or counted toward the applicable aggregate period under section 3695 of this title shall not exceed the aggregate of—

“(1) the portion of the period of enrollment in the course from which the individual did not receive credit or with respect to which the individual lost training time, as determined under subsection (b)(2); and

“(2) the period by which a monthly stipend is extended under section 3680(a)(2)(B) of this title.

“(e) CONTINUING PURSUIT OF DISAPPROVED COURSES.—(1) The Secretary may treat a course of education that is disapproved under this chapter as being approved under this chapter with respect to an individual described in paragraph (2) if the Secretary determines, on a programmatic basis, that—

“(A) such disapproval is the result of an action described in subsection (b)(1)(B); and

“(B) continuing pursuing such course is in the best interest of the individual.

“(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an individual who is pursuing a course of education at an educational institution under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or 35 of this title or chapter 1606 of title 10, as of the date on which the course is disapproved as described in subsection (b)(1)(B).

“(f) STATUS AS FULL-TIME STUDENT FOR PURPOSES OF HOUSING STIPEND CALCULATION.—In the case of an individual who, as of the first day of an emergency situation was enrolled on a full-time basis in a program of education and was receiving educational assistance under chapter 33 of this title or subsistence allowance under chapter 31 of this title, and for whom the Secretary makes a determination under subsection (b), the individual shall be treated as an individual enrolled in a program of education on a full-time basis for the purpose of calculating monthly housing stipends payable under chapter 33 of this title, or subsistence allowance payable under chapter 31 of this title, for any month the individual is enrolled in the program of education on a part-time basis to complete any course of education that was partially or fully canceled by reason of the emergency situation.

“(g) NOTICE OF CLOSURES.—Not later than 5 business days after the date on which the Secretary receives notice that an educational institution will close or is closed by reason of an emergency situation, the Secretary shall provide to each individual who is enrolled in a course or program of education at such educational institution using entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or 35 of this title, or chapter 1606 of title 10 notice of—

“(1) such closure and the date of such closure; and

“(2) the effect of such closure on the individual's entitlement to educational assistance pursuant to this section.

“§ 3605. Payment of educational assistance in cases of withdrawal

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any individual who withdraws from a program of education or training, other than a program by correspondence, in an educational institution under chapter 31, 34, or 35 of this title for a covered reason during the period of an emergency situation, the Secretary shall find mitigating circumstances for purposes of section 3680(a)(1)(C)(ii) of this title.

“(b) COVERED REASON.—In this section, the term ‘covered reason’ means any reason related to an emergency situation, including—

“(1) illness, quarantine, or social distancing requirements;

“(2) issues associated with accessibility;

“(3) access or availability of childcare;

“(4) providing care for a family member or cohabitants;

“(5) change of location or residence due to the emergency situation or associated school closures;

“(6) employment changes or financial hardship; and

“(7) issues associated with changes in format or medium of instruction.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to subchapter II and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS”.

(2) by striking the item relating to subchapter I and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER II—STATE APPROVING AGENCIES”.

(3) by inserting before the item relating to subchapter II the following new items:

“SUBCHAPTER I—EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

“3601. Definition of emergency situation.

“3602. Continuation of educational assistance benefits during emergency situations.

“3603. Continuation of educational assistance benefits for certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergency situations.

“3604. Effects of closure of educational institution and modification of courses by reason of emergency situation.

“3605. Payment of educational assistance in cases of withdrawal.”.

(c) CONFORMING REPEALS.—The following provisions of law are repealed:

(1) Sections 1102, 1103, and 1104 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315).

(2) Public Law 116-128.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF TIME LIMITATIONS FOR USE OF ENTITLEMENT.

(a) MONTGOMERY GI BILL.—Section 3031 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) In the case of an individual eligible for educational assistance under this chapter who is prevented from pursuing the individual's chosen program of education before the expiration of the 10-year period for the use of entitlement under this chapter otherwise applicable under this section because the educational institution or training establishment closed (temporarily or permanently) under an established policy based on an Executive order of the President or due to an emergency situation, such 10-year period—

“(1) shall not run during the period the individual is so prevented from pursuing such program; and

“(2) shall again begin running on the first day after the individual is able to resume pursuit of a program of education with educational assistance under this chapter.”.

(b) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3321(b)(1) of such title is amended—

(A) by inserting “(A)” before “Subsections”; and

(B) by striking “and (d)” and inserting “(d), and (i)”; and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(B) Subsection (i) of section 3031 shall apply with respect to the running of the 15-year period described in paragraphs (4)(A) and (5)(A) of this subsection in the same manner as such subsection applies under section 3031 with respect to the running of the 10-year period described in section 3031(a).”.

(2) TRANSFER PERIOD.—Section 3319(h)(5) of such title is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A) by inserting “or (C)” after “subparagraph (B)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—In any case in which the Secretary determines that an individual to whom entitlement is transferred under this section has been prevented from pursuing the individual's chosen program of education before the individual at-

tains the age of 26 years because the educational institution or training establishment closed (temporarily or permanently) under an established policy based on an Executive order of the President or due to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall extend the period during which the individual may use such entitlement for a period equal to the number of months that the individual was so prevented from pursuing the program of education, as determined by the Secretary.”.

(c) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAINING.—

(1) PERIOD FOR USE.—Section 3103 of such title is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “or (g)” and inserting “(g), or (h)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) In any case in which the Secretary determines that a veteran has been prevented from participating in a vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter within the twelve-year period of eligibility prescribed in subsection (a) due to an emergency situation, such twelve-year period—

“(1) shall not run during the period the individual is so prevented from participating such program; and

“(2) shall again begin running on the first day after the individual is able to resume participation in such program.”.

(2) DURATION OF PROGRAM.—Section 3105(b) of such title is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3)(A) In any case in which the Secretary determines that a veteran has been prevented from participating in counseling and placement and postplacement services described in section 3104(a)(2) and (5) of this title due to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall extend the period during which the Secretary may provide such counseling and placement and postplacement services for the veteran for a period equal to the number of months that the veteran was so prevented from participating in such counseling and services, as determined by the Secretary.

“(B) In any case in which the Secretary determines that a veteran has been prevented from participating in a vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter due to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall extend the period of the veteran's vocational rehabilitation program for a period equal to the number of months that the veteran was so prevented from participating in the vocational rehabilitation program, as determined by the Secretary.”.

(d) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE SELECTED RESERVE.—Section 16133(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) In any case in which the Secretary concerned determines that a person entitled to educational assistance under this chapter has been prevented from using such person's entitlement due to an emergency situation, the Secretary concerned shall extend the period of entitlement prescribed in subsection (a) for a period equal to the number of months that the person was so prevented from using such entitlement, as determined by the Secretary.”.

(e) EMERGENCY SITUATION DEFINED.—

(1) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 3301 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning given such term in section 3601 of this title.”.

(2) MGIB.—Section 3002 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning given such term in section 3601 of this title.”

(3) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAINING.—Section 3101 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning given such term in section 3601 of this title.”

(4) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE SELECTED RESERVE.—Section 16133 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning given such term in section 3601 of title 38.”

(f) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 6 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140) is repealed.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF PAYMENT OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) In the case of any veteran whom the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines is satisfactorily following a program of employment services provided under subsection (a)(5) during the period of an emergency situation, the Secretary may pay the veteran a subsistence allowance, as prescribed in section 3108 of this title for full-time training for the type of program that the veteran was pursuing, for two additional months, if the Secretary determines that the veteran is negatively affected by the emergency situation.”

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 8 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140) is repealed.

SEC. 5. PAYMENT OF WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCES DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3485 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f)(1) In case of an individual who is in receipt of work-study allowance pursuant to an agreement described in subsection (a)(3) as of the date on which an emergency situation occurs and who is unable to continue to perform qualifying work-study activities described in subsection (a)(4) by reason of the emergency situation—

“(A) the Secretary may continue to pay work-study allowance under this section or make deductions described in subsection (e)(1) during the period of such emergency situation, notwithstanding the inability of the individual to perform such work-study activities by reason of such emergency situation; and

“(B) at the option of the individual, the Secretary shall extend the agreement described in subsection (a)(3) with the individual for any subsequent period of enrollment initiated during the emergency situation, notwithstanding the inability of the individual to perform work-study activities described in subsection (a)(4) by reason of such emergency situation.

“(2) The amount of work-study allowance payable to an individual under paragraph (1)(A) during the period of an emergency situation shall be an amount determined by the Secretary but may not exceed the amount that would be payable under subsection (a)(2) if the individual worked 25 hours per week paid during such period.

“(3) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning given that term in section 3601 of this title.”

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 3 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140) is repealed.

SEC. 6. PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES TO VETERANS ENROLLED IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS CLOSED FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3680 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) PAYMENTS DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—(1) The Secretary may pay allowances to an eligible veteran or eligible person under subsection (a)(2)(A), if the veteran or person is enrolled in a program or course of education that—

“(A) is provided by an educational institution or training establishment that is closed by reason of an emergency situation; or

“(B) is suspended by reason of an emergency situation.

“(2) The total number of weeks for which allowances may be paid by reason of this subsection may not exceed four weeks.

“(3) Any amount paid under this subsection shall not be counted for purposes of the limitation on allowances under subsection (a)(2)(A).”

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 4 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140) is repealed.

SEC. 7. APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-JOB TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3687(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following new paragraph (2):

“(2)(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), for any month in which an individual fails to complete 120 hours of training, the entitlement otherwise chargeable under paragraph (1) shall be reduced in the same proportion as the monthly training assistance allowance payable is reduced under subsection (b)(3).

“(B) In the case of an individual who is unemployed by reason of an emergency situation during any month, the 120-hour requirement under subparagraph (A) for that month shall be reduced proportionately to reflect the individual’s period of unemployment, except that the amount of monthly training assistance otherwise payable to the individual under subsection (b)(3) shall not be reduced.

“(C) Any period during which an individual is unemployed by reason of an emergency situation shall not—

“(i) be charged against any entitlement to educational assistance of the individual; or

“(ii) be counted against the aggregate period for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt of educational assistance by such individual.

“(D) Any amount by which the entitlement of an individual is reduced under subparagraph (A) shall not—

“(i) be charged against any entitlement to educational assistance of the individual; or

“(ii) be counted against the aggregate period for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt of educational assistance by such individual.

“(E) In the case of an individual who fails to complete 120 hours of training during a month, but who completed more than 120 hours of training during the preceding month, the individual may apply the number of hours in excess of 120 that the individual completed for that month to the month for which the individual failed to complete 120 hours. If the addition of such excess hours results in a total of 120 hours or more, the individual shall be treated as an individual who has completed 120 hours of training for that month. Any excess hours applied to a different month under this subparagraph may only be applied to one such month.

“(F) This paragraph applies to amounts described in section 3313(g)(3)(B)(iv) and section 3032(c)(2) of this title and section 16131(d)(2) of title 10.

“(G) In this paragraph:

“(i) The term ‘unemployed’ includes being furloughed or being scheduled to work zero hours.

“(ii) The term ‘fails to complete 120 hours of training’ means, with respect to an individual, that during any month, the individual completes at least one hour, but fewer than 120 hours, of training, including in a case in which the individual is unemployed for part of, but not the whole, month.”

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 1106 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315) is repealed.

SEC. 8. PROHIBITION OF CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT OF STUDENTS UNABLE TO PURSUE A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.

(a) PERMANENT APPLICABILITY.—Section 3699(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “and” at the end and inserting “or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) the temporary closure of an educational institution or training establishment or the temporary closure or termination of a course or program of education by reason of an emergency situation; and”

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 5 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-140) is repealed.

SEC. 9. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROVAL OF CERTAIN STUDY-ABROAD PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3680A(f) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(2) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2)(A) In the case of a covered study-abroad course, the Secretary may approve the course for a period of not more than five years, if the contract or other written agreement under which the course is offered provides that—

“(i) the educational institution that offers a course that is approved under this chapter agrees to—

“(I) assume responsibility for the quality and content of the covered study-abroad course; and

“(II) serve as the certifying official for the course for purposes of this chapter; and

“(ii) the educational institution that offers the covered study-abroad course agrees to seek the approval of the course under this chapter by not later than five years after the date of the agreement.

“(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘covered study-abroad course’ means a course that—

“(i) is provided as a part of a program of education offered by an educational institution under a contract or other written agreement by another educational institution that offers a course that is approved under this chapter;

“(ii) is provided at a location in a foreign country; and

“(iii) has not been approved under this chapter.”

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN COURSES.—In the case of any covered study-abroad course, under the meaning given such term in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subsection

(f) of section 3680A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), that is being offered under a contract or other written agreement as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may approve such course under such paragraph (2) for the five-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, if such contract or other written agreement meets the criteria provided in subparagraph (A) of such paragraph.

SEC. 10. ELIGIBILITY FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVE SOLE SURVIVORSHIP DISCHARGES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Sgt. Wolf Kyle Weninger Veterans Education Fairness Act of 2022”.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—Subsection (b)(2) of section 3311 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “who”;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii);

(3) by inserting before clause (i), as so redesignated, the following new subparagraph (A):

“(A) who—”;

(4) in clause (ii), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “subparagraph (A)” and inserting “clause (i)”;

(B) by striking the period and inserting “or by reason of a sole survivorship discharge (as that term is defined in section 1174(i) of title 10); or”;

(5) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph (B):

“(B) who—

“(i) commencing on or after September 11, 2001, completes at least 30 continuous days of service described in subsection (d) (1) or (2); and

“(ii) after completion of service described in clause (i), is discharged or released by reason of a sole survivorship discharge (as that term is defined in section 1174(i) of title 10).”

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Subsection (d) of such section is amended by striking “The following” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (b)(2)(B), the following”.

SEC. 11. UNIFORM APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROVAL OF COURSES OF EDUCATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subchapter I of chapter 36 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3672 the following new section:

“§ 3672A. Uniform application

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—(1) The Secretary, in partnership with State approving agencies, educational institutions, and training establishments, shall require the use of a uniform application by any educational institution or training establishment seeking the approval of a new course of education under this chapter.

“(2) The Secretary shall maintain one uniform application for institutions of higher learning and one such application for other educational institutions and training establishments.

“(3) In the case of any State that uses approval criteria not covered by a uniform application under this section, the State approving agency for that State shall require the use of the uniform application and may require the submittal of additional information.

“(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The uniform application required under subsection (a) shall meet the following requirements:

“(1) A requirement that the appropriate executive of the educational institution or training establishment seeking the approval of a course of education attests on behalf of the educational institution or training establishment that the educational institution or training establishment—

“(A) is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations relating to the approval of courses of education under this chapter; and

“(B) during the five-year period preceding the date of the application—

“(i) has not been subject to, or been party to a contract with any individual or entity that has been subject to, any adverse administrative or judicial action that—

“(I) related to the instruction or training, including with respect to the quality of education, provided by the institution or establishment; and

“(II) resulted in a fine or penalty in an amount equal to or more than five percent of the amount of funding provided to the institution or establishment under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 for the fiscal year preceding the year in which the application is submitted; or

“(i) has not employed an individual, or been party to a contract with any individual or entity, that has been convicted of a Federal fraud charge related to the instruction or training provided by the institution or establishment.

“(2) In the case of any educational institution or training establishment that is not participating in title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, a requirement for the inclusion of—

“(A) a copy of—

“(i) the articles of incorporation filed on behalf of the institution or establishment or proof of licensing to operate as an educational institution or training establishment in the State where the institution or establishment is located; and

“(ii) the financial position of the institution or establishment, as prepared by an appropriate third-party entity; or

“(B) other adequate evidence, as determined by the Secretary, that the institution or establishment is authorized to provide post-secondary education or training in the State where the institution or establishment is located.

“(3) In the case of any course of education that is offered by an educational institution or training establishment that has never offered a course of education that was approved under this chapter, a requirement for the inclusion of information about the course of education covered by the application, including—

“(A) the number of students who have entered and graduated from the course during the preceding two-year period; and

“(B) if available, the cohort default rate for funds provided to the institution or establishment under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

“(4) In the case of any educational institution or training establishment that is not an institution of higher learning, a requirement for the inclusion of—

“(A) a list of individuals who will serve as fully qualified instructors for the course of education, as of the date of the application, and an attestation that such individuals—

“(i) have a degree or other training, as appropriate, in the field of the course;

“(ii) effectively teach the skills offered under the course; and

“(iii) have demonstrated relevant industry experience in the field of the course; and

“(B) a list of individuals who will serve as career services employees for students enrolled in the course and an attestation that such individuals are skilled at identifying

professions in the relevant industry that are in need of new employees to hire, tailoring the course of education to meet market needs, and identifying the employers likely to hire graduates.

“(c) **REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE APPROVING AGENCIES.**—During the approval process with respect to a uniform application submitted by an educational institution or training establishment, a State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting in the role of a State approving agency, shall contact the Secretary of Education to determine whether the course of education subject to such approval process has withdrawn, or been denied or suspended, from receiving for benefits under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

“(d) **APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE.**—In this section, the appropriate executive of an educational institution or training establishment is a senior executive official, senior administrator, owner, or operator designated by the institution or establishment.”

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3672 the following new item:

“3672A. Uniform application.”

(c) **APPLICABILITY.**—The application required by section 3672A of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall—

(1) be developed by not later than October 1, 2023; and

(2) be required for the approval of any new course of education proposed on or after that day.

SEC. 12. NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATION SURVEYS.

(a) **RISK-BASED SURVEY.**—Section 3673A of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) **NOTICE.**—To the maximum amount feasible, the Secretary, or a State approving agency, as applicable, shall provide not more than one business day of notice to an educational institution before conducting a targeted risk-based survey of the institution under this section.”

(b) **COMPLIANCE SURVEYS.**—Section 3693 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

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

“(c) To the maximum extent feasible, the Secretary, or a State approving agency, as applicable, shall provide not more than ten business days of notice to an educational institution or training establishment before conducting a compliance survey of the institution or establishment under this section.”

SEC. 13. EXCEPTION TO REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

Section 3313(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (4), the Secretary”;

(2) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following new paragraph (4):

“(4) **EXCEPTION.**—An educational institution is not required to submit verification of an individual under paragraph (1)(A) if—

“(A) the individual is enrolled in a course or program of education offered by the educational institution on at least a full-time basis before the date on which the individual is able to withdraw from the course or program of education without penalty;

“(B) the educational institution charges the same amount of tuition and fees for students who are enrolled on a full-time basis

and students who are enrolled on a more-than-full-time basis; and

“(C) the individual remains enrolled in the course or program of education after the date on which the individual is able to withdraw from the course or program of education without penalty.”.

SEC. 14. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SELF-EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE UNDER VETERAN READINESS AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) **EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY.**—Paragraph (12) of subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(12) Such license fees and essential equipment, supplies, and minimum stocks of materials as the Secretary determines to be necessary for a veteran to begin self-employment and are within the criteria and cost limitations that the Secretary shall prescribe in regulations for the furnishing of such fees, equipment, supplies, and stocks.”.

(b) **PRIORITY.**—Subsection (c)(1) of such section is amended by inserting before the first period the following: “, including with respect to providing priority for services under subsection (a)(12) to veterans with the most severe service-connected disabilities who require homebound training or self-employment, or both homebound training and self-employment”.

(c) **TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**—Section 3117 of such title is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)(C), by striking “this clause” and inserting “this subparagraph”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “insure” and inserting “ensure”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “clause” both places it appears and inserting “paragraph”.

SEC. 15. POSSIBLE DEFINITIONS OF CERTAIN TERMS RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report containing possible definitions of the Secretary for each of the following terms:

- (1) Student services.
- (2) Marketing.
- (3) Classroom instruction.

SEC. 16. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS LOAN FEES.

The loan fee table in section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “January 14, 2031” each place it appears and inserting “January 19, 2031”.

SEC. 17. TERMINATION OF CERTAIN CONSUMER CONTRACTS BY SERVICEMEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS WHO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS AFTER RECEIVING MILITARY ORDERS FOR PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION BUT THEN RECEIVE STOP MOVEMENT ORDERS DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 305A of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3956) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “TELEPHONE, MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAMMING, AND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE” and inserting “CERTAIN CONSUMER”;

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the heading, by adding “OR DEPENDENT OF A SERVICEMEMBER” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “after the date the servicemember receives military orders to relocate for a period of not less than 90 days to a location that does not support the contract.” and inserting “after—”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(A) the date the servicemember receives military orders to relocate for a period of

not less than 90 days to a location that does not support the contract; or

“(B) the date the servicemember, while in military service, receives military orders for a permanent change of station, thereafter enters into the contract, and then receives a stop movement order issued by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Homeland Security in response to a local, national, or global emergency, effective for an indefinite period or for a period of not less than 30 days, that prevents the servicemember from using the services provided under the contract.”; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) The spouse or dependent of a servicemember, described in paragraph (1)(B), who accompanies such servicemember during the period of relocation.”;

(3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) **COVERED CONTRACTS.**—A contract described in this subsection is a contract—

“(1) for—

“(A) commercial mobile service;

“(B) telephone exchange service;

“(C) internet access service;

“(D) multichannel video programming service;

“(E) a gym membership or fitness program; or

“(F) home security services; and

“(2) entered into by a servicemember before receiving the military orders referred to in subsection (a)(1).”; and

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5), respectively; and

(B) by inserting, after paragraph (1), the following new paragraph (2):

“(2) The terms ‘military orders’ and ‘permanent change of station’ have the meanings given such terms in section 305.”.

(b) **RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to stop movement orders issued on or after March 1, 2020.

SEC. 18. RESIDENCE FOR TAX PURPOSES.

Section 511(a) of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 4001(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) **SPOUSES.**—A spouse of a servicemember shall neither lose nor acquire a residence or domicile for purposes of taxation with respect to the person, personal property, or income of the spouse by reason of being absent or present in any tax jurisdiction of the United States solely to be with the servicemember in compliance with the servicemember's military orders.

“(3) **ELECTION.**—For any taxable year of the marriage, a servicemember and the spouse of such servicemember may elect to use for purposes of taxation, regardless of the date on which the marriage of the servicemember and the spouse occurred, any of the following:

“(A) The residence or domicile of the servicemember.

“(B) The residence or domicile of the spouse.

“(C) The permanent duty station of the servicemember.”.

SEC. 19. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES AND THEIR SPOUSES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title VII of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 4021 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 705 (50 U.S.C. 4025) the following new section:

“SEC. 705A. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES OF SERVICEMEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In any case in which a servicemember or the spouse of a servicemember has a covered license and such servicemember or spouse relocates his or her residency because of military orders for military service to a location that is not in the jurisdiction of the licensing authority that issued the covered license, such covered license shall be considered valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied for in the jurisdiction of such new residency for the duration of such military orders if such servicemember or spouse—

“(1) provides a copy of such military orders to the licensing authority in the jurisdiction in which the new residency is located;

“(2) remains in good standing with—

“(A) the licensing authority that issued the covered license; and

“(B) every other licensing authority that has issued to the servicemember or the spouse of a servicemember a license valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied in the jurisdiction of such licensing authority;

“(3) submits to the authority of the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements.

“(b) **INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACTS.**—If a servicemember or spouse of a servicemember is licensed and able to operate in multiple jurisdictions through an interstate licensure compact, with respect to services provided in the jurisdiction of the interstate licensure compact by a licensee covered by such compact, the servicemember or spouse of a servicemember shall be subject to the requirements of the compact or the applicable provisions of law of the applicable State and not this section.

“(c) **COVERED LICENSE DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘covered license’ means a professional license or certificate—

“(1) that is in good standing with the licensing authority that issued such professional license or certificate;

“(2) that the servicemember or spouse of a servicemember has actively used during the two years immediately preceding the relocation described in subsection (a); and

“(3) that is not a license to practice law.”.

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 705 the following new item:

“Sec. 705A. Portability of professional licenses of servicemembers and their spouses.”.

SEC. 20. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 7939, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7939, as amended. This comprehensive package from Economic Opportunity Subcommittee Chairman LEVIN includes several improvements for student veterans.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed many flaws in student veteran benefits. We never could have anticipated the need to shift nearly all students to remote learning, but without action, VA would have been forced to cut housing benefits for hundreds of thousands of student veterans nationwide because the students technically were no longer attending classes in person.

However, this committee acted swiftly during 2020, passing several crucial acts, including my Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, which was swiftly signed into law.

These actions meant student veterans were protected from losing their benefits—but only for a limited time. While I am relieved we never left student veterans without their benefits, we came close far too many times.

H.R. 7939, as amended, does away with these artificial benefit cliffs for student veterans and makes permanent many of the veteran protections passed as short-term measures during 2020 and 2021.

That means the next time there is an emergency—be it a flood, tornado, another pandemic, or another event that forces students to take their classes online for a short period of time—VA will be able to fully pay out benefits to student veterans who are forced to attend classes remotely.

I thank Chairman LEVIN of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity for introducing H.R. 7939, as amended, to safeguard these benefits. In addition, included in this legislation is H.R. 5752, also from Chairman LEVIN. This provision will allow servicemembers to get out of contracts they may be wrongly bound to because of their orders.

Families suffered fines, excessive bills, and damage to their credit scores due to circumstances completely outside of their control. Also, from Chairman LEVIN, H.R. 7939, as amended, includes the text from H.R. 7369, the VENTURE Act, which allows more disabled veterans to use the self-employment track for the Veteran Readiness and Employment Program.

Previously, this option was only available to a very small cohort of veterans. The VENTURE Act keeps prioritization of several disabled veterans but also allows additional veterans to pursue this option if they wish.

Finally, this package includes countless additional improvements for stu-

dent veterans such as improving which programs are available for GI bill approval and removing unnecessary red tape for schools so school certifying officials can spend more time with students and less time on paperwork.

This legislation is supported by Disabled American Veterans, Veterans Education Success, Student Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and VA.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7939, as amended, the Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022.

This is a bipartisan bill led by Chairman LEVIN and Ranking Member MOORE of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. The base text would provide emergency protection for maintaining current GI bill payments for student veterans if a pandemic like COVID-19 hits our country again.

I am supportive of the entire package, but I am especially pleased that five Republican proposals have been included. This bill includes Congressman JOYCE's language that would extend full post-9/11 GI bill benefits to the servicemembers who have been discharged under DOD's sole survivor rules.

A sole survivor discharge is designed to protect the members of a family if they have already lost family members to military service.

This issue directly impacts Congressman JOYCE's constituents, the Weninger family, whose son, Sergeant Weninger, tragically passed away in 2020. I am happy to honor Sergeant Weninger for his service to the United States and provide this benefit to his brother.

I thank his family, Congressman JOYCE, and the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors for bringing this important issue to our attention.

Now, this package also includes text from Congressman MOORE's bill that would improve the way that schools are approved for the GI bill to help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse.

Recently, there has been a rise in schools abusing this benefit. GI bill fraud both takes away a veteran's benefit and wastes taxpayer dollars. This bill would make it much harder for a bad school to be approved for GI bill benefits and well before they could harm veterans.

I thank the Student Veterans of America, the VFW, and Veterans Education Success for assisting us in writing this provision.

I also thank the Office of Inspector General and Inspector General Missal for their hard work in protecting veterans by helping us draft this text.

H.R. 7939, as amended, also includes a GOP proposal that would help improve access to study-abroad programs while using the GI bill.

I thank the Student Veterans of America and other higher education groups for bringing this issue to our attention.

Another proposal in this bill would amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to make it easier for military spouses to transfer licenses across the States.

This bipartisan proposal would allow spouses to transfer their State-based medical and professional license when they move due to their spouse's military orders. This is an important change that would help reduce unemployment among military spouses. I thank Congressman MIKE GARCIA for originally proposing this legislation, and I am pleased to see it in the list of bills today.

The bill also includes the text for H.R. 4702, originally introduced by Congressman CAWTHORN, that would help clarify the State that a military spouse can file taxes in when their family is deployed to another State.

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

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair and the ranking member for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of bills here that pertain to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs' jurisdiction. I support a number of those bills—maybe not a couple of them. I certainly appreciate that we are having them down here.

As many people know, the House Freedom Caucus and a number of my other colleagues have simply been raising the issue that we should debate, amend on different issues. We should have a different conversation about how the floor operates so we continue to require roll call votes on a number of bills that might otherwise pass by voice. But in doing so, it is not a statement necessarily always on the content of the legislation in question. We will be making some roll call votes here this afternoon, but I just wanted to make sure, as a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I make clear my support for a number of these measures, which will obviously be clear in the roll call vote later.

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

□ 1600

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, again, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 7939, as amended, the Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7939, 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 yeas and nays were ordered.

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

VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7846) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2022, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7846

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 “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION.

(a) **RATE ADJUSTMENT.**—Effective on December 1, 2022, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase, in accordance with subsection (c), the dollar amounts in effect on November 30, 2022, for the payment of disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation under the provisions specified in subsection (b).

(b) **AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.**—The dollar amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are the following:

(1) **WARTIME DISABILITY COMPENSATION.**—Each of the dollar amounts under section 1114 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) **ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPENDENTS.**—Each of the dollar amounts under section 1115(1) of such title.

(3) **CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.**—The dollar amount under section 1162 of such title.

(4) **DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO SURVIVING SPOUSE.**—Each of the dollar amounts under subsections (a) through (d) of section 1311 of such title.

(5) **DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO CHILDREN.**—Each of the dollar amounts under sections 1313(a) and 1314 of such title.

(c) **DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.**—Each dollar amount described in subsection (b) shall be increased by the same percentage as the percentage by which benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are increased effective December 1, 2022, as a result of a determination under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)).

(d) **SPECIAL RULE.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may adjust administratively, consistent with the increases made under subsection (a), the rates of disability compensation payable to persons under section

10 of Public Law 85-857 (72 Stat. 1263) who have not received compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall publish in the Federal Register the amounts specified in section 2(b), as increased under that section, not later than the date on which the matters specified in section 215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act during fiscal year 2023.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 7846.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7846, the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to increase the amounts payable for wartime disability compensation, compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled veterans, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children.

Specifically, VA would be required to increase benefit amounts by the same percentage as the cost-of-living increase in benefits for Social Security recipients.

To me, the cost-of-living adjustment to veterans’ compensation is more than just a rate adjustment tied to inflation. It is a quality-of-life guarantee for veterans and their families.

This annual COLA is not only a source of personal comfort for former servicemembers as they age; it assures that their survivors will not see a decline in earned benefits should the economy fluctuate and costs rise once their beloved veteran is no longer with us. I know this because veterans and their family members from all over the country relay these same exact sentiments to me.

The COLA is the continued recognition by a grateful nation of the service and sacrifice of those who have stepped up to serve. This gesture of appreciation is one of the most rewarding responsibilities of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs. As chairman, I am honored to be leading this effort to express our thanks.

I would like to recognize the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs for, once again, originating this legislation for floor

consideration today, and I thank Chair LURIA and Ranking Member NEHLS for their sponsorship and steadfast assistance to our vets.

I am pleased we are voting on this bill early to alleviate any doubt that this adjustment will be in place come December.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly support H.R. 7846, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7846, the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022. I thank Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Chair LURIA and Ranking Member NEHLS for introducing this bill.

It would increase the rate of disability compensation and DIC compensation for survivors to keep up with the steep rise in the cost of living. This legislation is absolutely vital in the face of rampant inflation, a potential recession, and a high cost of living under the Biden administration.

We must ensure that our veterans are able to pay their bills and put food on the table for their families. If we do not act, our veterans and their families will bear the burden of the careless financial actions of this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to offer my support today, and I hope my colleagues will do the same.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA). My good friend is the chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7846, the Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022.

With inflation and rising costs impacting Americans across the country, we must continue to ensure that the needs of our disabled veterans and their families are being met.

For the past 4 years, I have been proud to introduce and pass bipartisan cost-of-living adjustments to increase compensation and benefits for our disabled veterans. As chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee and author of this bipartisan legislation, I am, once again, honored to present this year’s annual veterans’ cost-of-living adjustment legislation to the floor.

The Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022 would, once again, recognize that VA-related compensation requires adjustment in the same way that Social Security benefits are updated to meet the cost-of-living realities. This includes disability compensation, clothing allowance, and dependency and indemnity compensation payments.

Our veterans service organizations understand the realities that many of

our veterans and military families face to make ends meet and the importance of this cost-of-living adjustment. As the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, puts it: "This would provide a guarantee to veterans and survivors that their payments will always be aligned to counteract inflation."

In our current economic climate, veterans in my district and across the country have many of the same economic concerns as every one of us. Veterans are not immune from concerns about putting food on the table and their ability to adequately provide for a comfortable and sustainable life for themselves and their families.

As a veteran myself, I understand firsthand the concerns faced by our Active Duty servicemembers and our veterans as they balance professional responsibilities with the necessities of home life. Every bit helps, and this is especially true for those who have lost a loved one in the course of their service or as a result of a service-connected injury or illness.

Dependency and indemnity compensation provided at a sustainable rate ensures economic fluctuations are not an additional burden for a survivor already managing difficult days without their veteran by their side.

With the high costs of disability care, childcare, and other costs, it is vital that we continue to provide benefits that meet the financial demands faced by veterans and their families on a day-to-day basis.

This cost-of-living increase provided by my legislation would bolster beneficiaries against today's price fluctuations and provides relief to our disabled veterans and many military families.

The COLA Act of 2022 is recognition of the need to ensure that those receiving VA compensation are always supported. This is responsible, common-sense, bipartisan legislation and proof of the good that can come from both parties working together. Our veterans and their families deserve no less.

I thank Ranking Member NEHLs for being a cosponsor of this year's legislation and also full committee Ranking Member BOST, who worked with me for 2 years on this legislation and in previous years, as well. I thank Chairman TAKANO for his reliable support and leadership for our veterans, their families, and adequate disability compensation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage full support of H.R. 7846.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. CAWTHORN).

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise and add my voice to support H.R. 7846. I thank Ranking Member BOST, Chairman TAKANO, and especially Ranking Member NEHLs on this subcommittee for his great work on it.

I would also like to add my voice in support of H.R. 7939. I am honored to speak today in support of our military servicemembers and their families.

America's warriors are always on the move, and their spouses often change

duty stations every 2 to 3 years in order to keep their families together and remain close in supporting their servicemembers.

Requiring the spouses of servicemembers to operate under entirely arbitrary tax standards prioritizes bureaucracy over bravery and undermines the support we provide our servicemen and -women. That is why I am deeply grateful for the support of many of my colleagues who joined me in introducing the important language of the Military Spouse Tax Act into H.R. 7939, the Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act, ensuring that military spouses will be able to keep their home domicile for State income tax purposes if they so choose.

This policy change provides much-needed financial stability to the families of those risking their lives in defense of our lives and liberties.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 7846, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7846.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE VA HOME LOAN BENEFIT ACT OF 2022

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7735) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the appraisal requirements for certain loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7735

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 "Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING APPRAISAL DELIVERY TIMES.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives recommendations for improving the delivery times for appraisals for

loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 3. UPDATE OF APPRAISAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN LOANS GUARANTEED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) UPDATED REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall prescribe updated regulations or program requirements to clarify when an appraisal is required, how an appraisal is to be conducted, and who is eligible to conduct an appraisal for a loan guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, for any purpose described in section 3710(a) of such title. In prescribing updated regulations or program requirements under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration the recommendations of the Secretary submitted under section 2.

(b) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES.—In prescribing updated regulations or program requirements under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider making changes applicable to—

- (1) certification requirements for appraisers;
- (2) minimum property requirements;
- (3) the process for selecting and reviewing comparable sales;
- (4) quality control processes;
- (5) the Assisted Appraisal Processing Program; and
- (6) the use of waivers or other alternatives to existing appraisal processes.

(c) DESK TOP APPRAISALS.—In prescribing updated regulations or program guidance under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide guidance for the use of the authority under section 3731(b)(3) of title 38, United States Code, taking into consideration—

- (1) situations in which the use of such authority would provide for cost savings for the borrower; and
- (2) situations in which a traditional appraisal requirement could cause a delay substantial enough to jeopardize the ability of a borrower to complete a transaction.

SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 7735, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7735, as amended, the Improving Access

to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022. It directs VA to make needed improvements to the appraisal portion of the program, where some veterans have experienced delays.

The veteran home loan benefit is one of the most important transition benefits afforded to servicemembers and veterans. Over the last few years, during an unprecedented housing market, we have seen how even slight delays in the program can put servicemembers, veterans, and their families behind conventional home loan users.

The legislation from Ranking Member BOST directs VA to look internally at where these delays might be and make needed changes to make veteran home buyers as competitive as possible in a challenging buying market.

During our committee's May markup, I was pleased the ranking member supported my amendment to his legislation, which would ensure that the changes VA is directed to make to the program only improve the product for veteran home buyers without weakening home-buyer protections such as inspections and appraisals.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7735, as amended, the Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022.

Every veteran deserves the chance to own a home and pursue the American Dream. We know that with increased inflation and economic uncertainty brought on by the failed economic policies of the Biden administration, this dream is harder for veterans to achieve.

With interest rates on the rise, we should do whatever we can to make the VA home loan benefit the best option for veteran home buyers and sellers alike.

We have heard that the time it takes to complete a VA appraisal is a barrier to veterans who want to use the VA home loan program.

□ 1615

My bill would address that issue by requiring VA to update the regulations on how and when the appraisals must be completed.

While not eliminating traditional appraisals, my bill would make the process for veterans to purchase a home more efficient by shortening the appraisal timeline to match industry standards.

It would also require VA to consider when changes to the appraisal process would save a veteran money during the closing process.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the mortgage bankers and the other stakeholders for their work in crafting this bill to help make the VA loan more competitive.

With their support, we have been able to create a solution that I hope will help thousands of veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman TAKANO for his assistance in moving this bill forward, I urge all of my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 7735, as amended, the Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7735, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

WOUNDED WARRIOR ACCESS ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5916) to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5916

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 "Wounded Warrior Access Act".

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC REQUEST OF CERTAIN RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) ELECTRONIC RECORD REQUESTS.—Section 5702 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

"(b)(1) The Secretary shall establish and maintain a secure website or online tool for a claimant or a duly recognized agent or representative of that claimant to submit an electronic request for such records.

"(2) The Secretary, upon receipt of a valid request made through the website or online tool established under paragraph (1), shall provide to the requestor—

"(A) not later than 10 days after receipt, confirmation of such receipt; and

"(B) not later than 120 days after receipt, such records requested in the form selected by the requestor."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5702(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "in writing" and inserting "in

writing, including an electronic request submitted through the website or online tool established under subsection (b).";

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" at the end;

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) the format in which such copy is desired, including whether in printed form or by downloadable file."

(c) DEADLINE; ESTABLISHMENT OF WEBSITE OR ONLINE TOOL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish the website or online tool required under section 5702(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, as added by this Act, and, to the extent practicable, the Secretary shall utilize existing online resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of such establishment.

SEC. 3. WARNINGS TO CLAIMANTS UNDER LAWS ADMINISTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGARDING UNRECOGNIZED REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5901 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—" before "Except";

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(b) WARNINGS ABOUT POTENTIAL PREDATORY PRACTICES.—(1) The Secretary shall ensure that, each time a claimant under a law administered by the Secretary logs in to a website or online tool of the Department, such website or online tool issues to the claimant, in plain language—

"(A) a warning about individuals who seek to act in violation of this chapter;

"(B) a link to an online tool of the Department through which the claimant may report such an individual;

"(C) a link to an online tool of the Department through which the claimant may search for a recognized agent, attorney, or other entity recognized by the Secretary for the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of any claim under laws administered by the Secretary; and

"(D) a link to a website or an online tool of the Department providing final decisions on discipline of agents, attorneys, and entities, described in subparagraph (C), by the Secretary for violations of this chapter.

"(2) The Secretary shall provide all information under paragraph (1) in the following languages:

"(A) English.

"(B) Spanish.

"(C) Tagalog.

"(D) The seven other languages most commonly spoken in the United States."

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out subsection (b) of such section, as added by subsection (a) of this section—

(1) after consulting with stakeholders (including veterans service organizations recognized under section 5902 of such title) regarding the wording of the warning under such subsection; and

(2) not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5916, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5916, as amended. Representative AGUILAR's Wounded Warrior Access Act would require VA to establish and maintain a secure, internet-based website to enable a claimant or their representative to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits.

Additionally, this bill would add a provision requiring VA to warn claimants about benefit scammers, provide a way to report potentially fraudulent activity, and provide a tool for claimants to search for accredited representation.

Currently, to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits, veterans or designated representatives must submit a Freedom of Information Act, otherwise known as a FOIA, or a Privacy Act Request.

Submitting this form followed by waiting for it to upload into the individual's electronic claims file, and then waiting action on the request can be very time-consuming and can negatively impact a claimant's ability to understand what records VA is evaluating and what information could better assist in a claim's positive adjudication.

Establishing and maintaining a secure, internet-based website to enable a claimant or their representative to make requests related to VA claims and benefits would modernize this essential process and assist in more timely, positive claim outcomes.

This bill would also add another tool in the toolbox for veterans when navigating the complexities of the claims process and will help veterans gain a little more autonomy over their claim.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5916, as amended, the Wounded Warrior Access Act.

H.R. 5916, as amended, would require VA to establish a secure, public-facing website that veterans can use to request a copy of their VA records. This would make VA more accessible to veterans by modernizing its systems. Specifically, the bill would make it easier for veterans to review their records before they file a claim or appeal.

Over the years, I have heard of increasing concerns from veterans about organizations that attempt to swindle veterans out of their VA benefits. This is unacceptable, and it is about time that we do something about it.

This proposal also would require VA to warn veterans about greedy claims practices when they log into the VA's website. I hope these warnings will prevent veterans from being taken advantage of by these bad actors.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 5916, as amended, the Wounded Warrior Access Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5916, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

FASTER PAYMENTS TO VETERANS' SURVIVORS ACT OF 2022

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8260) to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8260

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 "Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. TIMEFRAME FOR DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATE BENEFICIARIES AND PAYMENT OF BENEFITS UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) NATIONAL SERVICE LIFE INSURANCE.—Section 1917(f)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "two years" and inserting "one year"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "four" and inserting "two".

(b) UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE.—Section 1952(c)(1) of such title is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking "two years" and inserting "one year"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "four" and inserting "two".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the death of an insured person occurring on or after the date that is two years before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION PROCESS UNDER DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) NSLI.—Section 1917 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

"(a)(1) A person who enrolls in insurance maturing on or after August 1, 1946, may designate a beneficiary of the insurance policy. The insured shall, subject to regulations, at all times have the right to change the beneficiary or beneficiaries of such insurance without the consent of such beneficiary or beneficiaries.

"(2) If a person enrolled in insurance maturing on or after August 1, 1946, does not designate a beneficiary under paragraph (1) before the veteran dies, or if a designated beneficiary predeceases the veteran, the Secretary shall determine the beneficiary in the following order:

"(A) The surviving spouse of the insured person.

"(B) The children of the insured person and descendants of deceased children by representation.

"(C) The parents of the insured person or the survivors of the parents.

"(D) The duly appointed executor or administrator of the estate of the insured person.

"(E) Other next of kin of the insured person entitled under the laws of domicile of the insured person at the time of the death of the insured person."

(b) USGLI.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1949 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"§ 1949. Beneficiaries

"(a) DESIGNATION.—A person who enrolls in United States Government life insurance may designate a beneficiary of the insurance policy. Subject to regulations, the insured person shall at all times have the right to change the beneficiary or beneficiaries of a United States Government life insurance policy without the consent of such beneficiary or beneficiaries.

"(b) DETERMINATION IN CASES OF NON-DESIGNATION.—If a person enrolled in United States Government life insurance does not designate a beneficiary under subsection (a) before the insured person dies, or if a designated beneficiary predeceases the insured person, the Secretary shall determine the beneficiary in the following order:

"(1) The surviving spouse of the insured person.

"(2) The children of the insured person and descendants of deceased children by representation.

"(3) The parents of the insured person or the survivors of the parents.

"(4) The duly appointed executor or administrator of the estate of the insured person.

"(5) Other next of kin of the insured person entitled under the laws of domicile of the insured person at the time of the death of the insured person."

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 19 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 1949 and inserting the following new item:

"1949. Beneficiaries."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the death of an insured person occurring on or after the date that is two years before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IMPROVEMENT OF TREATMENT OF UNDISBURSED LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS.

(a) IMPROVEMENT OF PROCESSES.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall improve the processes and procedures of the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to identifying, locating, and paying hard-to-find beneficiaries of life insurance policies issued under chapter 19 of title 38, United States Code, including by—

(1) improving the search tools available on the website of the Department;

(2) conducting outreach to veterans, veterans service organizations, and the general public with respect to such search tools;

(3) improving the processes for searching for information relating to potential recipients through internal Department sources and sources available through other Federal agencies, State government agencies, and non-government entities; and

(4) ensuring the Department has sufficient dedicated staff whose primary responsibilities are identifying, locating, and paying hard-to-find beneficiaries, with the goal of disbursing by not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, all funds that, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, are owed to a beneficiary of a life insurance policy issued under chapter 19 of title 38, United States Code.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should work with interagency partners to determine the types of records, reports, and other materials that may be required to identify, locate, and disburse undisbursed life insurance benefits to hard-to-find beneficiaries.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the progress of the Secretary in carrying out this section.

(d) UNDISBURSED LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS DEFINED.—The term “undisbursed life insurance benefits”—

(1) means any amount of money that is owed to a beneficiary of a life insurance policy issued under chapter 19 of title 38, United States Code, and that has not been disbursed for a period of two years or longer; and

(2) does not include any amount of money that—

(A) has not been disbursed due to a contested claim; or

(B) is in dispute by two or more parties over who is the entitled beneficiary.

SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 8260, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8260, as amended, the bipartisan Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act, will result in important help for the surviving family members of recently deceased veterans. Families often face financial hardship when a veteran life insurance policyholder dies, making timely payment of these VA benefits is therefore essential.

The VA does an admirable job of quickly paying the vast majority of beneficiaries upon the death of a loved one. Yet, in other cases, for a variety of reasons, VA is unable to determine the identity or location of a surviving spouse, child, or family member. At the end of the fiscal year 2020, the Department owed more than \$150 million in undisbursed life insurance proceeds to nearly 15,000 survivors. Approximately 10 percent of this money had been owed for more than 5 years.

This legislation, introduced by Representative CHRIS PAPPAS ensures that VA will make the necessary improvements to expedite these life insurance payments with a goal of disbursing all unpaid benefits within 2 years.

The bill is cosponsored by more than 40 Members on both sides of the aisle, and it has the support of a half-dozen veteran service organizations, including the VFW, America Legion, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America, Modern Military Association of America, and Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative PAPPAS for his work and urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8260, the Faster Payment of Veterans' Survivors Act.

This bill would improve VA's delivery of insurance benefits to survivors. One of the provisions would streamline insurance payments to beneficiaries under the NSLI and the USGLI programs.

Another section would make improvements to the VA's process for identifying and paying the beneficiaries.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman PAPPAS for introducing this bill and for his commitment to help VA honor its obligation to surviving family members.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Hampshire (Mr. PAPPAS), my good friend who serves as chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman TAKANO and Ranking Member BOST for getting these bills to the floor, including this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan legislation, H.R. 8260, the Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act. It is a bipartisan bill that ensures that VA quickly identifies, locates, and pays surviving family members the life insurance benefits they are owed.

VA's insurance service already has some tools in place to identify, locate, and pay hard-to-find beneficiaries, but more can be done to prevent these survivors from needlessly waiting during what is likely a difficult time, both emotionally and financially.

My bipartisan bill, the Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act, will make much needed reforms to allow VA to better identify and locate surviving family members of recently deceased veterans.

By making these reforms, we will make sure they receive the payments and benefits they were owed in a timely manner.

According to the VA, the Department owed more than \$155 million to 15,000 individuals at the end of September 2020.

For a widow or widower who is struggling to make ends meet, a life insurance payment of \$10,000 makes a world of difference.

Alfred, a constituent of mine in Rochester, New Hampshire, and a Korean war veteran, shared how much this bill will mean to his family. His father-in-law, a veteran of World War II, passed away last year. Alfred's spouse waited for months to receive the survivors benefits owed to her by VA. He contacted our office for help remedying the issue. We were able to help them, but no family should have to jump through hoops for months following the loss of a loved one.

This bill directs the Department to improve and better publicize an online tool that families of veterans can use to search for past due benefits. It expands access to internal and external data sources that will help VA track down veterans' survivors. It makes sure the Department is adequately staffed to perform these searches.

The bill also shortens the unnecessarily long timeframe in which VA is authorized to designate and pay alternate beneficiaries and ensures that procedures for paying alternate beneficiaries are consistent across several different life insurance programs. All of these steps will lead to faster payments to veterans' survivors.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman NANCY MACE of South Carolina for co-leading this bipartisan bill. I appreciate the strong bipartisan support from my colleagues and from veterans service organizations, including the VFW, American Legion, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America, Modern

Military Association of America, and Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Once enacted, the Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act will have a real and positive impact on the financial well-being of thousands of veterans' families.

Our veterans serve our country and sacrifice so much, and their family members contribute and sacrifice right alongside them. It is of utmost importance that we honor those commitments and support their family members.

The bill passed the Veterans' Affairs Committee unanimously in July, and I urge the full House to support its passage today.

□ 1630

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 8260, as amended, the Faster Payments to Veterans Survivors Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8260, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

JON GLAWE POST OFFICE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5952) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Main Street, in Vergas, Minnesota, as the "Jon Glawe Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5952

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

SECTION 1. JON GLAWE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Main Street, in Vergas, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the "Jon Glawe Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jon Glawe Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5952, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located in Vergas, Minnesota, as the "Jon Glawe Post Office."

Jon Glawe was born on January 9, 1949, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. He grew up on a farm near Vergas and graduated from Perham High School in 1967. After graduating, he moved to California and went to Ventura Community College for 2 years, obtaining his associate's degree.

In 1970, Mr. Glawe was drafted into the U.S. Army and was a sergeant in the 3rd Armored Division station in Frankfurt, Germany. After being honorably discharged in March of 1972, he married his high school sweetheart, Darla Olson, in June of 1973.

As a kid, during snowstorms, Mr. Glawe would ride along with his brothers and dad, who was the rural mail carrier in Vergas, to help shovel snow every time their vehicle stopped or became stuck along the mail route.

He officially began his career with the U.S. Postal Service in Minneapolis in 1975. After the passing of his father, he added a second full-time job, taking over the rural mail route delivering mail for Vergas and the surrounding areas for 36 years, until his retirement in 2011.

Mr. Glawe became well-known and revered by many on his route and served as a lifeline for many in the community. Through Minnesota's harshest winter storms, he was known to not only deliver mail, but would often bring medicine, food, and other goods to those in need.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Jon Glawe by supporting H.R. 5952.

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

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which would name a post office in Vergas, Minnesota, for Mr. Jon Glawe.

Growing up in Vergas, Minnesota, Mr. Glawe would ride along with his father, who was the rural mail carrier in Vergas. After serving in the U.S. Army during Vietnam, Mr. Glawe moved to Minneapolis and officially began his career with the U.S. Post Office in 1975.

He later moved back to Vergas and resumed work on his family's dairy farm. After his father's death in 1928,

Mr. Glawe added a second full-time job and took over the rural mail route, delivering mail to the town of Vergas and the surrounding area for 36 years.

He was well-known on his route and served as a lifeline for many in the community. Even during the harshest of Minnesota winters, he would deliver mail, medicine, and food to those in need.

There is no better way to honor Jon Glawe's decades of service to the Postal Service than by naming a post office after him.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman has no further speakers, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH).

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding me time.

Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 5952, a bill that honors the life of Jon Glawe, of Vergas, Minnesota. He was a mail carrier for 36 years, who left a remarkable impact on his community.

Born in 1949, Jon grew up in the Vergas area. He was a wrestling champion, which took him to college in California. After being drafted into the Army in 1970 and faithfully serving his country, he returned home and married his high school sweetheart, Darla Olson.

As a boy, Jon would join his father on the mail route, shoveling the car out of the snow, and many Minnesotans know that feeling. After his father passed away, Jon took up the reins, taking on a second full-time job as a mail carrier while also running the family dairy farm.

Over the years, he became a beloved staple of the community, regularly going above and beyond to help his neighbors.

This bill appropriately names the post office after Jon to honor his service to his neighbors and to the local area. In a letter, his family noted that since the bill's introduction, the outpouring of support from those who live in the Vergas area has been overwhelming. I agree with their words that there is no better way to honor his decades of service than this.

Jon passed away in 2016 and left behind a loving family and many, many friends. I urge my colleagues to hear the voices of those Jon impacted every day and support this bill.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman from Florida has no further speakers, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5952, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5952.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DR. C.T. WRIGHT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5650) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5650

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

SECTION 1. DR. C.T. WRIGHT POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia? There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5650, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building."

Dr. C.T. Wright was raised in a family of sharecroppers as a native of Social Circle, Georgia. He went on to graduate from Fort Valley University before earning his master of science from Clark Atlanta University and his Ph.D from Boston University.

He was a teacher and administrator, devoting much of his time to education and working for many historically

Black colleges and universities, including Morris Brown College and Talladega College. In 1982, he became the president of Cheney University, the first HBCU.

Dr. Wright also focused his efforts on community service, founding the Light of Hope Institute that promotes human rights around the world.

For the last 21 years of his life, he lived in Arizona, serving as a community leader. He was chair of the Arizona Board of Clemency, president of the Fountain Hills Kiwanis Club, and president of the Arizona African Society. In addition, Dr. Wright served as a delegate for the Electoral College and met six Presidents.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Dr. C.T. Wright by supporting H.R. 5650.

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

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which would name an Arizona post office building for Dr. C.T. Wright.

Dr. Wright was a Georgia native and dedicated public servant who devoted his life to education and community service.

He went to school in Georgia, graduating with a bachelor's degree from Fort Valley State University and a master's degree from Clark Atlanta University.

After obtaining his Ph.D from Boston University, he served as a teacher and school administrator. Over the course of his career, he worked for many of the country's historically Black colleges and universities.

He also emphasized the importance of community service and established the Light of Hope Institute, which promotes human rights around the world.

For the last two decades of his life, he moved to Arizona and lived in Fountain Hills, outside of Phoenix. There, he remained involved in the community, serving as the president of the Fountain Hills Kiwanis Club and president of the Arizona African society.

Dr. Wright was a devoted public servant, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, this is one of those—you have already touched on C.T.'s resume. But I get to do something that is a little unique right now. I am not going to give his resume again.

He was my neighbor. He and Mary were my friends.

Have you ever had someone in your life, and they are just sort of an acquaintance, and they just ooze something really unique called love.

C.T. was a big guy, powerful voice. He could sing and the rafters shook. Every time he gave the prayer at a Kiwanis meeting, or a Republican meeting, or something else, I almost felt like I was going to do an altar call. And being Catholic, that is actually a little odd. I thought that would be funnier.

□ 1645

He and his wife did something amazing. They were involved in everything from my school board to the Arizona clemency board.

The fact of the matter is he had a powerful impact on a lot of us who live in an upper income suburb on the side of Scottsdale, Arizona. It is a beautiful place.

I remember sitting down with him and saying, "Okay, C.T., you are my neighbor. You are my friend. Why are you a Republican?" In this powerful voice, "David, son, I am going to be part of that abolitionist party," and then he went on to explain his history, his life.

I know often we break down into partisan this, partisan that, but to have someone who didn't look like every other suburban person in this neighborhood, and yet, his intellect, his love, his wife Mary's love—they became icons in the community because of their intellect, because of their love, and because of their leadership.

It proved so powerful for the community because so often when there was something happening, one of the first things we all did was say: Well, we have to ask Dr. Wright. What does he think? What does he feel? What is his understanding of what is going on?

We lost him a couple of years ago, and the community has mourned and felt a little bit more hollow since. By naming our post office, I am hoping my 7-year-old daughter and my now-10-week-old son will see the plaque and will tell the story, and it will become part of the heritage of my little town, Fountain Hills, Arizona.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5650, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5650.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEONARD SCARCELLA POST OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5865) to designate the facility of

the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5865

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

SECTION 1. LEONARD SCARCELLA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. 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. 5865.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5865 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building.

Mayor Leonard Scarcella was a lifelong resident of Stafford. He graduated from Texas A&M University with a B.B.A. in accounting in 1962. He then went on to attend the University of Houston Law School and was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 1967.

From 1963 to 1969, Mayor Scarcella served in the Texas National Guard with Active Duty in the United States Air Force, where he attained the rank of sergeant.

He was first elected as mayor of the city of Stafford in 1969 and was the longest continuous-serving mayor in the United States.

During his tenure as mayor, he fought for 6 years to create and implement the Stafford Municipal School District, the only breakaway school district in the Nation to gain the approval of the Federal courts and the only municipal school district within the State of Texas.

In addition, Mayor Scarcella initiated the Stafford Municipal Educational Television Station to bring vital, current, and informative programming about the city to citizens and businesses via cable and internet video streaming.

As well as serving as mayor, he held various positions, such as president of the board of directors of the Fort Bend County Industrial Development Corporation, chair of the Home Rule Charter Commission, and president of the Stafford Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the accomplishments of Mayor Scarcella by supporting H.R. 5865, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, which honors Mayor Leonard Scarcella.

In 1969, Mayor Scarcella was first elected as the mayor of Stafford, Texas, a suburb of Houston. He continued to serve as mayor until his death in 2020, making him the longest continuous-serving mayor in the United States.

During his time as mayor, he helped the town develop a strong economy. Specifically, in 1995, he worked to eliminate the city property tax for all taxpayers and eliminated the town's general obligation debt in 2014. Mayor Scarcella was a true public servant.

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5865, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5865.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1835

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 6 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 7, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter and the certificate of election received from Ms. Gail Fenumiai, Director, Alaska Division of Elections, indicating that, according to the official results for the Special General Election held August 16, 2022, the Honorable Mary S. Peltola was elected for Representative to Congress for the At Large Congressional District, State of Alaska.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

STATE OF ALASKA,
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS,
Juneau, AK, September 2, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the official results of the Special General Election held on August 16, 2022, for the Representative in Congress from the At Large Congressional District of Alaska, show that Mary S. Peltola received 51.48% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these official results that Mary S. Peltola was elected as Representative in Congress from the At Large Congressional District of Alaska.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

Sincerely,

GAIL FENUMIAI,
Director.

STATE OF ALASKA—DIVISION OF ELECTIONS,
JUNEAU
CERTIFICATE

I, Gail Fenumiai, Director of the Division of Elections for the State of Alaska, do hereby certify that in accordance with the provisions of AS 15.15.450, a Special Election was held on the 16th day of August, 2022, in the State of Alaska pursuant to AS 15.40.140 and the following candidate was elected to the United States House of Representatives to fill the remainder of the unexpired term:

United States Representatives, Mary S. Peltola (Registered Democrat)

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed hereto the Seal of the State of Alaska, at Juneau, the Capital, this 2nd day of September, A.D. 2022.

GAIL FENUMIAI,
Director, Division of Elections.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 2, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of letters received from Mr. Todd D. Valentine and Ms. Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Directors, New York State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Elections held August 23, 2022, the Honorable Pat Ryan was

elected for Representative to Congress for the Nineteenth Congressional District, State of New York, and the Honorable Joseph Sempolinski was elected for Representative to Congress for the Twenty-Third Congressional District, State of New York.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

NEW YORK STATE,
BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Albany, NY, September 2, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR Ms. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, for Representative in Congress from the 19th Congressional District of New York, show that Pat Ryan received 54,832 or 51.92% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Pat Ryan was elected as Representative in Congress from the 19th Congressional District of New York.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all (Part of Broome, Columbia, Delaware, Part of Dutchess, Greene, Part of Montgomery, Otsego, Part of Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties) involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by Law.

Regards,

TODD D. VALENTINE,
Co-Executive Director.
KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI
STAVISKY,
Co-Executive Director.

NEW YORK STATE,
BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Albany, NY, September 2, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR Ms. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, for Representative in Congress from the 23rd Congressional District of New York, show that Joseph Sempolinski received 39,011 or 53.06% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Joseph Sempolinski was elected as Representative in Congress from the 23rd Congressional District of New York.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Part of Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, part of Tioga, Tompkins and Yates Counties) involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Regards,

TODD D. VALENTINE,
Co-Executive Director.
KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI
STAVISKY,
Co-Executive Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE PATRICK RYAN, OF NEW YORK, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman

from New York, the Honorable PATRICK RYAN, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI, OF NEW YORK, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from New York, the Honorable JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representatives-elect and the members of the New York delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representatives-elect will please raise their right hands.

Mr. RYAN of New York, Mr. SEMPOLINSKI of New York, and Mrs. PELTOLA of Alaska appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now Members of the 117th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE MARY PELTOLA TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, it is a rare privilege to be able to introduce as a new Member the dean of a delegation, but that is my particular pleasure today.

There are few honors greater, Madam Speaker, in this country than being elected by your neighbors and fellow Americans to represent them in the House of Representatives. I welcome Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator SULLIVAN to our Chamber and remind them you cannot be appointed to the House of Representatives. Only by election can one serve in the people's House.

It is an extraordinary honor to have your friends and neighbors choose you

to represent them in this body. When our friend and colleague Don Young passed away earlier this year, this House lost a giant. The people of Alaska lost a Representative who had served them with great ability, energy, courage, and commitment for half a century.

Earlier this month, Alaskans cast their votes to send a new Representative to carry their voice and views in Washington. The woman they chose just made history with the oath that she took. She made history by becoming the first Alaska Native to be elected to the Congress of the United States.

Madam Speaker, she also made history as the first woman not to represent Alaska but to represent Alaskans in the House of Representatives. Obviously, Senator MURKOWSKI represents them in the Senate.

In Representative MARY PELTOLA, Alaskans chose someone who was not only a friend of former Representative Don Young but also someone cut from the same cloth, someone who believes fundamentally in pragmatism, independence, and putting Alaska's unique needs first. The Senators applaud that, apparently.

Representative PELTOLA is widely known across Alaska not only for her strong record as a State legislator but as a champion for rural and Native communities who are too often overlooked by policymakers. Don Young did not let that happen. She won't, either.

She has built solid relationships across both parties in Alaska because of what many have called her extreme kindness and her determination to befriend all that she meets.

Her record reflects Alaskans' independent approach to the most divisive issues, and in her election, she appealed to Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. Her campaign slogan reflected what she and many others consider the three fundamentals of Alaska: fish, family, and freedom.

Indeed, she has already begun to assemble a bipartisan staff to serve her constituents. Representative PELTOLA has a long record of working well with Alaska Republicans and even campaigning for Republican Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, who is with us here today, when she faced a primary challenge from an extreme candidate.

What Alaskans have known and shown by them electing MARY PELTOLA is that, like so many other Americans, they want to be represented by someone who is focused on bipartisanship and not on confrontation. They want someone who will put people over politics and get things done.

That has been Representative PELTOLA's record back home in Alaska, and I know it will be her philosophy here in Washington. In so many ways, she is a perfect successor to Representative Young, who worked hard to make sure his fellow Republicans understood Alaskans' unique challenges and preferences on major issues.

□ 1845

In similar fashion, Representative PELTOLA will be an important addition to the House, helping us better understand the perspectives of rural and Native communities and the special concerns of Alaskans as our majority works to deliver results and expand opportunities for all Americans.

I know, Madam Speaker, MARY will be warmly welcomed to the House by all of her colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Because Alaska has only one at-large Representative in the House, the honor falls to me today, as the senior-most Member of our party, to introduce her. It is an honor I wholeheartedly accept, and I now ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Alaska's new Representative and someone we will all very shortly be calling our good friend, MARY PELTOLA.

The SPEAKER. It is the custom of the House for Members of the delegation to join the newly elected and sworn-in Members. So if the Senators would like to join her in the well, they are most welcome. As the dean of the delegation, you are welcome to join her in the well, and any of our other colleagues who would like to join MARY PELTOLA in the well. We invite other Native Americans to join.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA).

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I thank Leader HOYER for the very kind introduction and most especially for his words about my predecessor, Congressman for all Alaska, Don Young.

I thank you, Speaker PELOSI, Minority Leader MCCARTHY, and so many of my colleagues from both parties who have been very kind in welcoming me to the House of Representatives.

I am also so grateful to have my husband, my seven children and their loved ones, two grandchildren, and two sisters here with me this week. I couldn't do this without their love and support and votes.

It is the honor of my life to represent Alaska, a place my elders and ancestors have called home for thousands of years, where to this day many people in my community carry forward our traditions of hunting and fishing.

I am humbled and deeply honored to be the first Alaska Native to be elected to this body, the first woman to hold Alaska's House seat. But to be clear, I am here to represent all Alaskans. I will work every day to make all Alaskans proud that they have entrusted me to carry their voices here.

I am excited to work with all of you, to explain and take action to address Alaskans' needs, just as you did with my predecessor, the Congressman for all Alaska, Don Young.

Like all Alaskans, I mourned his passing. In Yupik, when we lose a loved one, we say "this is not the end." "Tua-ri-ngunrituq."

Don was a true institution, an Alaska icon, someone who fought so hard and

so well for our State for 49 years. I know many of you loved Don, and I am sorry for your loss, too. I am committed to securing his legacy of bipartisanship and a deep respect for this institution. In my few days in Washington, I have already begun forming friendships with colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Now, I might have a different approach than Don. You know how soft-spoken he was. But you will still be hearing all about Alaska, our people, and our State's unique needs.

I promised Alaskans I would fight for our families, to lower the cost of living that is pushing too many of us to the brink, to invest in high-quality childcare and early education, and to grow Alaska's economy with good jobs that pay a fair wage.

Resource development is important to Alaska's economy and our national energy security, and I look forward to working to ensure our State remains a global leader.

I also committed to fighting for our fish. For so many Alaska communities, fish are life. Our fish harvest is the best in the world. Half of the wild salmon sold in the world comes from our State, supporting good jobs that sustain strong communities. Subsistence fishing is not only an essential food source for so many Alaska families and communities, it is a sacred part of our traditions.

Again, thank you for your warm welcome. We have a lot to get done, and I am looking forward to getting to work.

"Thank you very much." "Quyana cakneq."

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE PATRICK RYAN TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, as the dean of the New York delegation, I have the distinct honor to rise today to introduce the new Member of the House of Representatives from New York's 19th Congressional District, Representative PATRICK RYAN.

Representative RYAN is a fifth generation New Yorker who was born and raised in Kingston, New York. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he served our Nation as an Army intelligence officer and deployed for two combat tours in Iraq.

Returning to New York as a decorated veteran, Congressman RYAN went on to become a successful small business owner before returning to public service as the County Executive of Ulster County.

As County Executive, Representative RYAN has been shown to be a dedicated public servant, and I know he does not take his new role lightly.

As the dean of the delegation, I know I speak on behalf of the entire delegation when I say that Representative

RYAN will be a wonderful colleague whose experience, entrepreneurial leadership, and history of devoted service to our country will help this Chamber navigate the challenges of our times.

I am now honored, Madam Speaker, to yield to a fellow New Yorker (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. NADLER for those kind words and introduction. I am proud to rise today as one of the newest Members and Representatives in the House, serving the great people of New York's 19th Congressional District.

On a clear, crisp May morning in 2004, I stood proudly with my West Point classmates, raised my right hand, and solemnly swore an oath to protect and defend our Constitution from all enemies, foreign and domestic. I still vividly remember the mix of emotions I felt as my classmates and I tossed a thousand white service caps simultaneously into the air—elation, relief, honor, pride, but mostly the tremendous weight of responsibility that came with that oath.

I didn't know exactly what lay ahead, but I knew I would soon lead troops in combat and that it would be my job to protect my fellow soldiers, to serve my country, to serve my community, to make difficult decisions with life or death consequences, and always to maintain my integrity, no matter what.

Today, 18 years later, I am so proud to have renewed that oath to protect and serve our great Nation. The weight of the responsibility I feel today standing before you—all is even greater. The same way that I fiercely protected my fellow soldiers, I will fight for my constituents, the community that raised me, that sent me care packages every single week when I was deployed overseas, that has had my back every step of the way. I will fight for their health, I will fight for their safety, and I will fight for their freedom.

As I look up into the gallery, I can see my wife, Rebecca, and our two young boys, Theo and Cameron.

Theo is clapping. Good job, buddy.

They are extremely well behaved tonight, and for that we are greatly appreciative.

They are 3 years old and 9 months old. They are too young to fully appreciate the significance of this day and this moment, but I cannot wait to explain to them the immense pride I feel standing here before you, with you, my distinguished colleagues, humbly representing my community.

This is a moment of immense consequence and challenge for our country. I truly believe it is an all-hands-on-deck moment for our democracy.

I pledge that I will fight every single day, with every ounce of my being, to deliver for the great people of New York's 19th Congressional District and to renew trust and faith in our Nation.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in the New York Congressional delegation in formally welcoming Congressman JOE SEMPOLINSKI as the new Representative for New York's 23rd Congressional District.

As someone who grew up in the Painted Post area and is currently raising a family in Canisteo, JOE is well-suited to represent New Yorkers from across the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions in Congress.

Beyond his local roots, JOE has a long history of public service to this region, and his record speaks for itself.

After earning degrees from both Georgetown University and Yale, JOE took a position as district director for Congressman TOM REED so he could serve the community where he grew up.

In addition to his years of work with Congressman REED, JOE's commitment to service has kept him personally involved in Steuben County politics and ultimately led to his decision to run for Congress.

With his demonstrated record of service, I am confident that Congressman SEMPOLINSKI will be a strong Representative for the families of New York's 23rd Congressional District.

I am proud to welcome him as a colleague, and, along with the rest of the New York delegation, to extend my heartfelt congratulations to JOE, his wife, Angie, and two beautiful daughters up in the balcony.

Madam Speaker, I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI).

□ 1900

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman KATKO for that wonderful introduction. I thank my fellow New York State delegation members for joining me. I thank the Minority Leader for being here. It is an honor to be the Representative of the people of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes.

I am blessed to have my family with me. My parents are here; they have given me everything. My in-laws, who have always treated me like family, are here. I would not be standing here without the support of my wife, Angie, who is my soulmate and best friend.

I am also joined by my daughters. My younger daughter Maddie is with us. She is my bright-eyed, little sweetheart; she is 2. And I am joined by my older daughter Jojo. She is clapping.

I think other Down syndrome parents will understand what I mean when I say that in the person of Jojo I am joined today in this Chamber by my hero.

Over the last few months, I have been repeatedly asked, "Why would you run when you will only serve for 4

months?" My answer has always been, "It would be an honor to serve for 4 minutes." Most people in history have had to live their lives under despots and tyrants, but not here, not in America. That is the freedom our ancestors purchased for us at such great cost. We choose those who speak for us. To do so is a sacred thing.

We have so many challenges right now as a Nation. Rising prices steal from those who can least afford it. Crime puts fear in all of our hearts. And, sadly, so many feel that they are not heard by their Government.

I can tell the people of the 23rd District, without doubt, they are heard. I am blessed to be from one of the most beautiful places on Earth. I pray that I can be worthy of the people who have sent me here to speak for them.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Alaska and the gentlemen from New York, the whole number of the House is now 433.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois). Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules with respect to the following measures:

S. 4785;

H.R. 5315;

H.R. 1066.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND

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 (S. 4785) to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund, 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 York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 421]

YEAS—415

Adams	Dean	Johnson (LA)
Aguilar	DeFazio	Johnson (OH)
Allen	DeGette	Johnson (SD)
Amodei	DeLauro	Johnson (TX)
Armstrong	DelBene	Jones
Arrington	Demings	Jordan
Auchincloss	DeSaulnier	Joyce (OH)
Axne	DesJarlais	Joyce (PA)
Babin	Deutch	Kahele
Bacon	Diaz-Balart	Kaptur
Baird	Dingell	Katko
Balderson	Doggett	Keating
Banks	Donalds	Keller
Barr	Doyle, Michael	Kelly (IL)
Barragan	F.	Kelly (MS)
Bass	Duncan	Kelly (PA)
Beatty	Dunn	Khanna
Bentz	Ellzey	Kildee
Bera	Emmer	Kilmer
Bergman	Escobar	Kim (CA)
Beyer	Eshoo	Kim (NJ)
Bice (OK)	Estes	Kind
Biggs	Evans	Kinzinger
Bilirakis	Fallon	Kirkpatrick
Bishop (GA)	Feenstra	Kuster
Bishop (NC)	Ferguson	Kustoff
Blumenauer	Finstad	LaHood
Blunt Rochester	Fischbach	LaMalfa
Boebert	Fitzgerald	Lamb
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	Lamborn
Bost	Fleischmann	Larsen (WA)
Bourdeaux	Fletcher	Larson (CT)
Bowman	Flood	Latta
Boyle, Brendan	Flores	LaTurner
F.	Foster	Lawrence
Brady	Fox	Lawson (FL)
Brooks	Frankel, Lois	Lee (CA)
Brown (MD)	Franklin, C.	Lee (NV)
Brown (OH)	Scott	Leger Fernandez
Brownley	Fulcher	Lesko
Buchanan	Gallagher	Letlow
Buck	Garamendi	Levin (CA)
Bucshon	Garbarino	Levin (MI)
Burchett	Garcia (CA)	Lieu
Burgess	Garcia (IL)	Lofgren
Bush	Garcia (TX)	Long
Bustos	Gibbs	Loudermilk
Butterfield	Gimenez	Lowenthal
Calvert	Gohmert	Lucas
Cammack	Golden	Luetkemeyer
Carbajal	Gomez	Luria
Cárdenas	Gonzales, Tony	Lynch
Carey	Gonzalez (OH)	Mace
Carl	Gonzalez,	Malinowski
Carson	Vicente	Malliotakis
Carter (GA)	Good (VA)	Maloney,
Carter (LA)	Gooden (TX)	Carolyn B.
Carter (TX)	Gosar	Maloney, Sean
Cartwright	Gottheimer	Mann
Case	Granger	Manning
Casten	Graves (LA)	Massie
Castor (FL)	Graves (MO)	Mast
Castro (TX)	Green (TN)	Matsui
Cawthorn	Green, Al (TX)	McBath
Chabot	Greene (GA)	McCarthy
Cheney	Griffith	McCaul
Cherfilus-	Grijalva	McClain
McCormick	Grothman	McClintock
Chu	Guest	McCollum
Ciциlline	Guthrie	McEachin
Clark (MA)	Harder (CA)	McGovern
Clarke (NY)	Harris	McHenry
Cleaver	Harshbarger	McKinley
Cline	Hartzler	McNerney
Cloud	Hern	Meeks
Clyburn	Herrell	Meng
Clyde	Hice (GA)	Meuser
Cohen	Higgins (LA)	Mfume
Cole	Higgins (NY)	Miller (IL)
Comer	Hill	Miller (WV)
Connolly	Himes	Miller-Meeks
Conway	Hinson	Moolenaar
Cooper	Hollingsworth	Mooney
Correa	Houlahan	Moore (AL)
Costa	Hoyer	Moore (UT)
Courtney	Hudson	Moore (WI)
Craig	Huffman	Morelle
Crawford	Huizenga	Moulton
Crenshaw	Issa	Mrvan
Crow	Jackson	Mullin
Cuellar	Jackson Lee	Murphy (FL)
Curtis	Jacobs (CA)	Murphy (NC)
Davids (KS)	Jacobs (NY)	Nadler
Davidson	Jayapal	Napolitano
Davis, Danny K.	Jeffries	Neal
Davis, Rodney	Johnson (GA)	Neguse

Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Peltola
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush

Rutherford
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suoizzi

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 Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack

NOT VOTING—17

Aderholt
Allred
Budd
Espallat
Gaetz
Gallego

Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Horsford
Krishnamoorthi
Langevin
Meijer

Obernolte
Rose
Velázquez
Yarmuth
Zeldin

□ 1924

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 421.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 421.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)
Bass (Correa)
Bush (García)
(IL))
Cárdenas
(Correa)
Carter (LA)
(Jeffries)
Castro (TX)
(Correa)
Conway
(Valadao)
DeSaulnier
(Beyer)
Diaz-Balart
(Salazar)
Fallon (Nehls)
Grijalva (García
(IL))

Jacobs (NY)
(Tenney)
Johnson (TX)
(Jeffries)
Jones (García
(IL))
Kirkpatrick
(Pallone)
Lawson (FL)
(Evans)
McEachin
(Beyer)
Meng (Kuster)
Moolenaar
(Bergman)
Moore (UT)
(Hartzler)
Moore (WI)
(Beyer)

Newman (García
(IL))
Pingree (Kuster)
Rice (NY)
(Deutch)
Ryan (OH)
(Correa)
Schrader
(Correa)
Scott (VA)
(Beyer)
Scott, Austin
(Cammack)
Stansbury
(Pallone)
Tlaib (García
(IL))
Connolly
Conway
Cooper
Wilson (FL)
(Deutch)

DRONE INFRASTRUCTURE
INSPECTION GRANT ACT

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. 5315) to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish in the Department of Transportation a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and training grant program, 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 308, nays 110, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 422]

YEAS—308

Adams
Aguilar
Allen
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Conway
Cooper
Correa
Costa

Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
Duncan
Ellzey
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Flood
Flores
Flores
Lamb
Frankel, Lois
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (CA)
García (IL)
García (TX)
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes

Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Mast
Matsui

McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Peltola
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips

Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger

NAYS—110

Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Balderson
Banks
Bentz
Biggs
Billrakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brooks
Buck
Burchett
Burgess
Cammack
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Comer
Crawford
Davidson
DesJarlais
Donalds
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Foxo
Franklin, C.
Scott
Gaetz

Gibbs
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hollingsworth
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kustoff
LaHood
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Loudermilk
Mace
Mann
Massie
McClain
McClintock
Meuser
Miller (IL)

Mooney
Moore (AL)
Mullin
Nehls
Norman
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Rice (SC)
Rogers (AL)
Rosendale
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Stauber
Steel
Steube
Taylor
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman

NOT VOTING—14

Aderholt
Allred
Budd
Cheney
Herrera Beutler

Kinzing
Krishnamoorthi
Meijer
Rodgers (WA)
Rose

Wild
Williams (TX)
Yarmuth
Zeldin

□ 1935

Messrs. SMITH of Nebraska and LAHood changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio changed his 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.

Stated for:

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 422.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)	Jacobs (NY)	Newman (García
Bass (Correa)	(Tenney)	(IL))
Bush (García	Johnson (TX)	Pingree (Kuster)
(IL))	(Jeffries)	Rice (NY)
Cárdenas	Jones (García	(Deutch)
(Correa)	(IL))	Ryan (OH)
Carter (LA)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
(Jeffries)	(Pallone)	Schrader
Castro (TX)	Lawson (FL)	(Correa)
(Correa)	(Evans)	Scott (VA)
Conway	McEachin	(Beyer)
(Valadao)	(Beyer)	Scott, Austin
DeSaulnier	Meng (Kuster)	(Cammack)
(Beyer)	Moolenaar	Stansbury
Diaz-Balart	(Bergman)	(Pallone)
(Salazar)	Moore (UT)	Tlaib (García
Fallon (Nehls)	(Hartzler)	(IL))
Gaetz (Cawthorn)	Moore (WI)	Wexton (Beyer)
Grijalva (García	(Beyer)	Wilson (FL)
(IL))		(Deutch)

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEM-
BRANCE OF HER MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all those present in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to please rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Following the next vote, we will have a bereavement resolution in honor of Her Majesty.

WILDFIRE RECOVERY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois). 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. 1066) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the cost share for fire management assistance, 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 gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 328, nays 88, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 423]

YEAS—328

Adams	Armstrong	Baird
Aderholt	Auchincloss	Balderson
Aguilar	Axne	Banks
Amodei	Bacon	Barr

Barragán	García (TX)	Meeks
Bass	Gimenez	Meng
Beatty	Golden	Mfume
Bentz	Gomez	Miller-Meeks
Bera	Gonzales, Tony	Moolenaar
Bergman	Gonzalez (OH)	Moore (UT)
Beyer	Gonzalez,	Moore (WI)
Bice (OK)	Vicente	Morelle
Billirakis	Gottheimer	Moulton
Bishop (GA)	Granger	Mrvan
Blumenauer	Graves (LA)	Murphy (FL)
Blunt Rochester	Graves (MO)	Nadler
Bonamici	Green, Al (TX)	Napolitano
Bost	Grijalva	Neal
Bordeaux	Guthrie	Neguse
Bowman	Harder (CA)	Newhouse
Boyle, Brendan	Harshbarger	Newman
F.	Hartzler	Norcross
Brown (MD)	Hayes	O'Halleran
Brown (OH)	Herrrell	Oberholte
Brownley	Herrera Beutler	Ocasio-Cortez
Buchanan	Higgins (NY)	Omar
Bucshon	Hill	Owens
Bush	Himes	Pallone
Bustos	Hinson	Palmer
Butterfield	Horsford	Panetta
Calvert	Houlahan	Pappas
Carbajal	Hoyer	Pascarell
Cárdenas	Hudson	Payne
Carey	Huffman	Peltola
Carl	Huizenga	Perlmutter
Carson	Issa	Peters
Carter (GA)	Jackson Lee	Phillips
Carter (LA)	Jacobs (CA)	Pingree
Carter (TX)	Jacobs (NY)	Pocan
Cartwright	Jayapal	Porter
Case	Jeffries	Pressley
Casten	Johnson (GA)	Price (NC)
Castor (FL)	Johnson (OH)	Quigley
Castro (TX)	Johnson (SD)	Raskin
Chabot	Johnson (TX)	Reschenthaler
Cheney	Jones	Rice (NY)
Cherfilus-	Joyce (OH)	Rogers (AL)
McCormick	Kahele	Rogers (KY)
Chu	Kaptur	Ross
Cielline	Katko	Rouzer
Clark (MA)	Keating	Roybal-Allard
Clarke (NY)	Kelly (IL)	Ruiz
Cleaver	Kelly (PA)	Ruppersberger
Clyburn	Khanna	Rush
Cohen	Kildee	Ryan (NY)
Cole	Kilmer	Ryan (OH)
Comer	Kim (CA)	Salazar
Connolly	Kim (NJ)	Sánchez
Conway	Kind	Sarbanes
Cooper	Kirkpatrick	Scalise
Correa	Krishnamoorthi	Scanlon
Costa	Kuster	Schakowsky
Courtney	LaHood	Schiff
Craig	LaMalfa	Schneider
Crawford	Lamb	Schrader
Crenshaw	Lamborn	Schrier
Crow	Langevin	Scott (VA)
Cuellar	Larsen (WA)	Scott, Austin
Curtis	Larson (CT)	Scott, David
Davis (KS)	Latta	Sempolinski
Davis, Danny K.	LaTurner	Sewell
Davis, Rodney	Sherman	Sherrill
Dean	Lawrence	Simpson
DeFazio	Lawson (FL)	Sires
DeGette	Lee (CA)	Slotkin
DeLauro	Lee (NV)	Smith (MO)
DelBene	Leger Fernandez	Smith (NE)
Demings	Letlow	Smith (NJ)
DeSaulnier	Levin (CA)	Smith (WA)
DesJarlais	Levin (MI)	Soto
Deutch	Lieu	Spanberger
Diaz-Balart	Lofgren	Spartz
Dingell	Long	Speier
Doggett	Lowenthal	Stansbury
Doyle, Michael	Lucas	Stanton
F.	Luetkemeyer	Staubert
Duncan	Luria	Steel
Escobar	Mace	Stefanik
Eshoo	Malinowski	Stevens
Española	Maloney,	Stewart
Feenstra	Carolyn B.	Strickland
Fitzpatrick	Maloney, Sean	Suozzi
Fletcher	Manning	Swalwell
Flood	Mast	Takano
Flores	Matsui	Thompson (CA)
Foster	McBath	Thompson (MS)
Frankel, Lois	McCarthy	Thompson (PA)
Fulcher	McCaul	Timmons
Gallagher	McClintock	Titus
Gallego	McCollum	Tlaib
Garamendi	McEachin	Tonko
Garbarino	McGovern	
García (CA)	McKinley	
	McNerney	

Torres (CA)	Wagner
Torres (NY)	Walberg
Trahan	Waltz
Turner	Wasserman
Underwood	Schultz
Upton	Waters
Vargas	Watson Coleman
Veasey	Welch
Velázquez	Wenstrup

NAYS—88

Allen	Gaetz	Miller (WV)
Arrington	Gibbs	Mooney
Babin	Gohmert	Moore (AL)
Biggs	Good (VA)	Mullin
Bishop (NC)	Gooden (TX)	Murphy (NC)
Boebert	Gosar	Nehls
Brooks	Green (TN)	Norman
Buck	Greene (GA)	Palazzo
Burchett	Griffith	Pence
Burgess	Grothman	Perry
Cammack	Guest	Pfuger
Cawthorn	Harris	Posey
Cline	Hern	Rice (SC)
Cloud	Hice (GA)	Rosendale
Clyde	Higgins (LA)	Roy
Davidson	Hollingsworth	Rutherford
Donalds	Jackson	Schweikert
Dunn	Johnson (LA)	Sessions
Ellzey	Jordan	Smucker
Emmer	Joyce (PA)	Steube
Estes	Keller	Taylor
Fallon	Kelly (MS)	Tenney
Ferguson	Kustoff	Tiffany
Finstad	Lesko	Van Drew
Fischbach	Loudermilk	Van Dwyne
Fitzgerald	Mann	Weber (TX)
Fleischmann	Massie	Webster (FL)
Fox	McClain	Williams (TX)
Franklin, C.	Meuser	Wittman
Scott	Miller (IL)	

NOT VOTING—16

Allred	Lynch	Trone
Brady	Malliotakis	Valadao
Budd	McHenry	Yarmuth
Evans	Meijer	Zeldin
García (IL)	Rodgers (WA)	
Kinzinger	Rose	

□ 1945

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

Baird (Bucshon)	Jacobs (NY)	Newman (García
Bass (Correa)	(Tenney)	(IL))
Bush (García	Johnson (TX)	Pingree (Kuster)
(IL))	(Jeffries)	Rice (NY)
Cárdenas	Jones (García	(Deutch)
(Correa)	(IL))	Ryan (OH)
Carter (LA)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
(Jeffries)	(Pallone)	Schrader
Castro (TX)	Lawson (FL)	(Correa)
(Correa)	(Evans)	Scott (VA)
Conway	McEachin	(Beyer)
(Valadao)	(Beyer)	Scott, Austin
DeSaulnier	Meng (Kuster)	(Cammack)
(Beyer)	Moolenaar	Stansbury
Diaz-Balart	(Bergman)	(Pallone)
(Salazar)	Moore (UT)	Tlaib (García
Fallon (Nehls)	(Hartzler)	(IL))
Gaetz (Cawthorn)	Moore (WI)	Wexton (Beyer)
Grijalva (García	(Beyer)	Wilson (FL)
(IL))		(Deutch)

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN
STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1340

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Mr. Finstad.
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Mr. Finstad and Mr. Sempolinski.
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET: Mr. Sempolinski.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, as chair of the bipartisan US-UK Caucus and the British-American Parliamentary Working Group, I send to the desk a resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House, and further ask unanimous consent that it be read in full.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1341

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the United States of America has

learned with profound sorrow of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; and sympathizes with her people in the loss of their beloved sovereign.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate this expression of sentiment of the House of Representatives to the Government of the United Kingdom.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230 and House Resolution 1341, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business as a further mark of respect to the memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Thereupon at (7 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 10 a.m. as a further mark of respect to the memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

“I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.”

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

MARY SATTLER PELTOLA, At-Large District of Alaska.

JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI, Nineteenth District of New York.

PATRICK RYAN, Twenty-Third District of New York.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first, second, and third quarters of 2022, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ITALY, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 28 AND JULY 2, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	6/28	7/2	Italy .....	.....	2,495.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,495.72
Kate Knudson Wolters	6/29	7/2	Italy .....	.....	3,020.47	.....	5,993.57	.....	.....	.....	9,014.04
Drew Hammill	6/29	7/2	Italy .....	.....	3,020.47	.....	4,255.77	.....	.....	.....	7,276.24
Emily Berret	6/29	7/2	Italy .....	.....	3,020.47	.....	4,391.17	.....	.....	.....	7,411.64
Kelsey Smith	6/29	7/2	Italy .....	.....	4,921.62	.....	7,322.57	.....	.....	.....	12,244.19
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16,478.75	.....	21,963.08	.....	.....	.....	38,441.83

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. NANCY PELOSI, Aug. 23, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA, AND JAPAN, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 29 AND AUG. 5, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Nathaniel Holmes	7/29	8/5	Malaysia .....	.....	974.64	.....	3,639.30	.....	.....	.....	4,613.94
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Mark Takano	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Suzan DelBene	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Raja Krishnamoorthi	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Andy Kim	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
RADM Brian Monahan	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
MG William Walker	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Kate Wolters	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Terri McCullough	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Wyndee Parker	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Sophia LaFargue	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Emily Berret	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Kelsey Smith	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	1,807.00	.....	³ 3,703.90	.....	.....	.....	5,510.90
Joy Lee	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Grayson Kisker	7/31	8/2	Singapore .....	.....	878.00	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	878.00
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	8/2	8/3	Taiwan .....	.....	283.67	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	283.67

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA, AND JAPAN,
EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 29 AND AUG. 5, 2022—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Gregory Meeks	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Hon. Mark Takano	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Hon. Andy Kim	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Hon. Suzan DelBene	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Hon. Raja Krishnamoorthi	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
RADM Brian Monahan	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
MG William Walker	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Kate Wolters	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Terri McCullough	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Wyndee Parker	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Sophia Lafargue	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Emily Berret	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Kelsey Smith	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.67		(³)				283.67
Joy Lee	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.66		(³)				283.66
Grayson Kisker	8/2	8/3	Taiwan		283.66		(³)				283.66
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Hon. Gregory Meeks	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Hon. Mark Takano	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Hon. Suzan DelBene	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Hon. Raja Krishnamoorthi	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Hon. Andy Kim	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
RADM Brian Monahan	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
MG William Walker	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Kate Wolters	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Terri McCullough	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Wyndee Parker	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Sophia Lafargue	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Emily Berret	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Kelsey Smith	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Joy Lee	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Grayson Kisker	8/3	8/4	South Korea		337.00		(³)				337.00
Nathaniel Holmes	8/3	8/4	South Korea		546.00		2,224.20				2,770.20
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Hon. Gregory Meeks	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Hon. Mark Takano	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Hon. Suzan DelBene	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Hon. Raja Krishnamoorthi	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Hon. Andy Kim	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
RADM Brian Monahan	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
MG William Walker	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Kate Wolters	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		2,040.87				2,392.21
Terri McCullough	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Wyndee Parker	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Sophia Lafargue	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Emily Berret	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.34		(³)				351.34
Kelsey Smith	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.33		394.50				745.83
Joy Lee	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.33		(³)				351.33
Nathaniel Holmes	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.33		(³)				351.33
Grayson Kisker	8/4	8/5	Japan		351.33		(³)				351.33
					32,401.08		12,002.77				44,403.85

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

HON. NANCY PELOSI, Sept. 6, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT, Aug. 19, 2022.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2022

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT, Aug. 19, 2022.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 7735, the Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 7939, the Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 7939

	By fiscal year, in million of dollars—														2022–2027	2022–2032
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032					
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	–12	1	5	–2			
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.																

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of th costs of H.R. 8260, the Faster Payments to Veterans’ Survivors Act of 2022, as amend- ed, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 8260

	By fiscal year, in million of dollars—														2022–2027	2022–2032
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032					
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	85	–28	–19	–14	–9	–9	–4	–1	–1	0	15	0			
Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.																

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-5210. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting proposed legislation that would revise the Mercury Export Ban Act of 2008 (MEBA), as amended; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5211. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Periodic Report to Congress on the National Emergency Regarding Proliferaon of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5212. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5213. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Threat of Foreign Interference in or Undermining Public Confidence in United States Elections that was declared in Executive Order 13848 of September 12, 2018, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5214. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Certain Property of Da Afghanistan Bank that was declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5215. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting reports concerning international agreements other than

treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5216. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for a Transfer of Funds under Section 610 of the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961 for Assistance to Yemen; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5217. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for the Transfer of Funds Under Section 610 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) for Assistance in Support of International Climate Objectives; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5218. A letter from the Executive Secretary, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting a notification of a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-5219. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting proposed legislation that would amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5220. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled “Unified Payment for Medicare-Covered Post-Acute Care: Analysis and Development of the Prototype Unified PAC Prospective Payment System Called for in the IMPACT Act”; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and 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. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 884. A bill to

direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-458). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1066. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the cost share for fire management assistance, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-459). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5315. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish in the Department of Transportation a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and training grant program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-460). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5774. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that unmet needs after a major disaster are met; with an amendment (Rept. 117-461). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1468. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-462). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. TAKANO: Committee on Veterans’ Affairs. H.R. 8260. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-463). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RASKIN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1339. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 302) to impose limits on excepting competitive service positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes; providing for consideration

of the bill (H.R. 2988) to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify and enhance protections for Federal Government whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8326) to amend title 13, United States Code, to improve the operations of the Bureau of the Census, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (Rept. 117-464). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 6878. A bill to address the health needs of incarcerated women related to pregnancy and childbirth, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-465 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

[Omitted from the Record of September 9, 2022]

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Education and Labor discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1456 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[Submitted September 13, 2022]

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6878 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BERA (for himself and Mr. BUCSHON):

H.R. 8800. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend certain increases in payments for physicians services under the Medicare program through 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CORREA (for himself, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Ms. SLOTKIN):

H.R. 8801. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish stronger accountability mechanisms for Joint Task Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Mr. MCEACHIN):

H.R. 8802. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Chief of the Forest Service to align management of public lands and waters with the President's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 8803. A bill to provide for the long-term improvement of minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 8804. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Air Force to establish a demonstration program to assess and improve the retention of certain officers serving on active duty in

the Air Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. ESTES):

H.R. 8805. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to nursing facility requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CROW (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 8806. A bill to enhance the cybersecurity of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 8807. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to eliminate the repatriation loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. HERN, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 8808. A bill to acquire cobalt refining capacity in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8809. A bill to provide an individual with an eligible medical condition access to an employee restroom facilities of a retail establishment under certain conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8810. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to install permanent fencing around the United States Supreme Court Building or grounds; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 8811. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand certain rehabilitation programs for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 8812. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to increase access to services provided by advanced practice registered nurses under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SIREs (for himself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 8813. A bill to direct the United States Government to support extending the mandate of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Venezuela which is set to expire in September 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. CAMMACK, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JORDAN,

Mr. BANKS, Ms. FOXX, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. MANN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LONG, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. BUCK, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. DUNN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. CLINE, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. BOST, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. COLE, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BACON, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. HILL, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. MAST, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROSE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. EMMER, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. HERN, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. GUEST, Mr. POSEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 8814. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 8815. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, to establish within the Office of Minority Health, the position of Outreach Coordinator, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER):

H.R. 8816. A bill to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H. Con. Res. 105. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the statue of Harry S. Truman from the people of Missouri; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H. Res. 1340. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. KIND:

H. Res. 1341. A resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. DEAN, Mr. SIREs, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. KEATING, Mr.

CICILLINE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LIEU, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BERA, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BUSH, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. OMAR):

H. Res. 1342. A resolution reaffirming the importance of diplomacy and development in United States-African Union relations, promoting strategic partnerships and shared objectives between the United States and the African Union, and expressing strong support for the successful implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H. Res. 1343. A resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to unaccompanied alien children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ESTES:

H. Res. 1344. A resolution supporting the idea of celebrating the 50th year of the Walnut Valley Festival; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL:

H. Res. 1345. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 13, 2022, as "Intermodal Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. PAPPAS, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mr. HUIZENGA):

H. Res. 1346. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on September 11, 2022, as "Celebrate Community Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 8800.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CORREA:

H.R. 8801.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 8802.

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

Article IV, sec. 3

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 8803.

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

Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 8804.

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

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 14: "Congress shall have the power to . . . make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces. . ."

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 8805.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 8806.

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

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

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 8807.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 8808.

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

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8809.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 8810.

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

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 8811.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 8812.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. SIRE:

H.R. 8813.

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

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 8814.

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

The Constitutional authority on which this bill is based is Congress's power under the Commerce Clause in Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution and under the Constitution's grant of powers to Congress under the Equal Protection, Due Process, and Enforcement Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 8815.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 8816.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 19: Mrs. FLORES.
H.R. 39: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 82: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 213: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 552: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 563: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 571: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 606: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 622: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 792: Mr. BROWN of Maryland and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 821: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 851: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1219: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 1241: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1255: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. DEAN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. DEFazio, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1282: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1284: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 1304: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 1378: Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 1531: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1551: Ms. DEAN and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1553: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 1569: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 1731: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1735: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1805: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 1909: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1946: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. CLYBURN.
H.R. 1948: Mr. BEYER, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. WILD, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1957: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 2037: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 2050: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 2056: Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 2127: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 2168: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 2186: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 2256: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 2374: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 2416: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2549: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2586: Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 2629: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2728: Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 2789: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 2803: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 2811: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 2840: Mr. TONKO and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 2886: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2965: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 2974: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. LATURNER, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 3089: Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 3150: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 3173: Mr. MFUME, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. SIRE, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 3183: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 3259: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 3287: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 3301: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3536: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 3611: Mr. RASKIN and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

- H.R. 3698: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 3779: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 3824: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 3860: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 3897: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 3907: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 3932: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 3988: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4077: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4110: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4120: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 4134: Mr. LEVIN of California.
H.R. 4146: Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HOYER, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. NEGUSE, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. COOPER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. STANTON, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. BEYER, Mr. PASCARELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 4379: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 4402: Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. HIMES, Mr. BEYER, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. HOYER, Ms. BOURDEAUX, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 4450: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 4574: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 4587: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 4601: Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 4603: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 4635: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4750: Mr. HORSFORD and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 4766: Ms. CRAIG and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 4803: Mr. TRONE and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4853: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 4880: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4965: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 5016: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 5067: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 5141: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NEAL, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 5150: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 5244: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. KIM of California, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 5297: Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 5444: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 5459: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 5481: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 5528: Mrs. DEMINGS and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 5568: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 5605: Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 5606: Mrs. AXNE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 5752: Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 5769: Mr. PETERS and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 5776: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 5780: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5781: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 5801: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 5883: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 5916: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 5975: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 5984: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 6037: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 6117: Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. BEYER, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 6132: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 6167: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 6258: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 6283: Mr. EVANS and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 6307: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 6394: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 6600: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6659: Mr. ESTES and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 6661: Ms. CONWAY.
H.R. 6663: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 6693: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 6823: Ms. KUSTER, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 6852: Mr. LATURNER, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 6860: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. WILD, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 6937: Mr. GALLEGGO.
H.R. 6970: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 7001: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 7101: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 7223: Mr. FERGUSON and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 7346: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 7382: Mr. BACON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. EMMER, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 7409: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 7433: Mr. GOMEZ and Mr. GALLEGGO.
H.R. 7451: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 7455: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 7474: Ms. KUSTER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 7539: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 7541: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 7555: Mr. KEATING, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 7559: Mrs. HINSON, Mr. STEWART, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. TONY GONZALES OF TEXAS.
H.R. 7589: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 7644: Ms. MENG, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 7647: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 7696: Mrs. LURIA and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 7735: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 7739: Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 7744: Mr. ROSE, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 7775: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 7824: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 7837: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 7846: Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 7847: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 7863: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 7865: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 7892: Mr. WALTZ and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 7915: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 7925: Mrs. STEEL and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 7932: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 7961: Mrs. KIM of California and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 7987: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 7993: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 7995: Mr. KEATING and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 8033: Ms. BROWNLEY and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 8040: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 8105: Mr. CROW, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. OMAR, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 8109: Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 8153: Mr. KEATING and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 8183: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 8193: Mr. BANKS, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 8210: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 8219: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 8260: Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. BASS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. PORTER, Mr. JONES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 8271: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 8311: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 8336: Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 8393: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 8398: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 8406: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 8425: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 8445: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 8446: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 8450: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 8460: Ms. NORTON, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 8492: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 8496: Mr. DUNN and Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 8514: Ms. CHU and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 8531: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 8538: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 8573: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 8574: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 8581: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. MANNING, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 8582: Mr. GALLEGGO.
H.R. 8585: Mr. TAKANO, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 8586: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 8600: Ms. LETLOW and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 8605: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 8614: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 8616: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. POSEY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. CASE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CROW, and Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 8642: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 8654: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 8667: Mr. JACOBS of New York and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 8671: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 8681: Mr. KEATING, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BERA, Ms. WILD, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 8684: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 8685: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. KILMER, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. POCAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 8700: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 8702: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 8703: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 8708: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 8717: Mr. POSEY and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 8719: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 8727: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 8731: Mr. WEBER of Texas and Mr. ROSENDALE.
H.R. 8756: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 8769: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 8770: Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 8771: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 8773: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 8776: Mr. GOOD of Virginia and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 8782: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 8793: Mr. COHEN and Mr. KHANNA.
H.J. Res. 1: Mr. MFUME, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.J. Res. 87: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. CROW.
H.J. Res. 91: Mr. BALDERSON and Mr. BABIN.
H.J. Res. 94: Mr. BUDD.
H. Res. 47: Mr. PETERS.
H. Res. 240: Mr. KEATING and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H. Res. 558: Mr. PANETTA.
H. Res. 568: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H. Res. 744: Mr. STEWART, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 832: Mr. BEYER, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H. Res. 891: Mr. NORCROSS and Ms. CRAIG.
H. Res. 1185: Mr. WELCH.
H. Res. 1236: Mrs. HARSHBARGER and Mr. CLYDE.
H. Res. 1240: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BARR.

H. Res. 1266: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. FLORES, Mr. BARR, and Mr. ISSA.

H. Res. 1292: Mr. VAN DREW.

H. Res. 1312: Mr. AGUILAR.

H. Res. 1329: Mr. STEUBE.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative JODY HICE or a designee to H.R. 302, the Preventing a Patronage System Act of 2021, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

No. 147

Senate

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

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Father and our God, in the silence of this moment, we feel gratitude for the privilege of approaching Your throne of grace.

Lord, we come to You aware that You know us better than we know ourselves. We are grateful that You know what we need even before we ask. Forgive our mistakes and the wrong we have done.

Lord, You know that, at times, we have been difficult to live with. Enliven our lawmakers. Let Your power come among them, as You direct them according to Your will. Remind them that their lives, Nation, and world are in Your hands.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, September 13, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,

President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4822

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for a second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4822) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

ABORTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, shortly after the news leaked that the U.S. Supreme Court was ready to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, Leader MCCONNELL acknowledged that a Federal ban on abortion was now “possible”—his words. Well, later today, the senior Senator from South Carolina is going to make good on Leader MCCONNELL’s warning by introducing a radical bill to

institute a nationwide restriction on abortions.

Proposals like the one today send a clear message from MAGA Republicans to women across the country: your body, our choice. Rather than expanding women’s rights, MAGA Republicans would curtail them rather than give individuals the freedom to make their own healthcare choices. They hand that power over to radical politicians.

And let me add this. Republicans are twisting themselves into pretzels trying to explain why they want nationwide abortion bans when they said they would leave it up to the States. Even the senior Senator from South Carolina said a few months ago that “if the Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*,” it would mean that “every state will decide if abortion is legal and on what terms.” And yet here he is, introducing a bill to restrict abortions nationally.

For the hard right, this has never been about States’ rights. This has never been about letting Texas choose its own path while California takes another. No, for MAGA Republicans this has always been about making abortion illegal everywhere.

The contrast has become clear. While Democrats want to protect a woman’s freedom to choose, MAGA Republicans want to take that right away with proposals to ban abortions, to punish women and doctors for carrying out abortions, and even to push bans with no exceptions for rape or incest.

We are seeing it play out across the country. It is chilling—chilling—to the bone. Every single American should stand in opposition against these radical MAGA Republican views.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, on the IRA, this afternoon I will join with my Senate Democratic colleagues at the White House to celebrate the enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act

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



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of 2022. When this bill passed the Senate a little over a month ago, I expressed confidence that this legislation would signal a turning point in our country's fight to lower costs, to meet our Nation's climate challenges, and to usher in the era of affordable clean energy.

A month later, the good news is already pouring in. Companies like Toyota have announced billions in new investments to start manufacturing batteries for electric and hybrid vehicles right here in America. Elsewhere, Honda and LG Energy have also recently announced over \$4 billion for EV battery production in the United States. And recently, the CEO of First Solar said it was the Inflation Reduction Act that provided the "clarity" needed to make their investments here in America.

Had we not done this, many of these plants would have been built but probably overseas. And yet, despite this record of success, despite the fact that Democrats have told Republicans that this is opening a new way for the future for American jobs with good futures here, not one Republican voted in favor of this bill.

That is the difference between the two parties in a nutshell: While MAGA Republicans are fixated on their extremist agenda, Democrats are focused on creating jobs, lowering costs, bringing our country together. While Democrats will join today with President Biden to promote our job-creating agenda, Republicans will spend today introducing new, radical legislation to ban abortions on the national level, right here on the Senate floor. That is the contrast between the parties, clear as day, and we know which side the American people are on.

And while Democrats want to lower costs, increase prosperity, and strengthen ladders to the middle class, the junior Senator from Florida, who serves as the chief elections architect for Senate Republicans, continues to promote tax hikes—tax hikes—for working families and putting Medicare on the chopping block.

This split screen is unmistakable for all Americans to see for themselves. Democrats will spend today focused on the job-creating, inflation-fighting agenda we promised and delivered for the American people, while Republicans continue defending tax hikes for the working class while pushing national abortion bans here in the Senate. And the American people will have no trouble deciding for themselves which party is truly in their corner.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. On judges, last night I moved to file cloture on the nomination of Sarah Merriam to be U.S. circuit judge for the Second Circuit. She will be the sixth circuit court judge this Chamber has considered since the beginning of this work period—the sixth. She will be in exceedingly good company.

Later today, we will vote on the nomination of Arianna Freeman to be U.S. circuit judge for the Third Circuit, followed by cloture on the nomination of Lara Montecalvo to serve on the First Circuit.

Altogether, the Senate has now confirmed 80—80—judicial nominations to serve lifetime appointments on the Federal bench. I made clear that confirming more of President Biden's judicial nominees would be a top priority for Senate Democrats, and we are making good on our promise by being on track to vote on six circuit court judges in the first 2 weeks of this work period alone.

Among the judges confirmed this month are a number of notable firsts: the first Latino to serve from the State of Washington to the Ninth Circuit, the first Black Tennessean to ever sit on the Sixth Circuit, and the first Asian American from anywhere to sit on the Seventh Circuit. And that is just in the last 2 weeks.

The 80 jurists we have confirmed also include the first Native American judge, the first Muslim American district judge, and the first Black woman, of course, in the history of the U.S. Supreme Court. I mention these firsts because even though it takes a lot to be a successful jurist, representation is a key part of the equation.

There has been a lot of talk lately about the public's trust in our courts—in my judgment, for very good reasons. So if our courts are to long endure—to say nothing of our democracy—they must reflect the rich vibrancy of our country.

So as we continue confirming judges, we will make sure that the individuals on the bench meet this important standard. We have come a very long way, but there is much work left to be done.

NATIONAL SEPSIS DAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, on sepsis, I want to say a few words on a health issue that rarely gets the attention it deserves here on the Senate floor, and that is the issue of sepsis. Every year, roughly 1.7 million Americans are infected with sepsis. That is a population roughly the size of Phoenix, AZ. Of those, 270,000—270,000—are ultimately killed by the disease.

For those unfamiliar, sepsis is a terrible, life-threatening condition where the body overreacts to an infection in an extreme way. Most cases are preventable, if they are caught with enough time. Sadly, because of a lack of public awareness, too many cases fly under the radar until it is too late.

So today, I am here to introduce a resolution designating September 13 as National Sepsis Day. It would encourage greater public education about this condition, urge Federal entities to streamline treatment guidelines, and marshal our resources to ultimately bring sepsis to an end.

The Federal Government has a great model to follow in my home State of

New York, which adopted Rory's Regulations to guide health officials when it comes to this illness named in honor of Rory Staunton, a 12-year-old from Queens who died from sepsis 10 years ago. These rules have undoubtedly saved countless lives and should inform Federal policy.

I cannot imagine the profound suffering that Rory's parents must feel to this day, but I hope they find strength in knowing that the rules bearing their son's name have gone a long way to help others.

It is time we take this disease seriously at the Federal level. For that reason, I am proud to introduce this resolution today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

INFLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Just a few minutes ago, yet again, the American people received a monthly inflation report that was even worse than the expert predictions.

The expectation was that Democrats' runaway inflation might finally begin to actually level off. The top-line inflation rate was expected to fall. Instead, yet again, the opposite happened. Overall inflation was up even higher.

The prices this past August were still 8.3 percent higher than they were in August of 2021. Just a catastrophically high inflation rate.

Food prices went up another 0.8 percent just this past month alone. Overall food prices just logged their biggest 1-year increase since the late 1970s. Groceries in particular are now 13.5 percent more expensive than they were at this time last year. Democrats' policies are sucker-punching American families every time they set foot in the checkout line. Eggs are up 40 percent. Butter, up 25 percent. Baby food, up 13 percent. Chicken, dairy, bread, cereal, and canned fruits and vegetables are all up around 16 percent each. Coffee is up even more than that.

Housing and shelter costs were up. Medical costs were up. Furniture, up. New cars, up.

Electricity costs were way, way up—a 15.8-percent increase since last year. So let me say that again. Inflation on Americans' electricity bills alone—alone—is 15.8 percent in just the last 12

months. This is the largest 1-year increase in electricity prices since 1981, when the statistic was looking back into the final months of Jimmy Carter.

Even if you take out energy and food prices—two areas where the administration likes to pass the buck and pretend they are powerless—inflation skyrocketed 0.6 percent in just the month of August alone.

Eight-point-three percent inflation—just an astonishing number. And remember, this figure only looks back 12 months, but we are now more than 12 months into the Democrats' inflation spiral. Prices are 8.3 percent higher today than in August of 2021, but remember, in August 2021, the baseline, we were already talking about runaway inflation. Prices were already way up compared to the year before that. So the 12-month number dramatically understates the total damage that Democrats have caused.

Here is the comparison that matters most to American families, especially with an election in less than 2 months: How are things today compared to January 2021, when this all-Democratic government was sworn in? How are they compared to January 2021? Here is the answer: Food prices are up a total of 13.9 percent since President Biden was sworn in. Gas prices are up 58.5 percent. Electricity costs are up 21.6 percent. And the overall, across-the-board inflation rate since President Biden took office is a catastrophic—catastrophic—12.5 percent.

This very day, President Biden and Democrats are having a big celebration for their latest reckless spending bill, which they pretended would reduce inflation but which nonpartisan experts say will actually make it worse. They could not look more out of touch if they tried.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, now on another matter, this past weekend, Vice President HARRIS made a surprising announcement on "Meet the Press." The Vice President declared—listen to this—"The border is secure."

We are about to close the fiscal year with more than 2 million illegal immigrant encounters on our southern border, breaking the alltime record that we only just set last year. Seizures of lethal fentanyl are also on pace to exceed last year's total. They are up more than 200 percent in just the latest month on record. These are not the signs of a secure border, and the American people know it. An outright majority of the country disapproves of how President Biden has been handling this issue. The Vice President's claims aren't fooling anyone.

For years now, this crisis has stretched border communities to the breaking point and caused ripples throughout the entire country. All the while, Democrats have claimed it would be cruel or uncompassionate to have a functioning southern border or actually enforce our laws.

Now, in recent weeks, the country has been treated to one of the more striking displays of irony we have seen in quite a while.

For many years, while the citizens and local governments on the border have cried out for help and law enforcement, various Democrat-run cities and States that aren't on the border decided to set themselves up as virtue signaling sanctuary cities, where immigration laws supposedly simply do not apply. For years, much of the political left has suggested there are no legitimate practical reasons why our country would want secure borders or to enforce its immigration laws. Only racism or xenophobia could possibly explain it.

Well, for several weeks now, some of these overwhelmed States have decided to try taking some of these Democrat-run jurisdictions at their word.

Governor Abbott in Texas and Governor Ducey in Arizona have put a very small proportion of the illegal immigrants pouring into their States onto buses bound for the self-advertised sanctuary cities of New York and Washington. And do you know what? Just this very small taste of chaos, this tiny little sliver of what many places in America have been dealing with for years, has these cities' Democratic leaders outraged, anxious, and scrambling.

Eric Adams, the mayor of New York, has only had to receive in 5 weeks roughly the number of people the Border Patrol encounters in 7 or 8 hours. New York has had over a month to handle a fraction—a fraction—of 1 day's share of border crossings. Yet the mayor says having to deal with this is "horrific." New York City officials complain that they are overwhelmed.

Here in Washington, the destination for fewer than 8,000 illegal immigrants, the Democrat Mayor has declared a public health emergency. She begged the Pentagon to send in the National Guard for help. The Defense Department, of course, turned her down.

It is incredible just how quickly Democrats change their tune when they have to stomach one single spoonful—spoonful—of the policies they have been force-feeding the rest of our country. Oh, it is challenging to have waves of illegal immigrants pouring into your community? This creates challenges for housing and medical care and resource allocation and law enforcement? Who knew all this?

As one former mayor from the frontlines of this crisis put it recently, "The city of McAllen was able to deal with thousands of immigrants a day. I think they can handle a few hundred."

Maybe this will be the wake-up call the Democrats need to finally understand that functional nations—functional nations—need functional borders.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Arianna J. Freeman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KING. 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.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. KING. Mr. President, this is going to be an unusual set of comments for me because I am going to start out with some personal history, which I hope will make sense in terms of what I want to address.

I started working in the alternative energy industry in 1983. When I say industry, it was, actually, a very small company developing small hydro projects in Maine and New England. We then worked on the development of biomass projects. We, later on, worked on wind power and then also on the development of large-scale conservation. So my professional life has largely been occupied with energy and particularly with renewable energy.

At the same time, I had a deep history in Maine in environmental matters. I represented the environmental community in Maine before the Maine Legislature, in the seventies, if you can believe that anybody around here was still doing things in the seventies. I also, as Governor, was very active in conservation matters and am proud to say that, during my 8 years as the Governor of Maine, we put aside and set into conservation and protection status more land than in the prior 175-year history of Maine combined. This has been a passion of mine, the protection of the environment, for my entire life—so the history of renewable energy development and also environmental advocacy.

I learned some lessons when I was working in the field of developing alternative or renewable energy. The most important lesson is that there is no free lunch when it comes to energy. There are always costs and benefits. There are always impacts that some people think are terrific and that other people think are not so good. There are always trade-offs.

In fact, I will never forget my going to hearings on hydro projects and having people come and object and saying: We like hydro but not on our river, not on this site, and, by the way, we don't really think you should be ruining the rivers. Why don't you go and do wind power?

Lo and behold, 20 years later, I worked in the area of wind development, of wind power, and people came to our hearings and said: We don't really need to spoil the view in our mountains. Do more hydro.

I am not making that up. I actually lived that sort of conflict.

The second lesson I learned is that you may have global goals with renewable energy but have local impacts, and you often have a controversy about a particular project.

The third thing I learned is that change is hard. Everybody is for progress. Nobody is for change. Change is difficult, whether it is for a local community, a State, or a nation.

The fourth thing: Permitting is hard. Getting permits for renewable energy projects was lengthy, time-consuming, and expensive. This was serious learning that I had during this period in that, if you want to develop even the most beneficial project, you are going to have to go through an often arduous permitting process, and somebody isn't going to like it. There always will be trade-offs.

These were sporadic, small projects. Indeed, in New England today—and I just checked this morning—about 10 percent of our electricity comes from renewables. This is after almost 40 years of the development of these projects—about 10 percent. We are now talking about a transition in energy to a fully renewable future. Well, if you do the math, that means 10 times the amount of renewable energy development which we have done in the last 40 years, in the next 10 to 15 years. People have to understand that this is a major, major change that is going to require trade-offs. It is going to require us to make decisions and to understand—again, to go back to my basic premise—that there is no free lunch.

We are now undertaking the largest and most far-reaching energy transition in human history. The transition to fossil fuels took about 150 years. Going back to around 1800, you can see the graphic goes up, but we really got into the real heart of the fossil fuel economy in the mid-20th century—150 years. We are talking about transitioning away from fossil fuels to renewables over 15 years—not 150 but 15.

We have to grasp that this is an enormous undertaking and that it is going to involve change. We are literally in a race with climate change. That is why it is going to have to happen in the next 10, 15, 20 years, because the consequences of not doing it are catastrophic, and we are already seeing that.

I think that we have reached a point at which most Americans realize that climate change is real. The fishermen in Maine know it. The loggers know it. The farmers know it. The people who work with the land and the sea and the atmosphere understand what is happening. They see it. The animals know it. They know what is happening, and that is why we have to make this transition. That is why it is so important that we make this transition, and it has got to be fast. We don't have time to do it over 150 years or even over 50 years. It is a huge change. It is going to involve dislocation, and it is going to involve trade-offs. That is really the question that I want to address today.

There is broad agreement, I believe, that we need change, that we need to develop responses to the global climate change crisis. There is certainly agreement in the environmental community as far as that question is concerned. There is nobody in the environmental community whom I know who doubts climate change or doubts the necessity of taking dramatic action to meet it. Climate change is as real as it gets, and we have to address it.

How do we address it? With nonfossil fuel electrification—fast. If we can do that, we can address the CO₂. Really, what we are talking about is the emission of CO₂. Is it a problem? Well, the average over the past million years of CO₂ in the atmosphere is about 280 parts per million. It varies up and down.

People say: Oh, this is a natural cycle.

Yes, it varies up and down between 150 and 300 parts per million. It is now at about 420 parts per million. It has gone up 20 in the last 2 or 3 years. The last time we were over 400 parts per million of CO₂ in the atmosphere the oceans were 60 feet higher. We are in uncharted territory in human history right now. We have to deal with it, and we have to deal with it in a hurry.

Where is all of that CO₂ coming from? Well, here is a rough breakdown of the CO₂ budget, if you will: About 30 percent comes from the generation of electricity—30, 35 percent. Another 30, 35 percent comes from transportation, the combustion of fossil fuels in vehicles. The last 30, 35 percent comes from space heat and industrial use. So that is the budget that we have to deal with. How do we tackle that? With electrification, with the electricity coming from renewable sources.

Now, if you have an electric vehicle and you are feeling really good about saving the environment, you are not saving the environment if the power

for that electric vehicle comes from fossil fuels. You are saving the environment if the power for that electric vehicle comes from renewables. So that is what we are talking about, but there are problems with renewables.

Remember, I said I had worked in the wind power business. The wind doesn't blow all the time. The Sun doesn't shine all the time. The term is "intermittency." That is the issue. That is the issue with renewables—intermittency—the fact that there has to be something to supply power when the Sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow.

The answer to that is storage. The real Green New Deal is energy storage. If we can solve that problem in a cost-effective way, then we really can have a realistic, all-renewable future, because what you have with energy storage, plus renewables, is essentially baseload power without CO₂. That is really the direction that we are moving in.

However—and this is what I want to really stress—you can't be in favor of electrification; you can't be in favor of renewable power; you can't be in favor of electric vehicles if you are not in favor of mining the lithium that you need for the batteries or in covering a lot of farmers' fields with solar panels. You can't have those things without paying a price. It would be nice if you could.

I would love it if I could wave a wand and say: We are going to get rid of fossil fuels, and we are going to have an all-renewable future. Yes, I want that, but we have to recognize that, in order to get there, there are some things we have to do that heretofore we really haven't been very likely to like.

One of the other issues with renewable power is that a lot of the renewable power is in places where there aren't people. So we have to get that renewable power to the places where there are people.

Do you know what that means? Transmission, new transmission lines, new rights of way. People aren't going to be too crazy about that, but you can't have a renewable energy future without having transmission, and you can't have a renewable energy future without having batteries or some storage technology that, chances are, is going to require Earth minerals that you are going to have to mine.

Geography is a problem. Technology is a problem. This will require trade-offs. We have to keep in mind that we are talking about a global goal—we are talking about literally saving the Earth—but we have to understand that there are going to be costs to do so.

Let's talk about permitting.

One of my favorite stories is when God went to Moses and said: Moses, I have good news and bad news.

Moses said: God, give me the good news.

God says: I am going to empower you to part the waters of the Red Sea, allow my people to go free, and then

have the waters come back and inundate Pharaoh's army.

Moses says: That is wonderful, God. What is the bad news?

God says: You have to prepare the environmental impact statement.

We have got to understand that permitting is part of the process of going to a renewable future.

Now, when I was the Governor of Maine, I had a very clear policy: no diminution—no cutting, no cutting corners—of environmental standards, but I wanted the most timely and predictable environmental permitting process in the country, and I don't think that those two things are in any way mutually exclusive.

When I talk here and work with my colleagues here about permitting reform, I am talking—we are talking—about the process, not the standards. We are not talking about lowering the standards, saying that you can emit more or you don't have to meet clean water standards.

I sit at Edmund Muskie's desk in my office. Lightning would strike me if I were lowering the water quality or air quality standards, but we have got to talk about a process that is timely and predictable.

The estimates are that, to permit a mine in this country, it takes about 10 years—about 10 years. We don't have 10 years to spend on a permitting process if we are going to solve this problem in time to save the country and the planet. We have got to figure out how to do this in a more timely way. How are we going to do it? I don't know the details of the various discussions that are going on here, but I have some thoughts that I have suggested to Senator MANCHIN and others.

One is one-stop shopping. You shouldn't have to go to five different Agencies. Go to one Agency that is in charge of the permitting process, and let them lead it. Don't make the applicant go to five, six, seven different Agencies.

Secondly are deadlines—real deadlines, deadlines that mean something—so that the Agency, if it says 180 days, has got to have a decision in 180 days. Eisenhower retook Europe in 11 months. There is no reason that we can't get decisions out of some of these Agencies in less than a year. So deadlines and reasonable timeframes, I think, are part of this process, and an accelerated appeals process, where the appeal of an environmental decision on a renewable energy project, that is related to renewable energy, or that is related to our renewable energy future can go to the courts and get a fair hearing but on a timely basis and not go through a long process that takes, again, years.

Another suggestion I have—and this goes back to my experience of working on renewable energy projects—is there should be some credit given for the nature of the project that you are doing. In other words, if you are doing a project that is going to contribute to

the solution of the problem of global climate change, you shouldn't be treated as a strip mall. Some weight should be given to the import and the value—the environmental value—of the project, vis-a-vis the incidental environmental costs—and I could be criticized for using the word "incidental," but the smaller environmental costs that may be involved in getting there. I think that has got to be how we approach this whole permitting question.

So why am I here today? I am here today to talk to my friends in the environmental community—and I do mean friends, people whom I have worked with all my life—to have them change the way they think about the environmental process and what they have conventionally and historically thought about this kind of action.

Historically, if you go back to the beginning of the environmental movement in the sixties and seventies—and Lord, help me, I was there—the environmental movement was about stopping things. The environmental movement in Maine began with a proposed oil refinery on our coast. People wanted to stop it because they didn't think it was the appropriate place. But if you think about that, a lot of the environmental movement has been about stopping things, stopping projects, stopping highways, stopping whatever.

What we have to do now is think about facilitating getting things done in order to get to the renewable future that we want. I think that is a very, very important way to look at this process. You can't be for EVs if you are against mining lithium.

Let me give you just a couple of numbers on what I am talking about. Copper—remember, I talked about transmission. Copper, copper wires to transmit electricity, the estimate is—I want to be sure this is right. The estimate is we are going to need as much copper annually by 2050 as has been mined in the entire prior history of the world. In 1 year, we are going to need that much. The estimate is that in order to achieve our climate goals, we are going to have to triple—triple—the grid: the wires, the rights of way, the towers. The grid infrastructure has to be tripled in order to absorb the new and transmitted—distribute the new energy that is going to be needed. If you have electric vehicles, you are going to need more wires to get the power—that is going to be a huge increase; between doubling and tripling is the estimate—of the strength of the grid.

The International Energy Agency—not me and not some commercial group, but the International Energy Agency says that by 2040—that is not that long from now, barely over 15 years—we are going to need 42 times the amount of lithium that we have, 25 times more graphite, 21 times more cobalt, 19 times more nickel, and 7 times more rare-earth elements. Now, we have two choices: We can buy those things from other countries, particu-

larly countries that may be potential adversaries. Do we really want to be dependent on China for this kind of essential material to our environmental future? I don't think so. But if we are going to say we don't want to import it, we have got to get it out of the ground here, and we can't spend 10 years deciding it. I am not saying lower the standards, but I am saying the process itself should not be used as a weapon to undermine projects that are necessary to achieve our ultimate climate goal.

This is a change. This is a change of thinking that is required by the reality that we face. I am here because I want to face that reality. I want to do something about climate change. I want to take the actions necessary, not token actions but the real deal. But it is going to involve these enormous commitments of time, effort, and money and also our understanding—particularly in the environmental community—that there is no free lunch.

On December 2, 1862, Abraham Lincoln came to this Congress to talk about the progress of the Civil War. His problem was that the Congress was being the Congress. They were doing politics, and he didn't feel they were really taking it seriously or understood the massive change that was sweeping over the country. At the end of that speech, the afternoon of December 2, 1862, Abraham Lincoln gave what I think is still the best analysis of how you deal with change that I have ever encountered, and I think it applies exactly in this situation. Lincoln said:

The dogmas of the quiet past, are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, [therefore] we must rise—with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew, and act anew.

And then here is the key line:

We must disenthral ourselves, and then we shall save our country.

"We must disenthral ourselves and then we shall save our country."

"Disenthral" means thinking new and different ways. Let go of the way you thought about these kinds of issues in the past. Disenthral ourselves, and then we shall save our planet.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Republican whip.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be able to complete my remarks before the start of the vote.

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

INFLATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this morning the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the August inflation numbers, and as every American who has been to a grocery store lately knows, August was yet another month of high inflation.

Consumer prices rose 8.3 percent last month from a year earlier, holding to a near-four-decade-high—40-year-high—inflation. And Americans are feeling the strain.

Even 1 unexpectedly expensive month can be challenging for many families, but at least it is actually and usually possible to recover from a single tough month. How are American families going to recover from the months upon months upon months of high inflation that have marked the Biden economy?

As I said, American families are suffering. Grocery bills are out of control. Between August 2021 and August 2022, grocery bills rose at their highest rate since 1979—1979, I was a senior in high school. Even back-to-school supplies like pencils and glue are more expensive.

The National Retail Federation reported in July that households were on track to spend an average of \$864 on back-to-school shopping—a 24-percent increase from 2019.

Utility bills have soared. Things have gotten so bad that approximately one out of every six households—one out of every six households in America—is behind on its utility bills. Unfortunately, considering the increases in the price of natural gas and electricity since President Biden took office, it is not surprising. Forty percent of households—40 percent—reported having difficulty paying for their normal household expenses.

And Gallup reports that 56 percent of Americans—well over half of the U.S. population—are experiencing financial hardship as a result of inflation.

The personal savings rate has plunged to its lowest levels since 2009, and many Americans are dipping into their savings to make ends meet. Others have taken up a side job or are pulling out the credit card. Still others have been forced to rely on food banks.

As recently as Friday, President Biden was touting his work to “finally deliver an economy that works for working families.” I have to say, I don’t know what ivory tower the President is living in, but the Biden economy is the very opposite of an economy that works for working families.

Working families in the Biden economy are struggling. They are wondering how they can make ends meet. They are cutting back on groceries like meat or milk. They are cutting back on family trips or putting off necessary home repairs. They are, as I said, dipping into their savings or charging necessities on their credit cards or visiting food banks.

A recent CBS News article discussing a new Gallup poll noted:

The findings indicate that the hottest inflation in 40 years is eating into the bedrock of the American economy—the middle-class—and even eroding the financial stability of more well-heeled households.

To repeat:

The findings indicate that the hottest inflation in 40 years is eating into the bedrock of the American economy—the middle-class.

This is not an economy that is—to paraphrase the President—being built from the bottom up and the middle out. This is not an economy that “works for working families.” This is

an economy where living standards for working families are declining.

The President has actually had the audacity to repeatedly bring up the lines of cars waiting at food banks that occurred during the height of the COVID pandemic, with the implication that things are different now in the Biden economy. Perhaps no one at the White House has read the news recently.

Here is a sampling of headlines from the past few weeks:

Las Vegas food banks experiencing heightened demand amid inflation spikes.

Here is another one:

Food banks feeling pinch of high inflation as centers juggle to increased demand for help.

Another headline:

New Hampshire food pantries struggle with rising costs, growing demand: Organizations say more people than ever need help.

Another headline:

St. Mary’s Food Bank in Phoenix sees record number of families in need amid inflation.

Yet another headline:

Mountain West food banks are strained by high customer demand and low supply.

Unfortunately, I can go on. At this point, everyone knows how we got here. Democrats took office and decided to pass a massive \$1.9 trillion spending bill, the so-called American Rescue Plan Act, that flooded the economy with unnecessary government money. And the economy overheated as a result.

When President Biden took office, the inflation rate was 1.4 percent, well within the Fed’s 2-percent target.

Democrats were warned, including by at least one noted economist from their own party, that the legislation ran the risk of overheating the economy. But they were committed to taking advantage of their new majority to push through their Big Government, Big Spending vision. And so they ignored the warnings, and their bill helped trigger the worst inflation crisis in 40 years.

But perhaps the worst part is that even after Democrats saw the damage that resulted from their American Rescue Plan spending spree, they continued to try to double down on the spending strategy that helped get us into this mess in the first place.

Democrats spent half of last year attempting to force through—if you can believe this—yet another partisan spending spree originally planned to cost up to \$5 trillion. Fortunately for Americans, those particular far-left fantasies were foiled. But that hasn’t stopped Democrats from continuing to accumulate wasteful government spending.

In August, Democrats forged through a partisan tax-and-spending bill that will raise Americans’ energy bills, reduce jobs and opportunities for American workers, and waste taxpayer dollars on a host of Green New Deal priorities, like electric vehicle tax credits

for wealthy Americans and road equity and identifying gaps in tree canopy coverage. They called this tax-and-spending spree the Inflation Reduction Act, even though—as even the Democrat chairman of the Senate Budget Committee admitted—the bill will not reduce inflation. Apparently, the title’s only function is to make the bill sound more acceptable to Americans who are sick and tired of dealing with soaring prices and economic pain.

Then, a mere 8 days—8 days—after signing the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, the President once again added to Democrats’ record of economic malfeasance with a massive student loan giveaway that could cost more than \$1 trillion and that the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget notes will “meaningfully boost inflation.” That from the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

I am not sure whether the Democrats are incapable of learning their lesson or whether they consider soaring prices to be a trivial issue next to implementing their Green New Deal agenda or whether they think inflation is an acceptable price to pay for Big Government. But, whatever it is, Democrats are apparently going to continue to ignore the economic pain that Americans are experiencing in favor of implementing their far-left, Big Government, and big-spending agenda. And it appears that the American people are going to have to continue to suffer as a result.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I would ask consent to speak for up to 5 minutes before the vote.

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

NOMINATION OF ARIANNA J. FREEMAN

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the pending nominee, Arianna J. Freeman, who has been nominated to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. For those who may not know all the geography, that includes, under the jurisdiction of that court, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the Virgin Islands.

Arianna Freeman has dedicated her legal career to service, especially in the Philadelphia community. After graduating from Swarthmore College and Yale Law School, Ms. Freeman returned to Philadelphia to start her legal career. After clerking for three Federal judges in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, she joined the Federal Community Defender Office in Philadelphia. Through her experience in the defender’s office, she has briefed over 15 appeals in the Third Circuit and presented oral argument on seven occasions, including before the Third Circuit en banc, meaning the entire court. She has submitted four briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court as well.

Her legal reputation, her intellect, her ability, and her integrity are unquestioned. I will just give you three or

four examples of what others have said about her work.

Former U.S. District Court Judge Giles wrote:

Ms. Freeman has the character and intellectual attributes that will lead her to be a wonderful appeals court judge. She is discerning, open-minded, logical and is both a listener and contributor to debate and conversation.

A group of appellate practitioners from the Third Circuit wrote as follows:

Arianna Freeman has the strong intellect, tenacious work ethic, and even temperament necessary to become an outstanding federal judge. Her integrity and experience will ensure that she will be ready to serve from the first day.

Third example: Given Arianna's background as a Federal public defender, perhaps most important is the praise that she has received from over 20 former Federal prosecutors. One group wrote:

We are impressed by Arianna's diligence, intelligence, dedication, and integrity. It is because of her ethics and compassion, grounded in sensibility, that we are confident she will provide sound and measured opinions, while approaching each case without bias and with respect for the rule of law.

So said 20 former Federal prosecutors.

Arianna is so well respected that her nomination has garnered strong support even beyond the State of Pennsylvania, as evidenced by a letter submitted by over 30 law school professors from across the Nation who described Arianna Freeman as a "brilliant, careful, and talented lawyer with impressive professional credentials and a strong commitment to fairness, equal justice, and the rule of law."

There is no doubt that Arianna Freeman's extensive legal experience, keen intellect, and dedication to the principles of fairness and equal justice will serve the Third Circuit well. Furthermore, if confirmed, she will not only provide a critically important professional perspective to the Third Circuit as a career public defender; she will also become the first woman of color to serve on the Third Circuit and just the third active woman on that bench.

This is an important and historic nomination not only for Pennsylvania but, of course, for the entire Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

I would like to share a final passage from a letter written to the Senate Judiciary Committee by a group of law school deans from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, led by Professor Danielle Conway from the Penn State Dickinson School of Law. They wrote:

The nomination of Arianna J. Freeman to serve as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit is inspiring and her ultimate confirmation will be inspiring. As legislative leaders in this great society, the Committee and the full Senate will be favorably rewarded with history's account of how you worked to elevate this brilliant lawyer to the bench.

It couldn't be said any better than that. I urge her confirmation and urge my colleagues to vote yes.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON FREEMAN NOMINATION

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have noted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 47, nays 50, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 333 Ex.]

YEAS—47

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

NAYS—50

Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Schumer
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Shelby
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	

NOT VOTING—3

Duckworth	Hassan	Young
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The nomination was rejected.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The motion is entered.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby

move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1033, Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith, Jeanne Shaheen, Chris Van Hollen, Elizabeth Warren, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Christopher Murphy, Maria Cantwell, Christopher A. Coons, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Duckworth.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have noted "nay."

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 334 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Hoeven	Rounds
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Paul	Wicker

NOT VOTING—4

Cassidy	Hassan
Duckworth	Young

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:13 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today to talk about the rising costs of American energy, and this morning we found out that inflation continues to burn very hot.

Prices continue to go up and up and up. Last month, they actually went up faster than even any of the economists had predicted. Since Joe Biden took office, the prices have risen now by more than 13 percent across America. That is what families are facing. And prices have been rising faster than wages for the last 17 months. So people are feeling the heat and falling further and further behind.

Today, gas prices are still nearly a dollar and a half a gallon higher than they were the day Joe Biden took office, but Democrats are patting themselves on the back because gas prices have come down from the stratospheric \$5 a gallon during the peak this summer. Well, gas is still over \$4 a gallon in lots of States, including Nevada and Washington State, and, of course, at \$5 a gallon, very few people can afford to drive. So it is no surprise the prices fell as demand plummeted.

But yet many of the Democrats are at the White House this afternoon, apparently in the thousands, to celebrate a law that just got passed here.

These price hikes, these increases in costs, this is nothing to celebrate. And so in 15 minutes, at the White House, Joe Biden is going to lead a celebration—a party—for a bill that passed along party lines.

We have a crisis of food, a crisis of energy, a crisis of rent. People cannot afford the cost of living. In terms of energy, after 2 years in power—I come today to the floor as the ranking member of the Senate Energy Committee—after nearly 2 years in power, Democrats still haven't lifted a finger to produce a drop of additional American energy, specifically oil.

Supply is down below the prepandemic peak. Joe Biden has leased the fewest acres of Federal land for energy development of any Presi-

dent since World War II—World War II. The Biden economy is hitting record numbers—40-year record-high inflation. Food prices are up higher in terms of costs of feeding your family; the rise in prices is up higher than in 40 years—and now shutting down American energy with the fewest acres of Federal land for energy development since World War II.

Now, Joe Biden had a plan. His plan was to invite dictators to sell us oil. Officials from the Biden administration went hat in hand, just a little over a year ago, to Vladimir Putin in Russia, to Iran, to Saudi Arabia, to Venezuela. The President actually went personally to Saudi Arabia to ask for more energy and more production. He went to Riyadh to beg the Saudis to sell us more oil. It didn't work.

Actually, the Saudis and the OPEC cartel announced last week that they are actually going to slash production by 100,000 barrels a day.

When President Obama was in the White House, he went on an apology tour to the Middle East. This summer, Joe Biden went on a begging tour to the Middle East. Both were a failure. Both were a waste. Both were an embarrassment to the United States.

That is delusional Democrat diplomacy for you.

Gas prices are still a dollar and a half a gallon higher since the day Joe Biden became President. Earlier this summer, people were actually driving less than they did in the summer of 2020, during the peak of the pandemic, during the lockdown. That is why prices have dropped for gas.

But prices for everything else have gone up so high that people are still hurting all across the country, and we have Democrat policies and Democrat spending to thank for it.

People can't afford to drive. They can't afford to stay home either. That is because natural gas prices have more than doubled since Joe Biden took office.

Well, half of American homes are powered by natural gas. One expert predicted utility bills could jump 40 percent just this year.

Already, more than 20 million Americans have fallen behind on paying their electric bills because they don't have the money. This is another record. In total, the American people owe more than \$16 billion in unpaid electric bills. That is nearly double the amount they owed before the pandemic.

So you have 20 million Americans facing the possibility of having their power shut off. This is a moment of anxiety and anguish for families, and it is caused by the policies of the Biden administration.

Democrats think everything is fine because they just passed what they tout as the largest climate bill in history. I would expect to see the Secretary of Energy up there on the stage leading the cheers: Rah, rah. Look what we have just done.

They don't care about affordability, availability, the reliability of energy.

Oh, no, they are focused on something very different.

So in about 15 minutes, Democrats are throwing themselves a party at the White House to celebrate—to celebrate a bill that is not going to bring down inflation. Oh, no, no, it is going to raise it.

And it is not going to bring down the temperature either. According to one estimate, it will only reduce global warming by—I want to make sure I have this right—0.0009 degrees. The most expensive climate bill in history, taking our Nation from energy dominant to energy dependent, for 0.0009 degrees.

And the centerpiece of this law is, of course, the \$300 billion slush fund.

People say: What is it for?

Well, it is going to give taxpayer dollars to well-connected Silicon Valley elites. That is what it is going to do. It is going to be given to them so that so-called clean energy startup companies can do things with it. Supposedly, they are going to spend it on new forms of energy. We will see.

If it sounds familiar, it is because Democrats tried this the last time Joe Biden was in the White House, as Vice President. The Obama administration spent \$90 billion on a similar program. So this one is over three times as large.

Who was in charge of running that failed program at the White House back in the Obama administration?

Well, it is the guy in the White House today. Joe Biden was in charge of running it, and what was the end result? It was a national embarrassment. It was a disaster. Ninety percent of the jobs that Joe Biden promised America back then never materialized—not at all.

According to Bloomberg, Democrats spent over \$725,000 for each job that ultimately materialized. And, again, it wasn't Democrats' money that they were spending. It was taxpayer money.

Most famously, Democrats gave half a billion dollars to a company called Solyndra. They became a laughing stock in the news and late-night comedy. They were supposed to make solar panels. Two years later, Solyndra went bankrupt. The taxpayer money was gone, all to waste. And now the Democrats are saying: Let's go back to that same playbook and let's just reload with cash. Load up the money cannon and fire away.

At a much bigger scale this time, instead of \$90 billion last time, it is \$300 billion this time.

Democrats have also just gone on and extended another giveaway for people buying electric vehicles. Now, many of them are high earners, there is no question about it. At a time of record inflation, Democrats are robbing the middle class to give the money to the rich. Three out of four electric vehicle owners make over \$100,000 a year. It is not just unfair; it is unsustainable because electric vehicle prices are soaring right now.

The average price is now \$66,000 for each electric vehicle, and, I will tell

you, it is funny. The price of electric vehicles rose by \$8,000 per vehicle just recently, just a couple of weeks ago, just as soon as the Democrats crammed through their new giveaway.

And what was the giveaway—7,500? And the price of electric vehicles went up by \$8,000? Do you think that is a coincidence? I ask the body. Is that a coincidence, that the price goes up by 8,000 the day that government passes a bill to give a \$7,500 subsidy?

And, of course, to make matters worse, there is a shortage of batteries that are needed to kind of produce the electric vehicles to receive the subsidy. There aren't enough charging stations.

Electric vehicle technology is not ready for prime time. The only reason electric vehicles are on the road today is because of massive government giveaways. Otherwise, they wouldn't be able to compete.

Sometimes it is said a picture is worth 1,000 words. Here is a picture of West Virginia coal miners. West Virginia coal miners right here. What are they doing? They are pushing an electric vehicle that has run out of power. They have run out of electricity, and they are trying to push an electric vehicle. These coal miners, with coal under attack by this administration, they are pushing the electric vehicle to a place the vehicle can plug in.

Well, you know, the people of West Virginia say: How did they get there? Well, you might see down here that this is a Washington, DC, license plate.

The vehicle being pushed by the coal miners were tourists from Washington, DC, and they ran out of power on the road in West Virginia. Fortunately, there were still some West Virginia coal miners nearby who were willing to lend a helping hand.

This electric vehicle was pushed by coal miners and then recharged by electricity generated by West Virginia coal—coal, public enemy No. 1, according to the Democrats.

Where do Democrats believe the electricity comes from to power electric vehicles? Electric vehicles are charged on the power grid. Nearly two-thirds of that energy is still fossil fuels. It is still traditional energy.

The extreme climate policies the Democrats are pushing are delusional. Yet Democrats are imposing these delusions on tens of millions of people.

Last month, the State of California announced a couple things. It announced that it is going to require all new cars sold in the State to be electric by 2035. Secretary of Energy Granholm gave it a big stamp of approval. She said it is the model for the rest of the country.

Just days later, California began experiencing blackouts. This is what Secretary Granholm says is the model for the rest of the Nation. This is the path to the future, she says.

Joe Biden is giving a speech tomorrow on electric vehicles. I am sure he is going to endorse what they did in California. No matter what Joe Biden says,

the painful truth is this: California is mandating electric vehicles when their electric grid already can't keep up today.

In California, gas costs more than \$5 a gallon. Meanwhile, you are not even allowed to charge your electric vehicle for much of the day—not allowed to charge it. You have got to buy one, but you can't charge it—what a solution.

Oh, and you can't turn your thermostat below 78 degrees in a heat wave.

The mandates are coming out for people who live in this mandate society, where California is leading the way and the Democrat Secretary of Energy says is the future we should look forward to. If the Democrats remain in charge, I believe this is an ugly glimpse at America's energy future.

Now, maybe Governor Newsom thinks he can run a modern economy this way in California, but it takes energy to run a modern economy. It takes affordable energy, reliable energy, available energy, and that means traditional forms of energy.

Now, Warren Buffet is known as one of the best investors in history. So what is he investing in today? Well, he is buying an American oil company. Why? Because in contrast to the left-wing fantasies, oil isn't going away anytime soon.

Renewable energy cannot yet meet demand. Only traditional energy can. It is simply a fact. Whether the environmental extremists partying at the White House today like it or not, these are the facts of life. There is still an enormous difference between renewable energy and reliable energy. There simply is no renewable energy that, all in, is cost competitive with oil, gas, or coal.

But Democrats are doubling down on expensive energy and waging war on affordable energy at a time when inflation continues to soar—record high inflation, 40-year highs—and the impacts on American families have been punishing and painful.

In Colorado, the local utility company actually took control over people's thermostats. You wouldn't think they could do that? The capacity is there to do it today. And why? Because of what they describe as an energy emergency. It was an unprecedented intrusion into the homes of 22,000 people.

If Democrats remain in charge, this is another glimpse of our energy future and of our freedom and independence—more blackouts, more restrictions on energy production, more restrictions on energy use, more price hikes, all in service of their climate religion.

And as one of the headlines in the New York Times said last week, "California muddles through another day."

Joe Biden needs to reverse course. We are a country that doesn't want to muddle through anything.

The Democratic Party needs to reverse course unless we are looking at that kind of a future. This energy crisis is a crisis of Joe Biden's choosing. We have plenty of American energy.

We have it in the ground. The Democrats won't let us get it out. All we need is for Democrats to get out of the way and let us use American energy.

America's energy future must be powered by American producers. If we want available, affordable, reliable, secure energy, we need more American energy.

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. SANDERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

HEALTHCARE

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I understand that there is a lot that is going on in the world today. We are worried about climate change and what that is doing to our planet. We are worried about the terrible war in Ukraine and all of the destruction taking place there. We are worried about inflation and the fact that wages are not keeping up with the prices that people are paying. We are worried about the massive level of income and wealth inequality that exists in our country and the increased concentration of ownership that we see in the United States, among many, many other things that are on people's minds. But to my mind, Madam President, the American people remain and always are deeply concerned about an issue that, by definition, touches each and every one of us, and that is our collapsing and dysfunctional healthcare system.

While it is not discussed much in the corporate media or here in the Halls of Congress, we have today in the United States the most inefficient, bureaucratic, and expensive healthcare system in the world. And that is not just what I believe; that is what the American people know to be true because of their lived experience with the healthcare system.

Madam President, I would hope that all Members of Congress take a hard look at a poll that was published yesterday by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, and this is some of what the poll disclosed.

At a time when I hear many of my colleagues tell us that we have the best healthcare system in the world, it turns out that, according to this poll, just 12 percent of the American people believe that healthcare in general is handled very well or extremely well in the United States. Twelve percent.

At a time when we pay the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs, only 6 percent of the American people believe that prescription drug costs in the United States are being handled well or extremely well. Six percent.

At a time when COVID has exacerbated the crisis, only 5 percent of the American people believe that the mental health care system in the United

States is being handled well or extremely well. Five percent.

When so many older Americans have died unnecessarily in nursing homes and when so many cannot even find the nursing home bed that they need, just 6 percent of Americans believe that the quality of care at nursing homes in the United States is very good or exceptional. Six percent.

Madam President, the American people increasingly understand, as I do, that healthcare is a human right, not a privilege, and that we must end the international embarrassment of the United States of America being the only major country on Earth that does not guarantee healthcare to all of its citizens. Again, that is not just BERNIE SANDERS talking; that is what the overwhelming majority of the American people believe.

According to yesterday's AP poll, 66 percent of the American people believe it is the Federal Government's responsibility to make sure that all Americans have health insurance coverage. Sixty-six percent.

Over 86 percent of the American people believe that it is absurd that millions of senior citizens lack dental care, hearing aids, and vision care, and they believe that Medicare should be expanded to cover these basic healthcare needs. It happens to be an issue I have been working on for several years. Eighty-six percent of the American people believe that Medicare should cover dental care, hearing aids, and vision care. Eighty-six percent.

At a time when our long-term healthcare system is in shambles, 81 percent of the American people believe that Medicare should cover the outrageous cost of long-term healthcare for senior citizens and people with disabilities. Eighty-one percent.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD this AP-NORC poll.

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

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

[Sept. 12, 2022]

AMERICANS GIVE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM
FAILING MARK: AP-NORC POLL
(By Amanda Seitz)

WASHINGTON (AP)—When Emmanuel Obeng-Dankwa is worried about making rent on his New York City apartment, he sometimes holds off on filling his blood pressure medication.

"If there's no money, I prefer to skip the medication to being homeless," said Obeng-Dankwa, a 58-year-old security guard.

He is among a majority of adults in the U.S. who say that health care is not handled well in the country, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

The poll reveals that public satisfaction with the U.S. health care system is remarkably low, with fewer than half of Americans saying it is generally handled well. Only 12% say it is handled extremely or very well. Americans have similar views about health care for older adults.

Overall, the public gives even lower marks for how prescription drug costs, the quality

of care at nursing homes and mental health care are being handled, with just 6% or less saying those health services are done very well in the country.

"Navigating the American health care system is exceedingly frustrating," said A. Mark Fendrick, the director of the University of Michigan Center for Value-Based Insurance Design. "The COVID pandemic has only made it worse."

More than two years after the pandemic's start, health care worker burnout and staffing shortages are plaguing hospitals around the country. And Americans are still having trouble getting in-person medical care after health centers introduced restrictions as COVID-19 killed and sickened millions of people around the country, Fendrick said.

In fact, the poll shows an overwhelming majority of Americans, nearly 8 in 10, say they are at least moderately concerned about getting access to quality health care when they need it.

Black and Hispanic adults in particular are resoundingly worried about health care access, with nearly 6 in 10 saying they are very or extremely concerned about getting good care. Fewer than half of white adults, 44%, expressed the same level of worry.

Racial disparities have long troubled America's health care system. They have been abundantly clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, with Black and Hispanic people dying disproportionately from the virus. Black and Hispanic men also make up a disproportionately high rate of recent monkeypox infections.

Fifty-three percent of women said they are extremely or very concerned about obtaining quality care, compared to 42% of men.

While Americans are united in their dissatisfaction with the health care system, that agreement dissolves when it comes to solutions to fix it.

About two-thirds of adults think it is the federal government's responsibility to make sure all Americans have health care coverage, with adults ages 18 to 49 more likely than those over 50 to hold that view. The percentage of people who believe health care coverage is a government responsibility has risen in recent years, ticking up from 57% in 2019 and 62% in 2017.

Still, there's not consensus on how that coverage might be delivered.

About 4 in 10 Americans say they support a single-payer health care system that would require Americans to get their health insurance from a government plan. More, 58%, say they favor a government health insurance plan that anyone can purchase.

There also is broad support for policies that would help Americans pay for the costs of long-term care, including a government-administered insurance plan similar to Medicare, the federal government's health insurance for people 65 or older.

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, it is hard for me to imagine how anyone could defend a healthcare system in which over 70 million people today are either uninsured or underinsured. As we speak, this moment, there are millions of Americans who would like to go to a doctor, who need to go to a doctor, but cannot afford to go to a doctor because of the outrageous cost of medical care in this country.

Frankly, I am tired of talking to physicians who tell me about the patients who died—who died—because they were uninsured or underinsured and who walked into the doctor's office when it was too late. Time and time again, I hear from doctors who tell me

about a patient who walked in, and they said to the patient: Why didn't you come in when you first noticed your symptoms?

The patient responded: I don't have the money; I can't afford the copayment; or I have no insurance at all.

Madam President, we are talking about—and I know we don't talk about it much, and maybe we should—we are talking about some 68,000 Americans who die every single year because they are uninsured or underinsured and don't get the medical care that they need. This is the United States, the wealthiest country in the history of the world; 68,000 Americans should not die every year unnecessarily.

I am tired of seeing working-class families and small businesses pay far more for healthcare than they can afford, which results in more than 500,000 Americans every year declaring bankruptcy because of medically related expenses. Half a million Americans declare bankruptcy because of outrageous healthcare bills they simply cannot afford to pay. Families in America should not be driven into financial ruin because someone in that family became seriously ill. Sickness should not be a cause of financial ruin.

I am tired of hearing from Americans who lost loved ones because they could not afford the unbelievably high cost of prescription drugs, and I am tired of hearing from constituents who are forced to cut their pills in half due to the cost. Today, unbelievably, almost one out of four patients cannot afford the prescription drugs their doctors prescribe.

When you want to talk about an irrational and dysfunctional healthcare system, think about a system in which people go to a doctor, they get diagnosed as to their healthcare problem, they get a prescription drug prescribed to them, but they can't afford to buy the drug the doctor prescribes. So what ends up happening? They end up getting sicker. Maybe they end up in the emergency room at an outrageous cost. Maybe because they couldn't afford the prescription drugs in the first place, they end up in the hospital at a very high cost. Maybe they die. That is an irrational and absurd healthcare system.

I am tired of talking to people and families of people who are struggling with mental illness but cannot afford the mental health counseling they desperately need. Last year, as you know, a recordbreaking 100,000 Americans died of drug overdoses. And I will tell you that in my office—and I am sure that in every other Senate office—we get desperate calls from family members looking for affordable mental health counseling. Far too often, that care simply is not there in the community.

People are struggling with husbands, wives, kids who are on the verge of doing something terrible to themselves, to others, and yet, in this country, despite spending far more for

healthcare than any other country, we don't have the capability of helping those people. It is not there. The mental health counseling, the help that people need is not there because in this system, geared toward the profits of the insurance companies rather than the needs of the American people, we don't have enough psychologists, counselors, or social workers.

Unbelievably, despite spending far more per capita on healthcare than any other nation, we don't even have enough doctors. We are facing a major doctor shortage in America now, which will only get worse in the years to come if we don't address it. We don't have enough nurses. We don't have enough dentists. We don't have enough medical providers in general. We have, however, more than enough people who bill us and more than enough debt collectors who hound us to pay for a bill we cannot afford, but we just don't have enough people to provide the healthcare that we desperately need.

By the way, the crisis of lack of healthcare providers is only going to get worse as our society continues to age.

At a time of declining life expectancy in the wealthiest country on Earth, your health and your longevity should not be dependent on the amount of money you have. It is an absolute outrage and grossly un-American that the number of years we live in this country is dependent upon our income. Studies have shown that the top 1 percent of Americans live 15 years longer than the poorest people in our society. It is not only the very top as opposed to the very bottom; it is wealthy people in general versus working-class people. If you got the money, you are going to live longer in this country than if you do not have the money.

In my view, healthcare is a human right that all Americans, regardless of income, are entitled to, and all Americans deserve the best quality healthcare that our country can provide.

Further, as chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, it is not acceptable to me that we end up spending over twice as much as virtually every other major country on Earth per capita—twice as much per capita—while our life expectancy and other healthcare outcomes lag behind most other countries. This is really quite an amazing thing. We spend more; yet our results are worse than in other countries, unbelievably.

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, we are now spending \$12,530 per capita on healthcare. Imagine that—over \$12,000 for every man, woman, and child in this country. This is, frankly, an outrageous and unsustainable sum of money. In comparison, the United Kingdom spends just \$5,300; France spends \$5,400; Canada, \$5,900; Germany, \$7,300. We spend over \$12,000 per year.

The question that everyone should be asking is, How does it happen that we

spend so much money for healthcare, but we get so little in return?

Let's be clear. The current debate over healthcare in the United States really has nothing to do with healthcare. Frankly, it is hard to defend this dysfunctional system. The healthcare debate has everything to do with the unquenchable greed of the healthcare industry and their desire to maintain a system which fails the average American but which makes the industry huge profits every single year. While ordinary Americans struggled to pay for healthcare during this pandemic, the six largest health insurance companies in our country made over \$60 billion in profits last year, led by UnitedHealth Group, which made \$24 billion in 2021.

While millions of Americans cannot afford soaring healthcare costs, the top executives in the insurance industry receive huge amounts of compensation. In 2020—remember, 70 million uninsured and underinsured and 68,000 dying every year because they don't get to a doctor on time—the CEOs of 178 major healthcare companies collectively made \$3.2 billion in total compensation—up 31 percent from the previous year—all in the midst of the pandemic. People were dying every single day, and the cost of healthcare was soaring; yet the CEOs saw a 31-percent increase in their compensation. According to Axios, in 2020, the CEO of Cigna, David Cordani, took home \$79 million in compensation. The CEO of Centene, Mr. Neidorff, made \$59 million. The CEO of UnitedHealth Group, Mr. Wichmann, received \$42 million in total compensation.

But it is not just the health insurance companies that are ripping off the American people; it is the drug companies as well. In terms of the pharmaceutical industry, last year, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, and AbbVie—three giant pharmaceutical companies—increased their profits by over 90 percent to \$54 billion. How is it that, in the midst of a pandemic, during which we lost over a million people and millions and millions of people have become sick, the profits of the major drug companies went up by over 90 percent?

The CEO of Moderna got a \$926 million golden parachute after his company received \$2.5 billion in taxpayer dollars to develop the vaccine. We all appreciate the development of the vaccine, which is saving lives every day. But, really, does the CEO of the company that received \$2.5 billion of taxpayer money deserve a \$926 million golden parachute? That is an indication, a manifestation, of a sick and broken healthcare system. And while over 330,000 Americans died during the pandemic because they could not afford to go to a doctor on time, the CEO of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals made over \$450 million in total compensation.

The current system is failing the American people, and the American people want change—real change.

In March, a few months ago, I was pleased to introduce Medicare for All

legislation, with 15 Senate cosponsors. Companion legislation in the House now has 122 cosponsors. This legislation would improve and expand Medicare to cover, over a 4-year period, healthcare to every man, woman, and child in this country. In other words, what this legislation finally does is make sure that the United States joins every other major country and that we guarantee healthcare to all of our people.

This legislation is comprehensive, and it would end out-of-pocket expenses. Unlike the current system, it would provide full freedom of choice regarding healthcare providers. In other words, under Medicare for All, there would no longer be insurance premiums, deductibles, or copayments, and no more networks which deny you your choice of doctors. And, when I talk about Medicare for All being comprehensive, it would cover dental care, vision, hearing aids, prescription drugs, and home- and community-based care. In other words, it would do precisely what the American people want us to do.

Would a Medicare for All system be expensive? Yes, but while providing comprehensive care for all, it would be significantly less expensive than our current dysfunctional system because it would eliminate an enormous amount of the bureaucracy, profiteering, administrative costs, and misplaced priorities inherent in our current for-profit system.

Remember, we currently pay twice as much for healthcare as do the people of virtually any other country, and all of those countries manage to provide universal healthcare. So, yes, we can provide quality care for all at a much, much lower cost per person.

Under Medicare for All, there would no longer be armies of people billing us, telling us what is covered and what is not covered, and hounding us to pay our hospital bills. This not only saves substantial sums of money but will make life a lot easier for the American people, who would never again have to fight their way through the nightmare of insurance company bureaucracy. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office, the CBO, estimated that Medicare for All would save Americans \$650 billion a year.

Now, trust me. I do know the 30-second ads from the insurance and drug companies that have told us that if Medicare for All becomes law, your taxes will go up. What they forgot to tell you is that, under Medicare for All, you will no longer be paying premiums, deductibles, copayments, and out-of-pocket expenses to private health insurance companies. What they certainly won't tell you is that Medicare for All will save—save—the average American family thousands of dollars a year. In fact, a study by RAND found that moving to a Medicare for All system would save a family with an income of less than \$185,000 about \$3,000 a year on average.

Now, one might ask, fair enough: If Medicare for All is so good, if it has so many advantages, if it is what the American people want, why hasn't it been enacted by now? Why hasn't the United States joined every other major country in guaranteeing healthcare for all?

That takes us to our corrupt political system and the outrageous way we fund campaigns. So I would suggest if you want to know why we are stuck with a dysfunctional healthcare system that fails the American people but that makes the drug companies and the insurance companies wildly profitable, follow the money. Follow the money.

Since 1998, in our corrupt political system, the private healthcare sector has spent more than \$10 billion on lobbying. Got that? More than \$10 billion on lobbying since 1998. Over the last 30 years, it has spent more than \$1.7 billion on campaign contributions to maintain the status quo.

In terms of their lobbying efforts, let's be clear. They are very, very bipartisan. There are former Democratic Party leaders and former Republican Party leaders who are working together to represent the insurance companies and the drug companies.

And, by the way, of course, in terms of the campaign contributions, the insurance companies and the drug companies are also very bipartisan. In fact, their contributions go to many Members of both the Democratic and Republican Parties. It doesn't really matter if you are a Democrat or a Republican; what matters is you protect the interests of the drug companies and the insurance companies.

But, you know, what I believe is that maybe, just maybe, now is the time for Congress to do what the American people want—not what the lobbyists want, not what the drug companies want, not what the insurance companies want. And maybe, just maybe, we should have the courage to take on the powerful special interests that dominate healthcare in the United States. And maybe, just maybe, now is the time to provide healthcare to every man, woman, and child as a human right by passing a Medicare for All, single-payer program.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, agriculture is a critical part of Nebraska's economy. It accounts for, roughly, \$25.7 billion of Nebraska's gross State product. That is a little less than a quarter of our State's overall GDP. Nearly one in four jobs in the State is tied to agriculture.

That economic output is important because, thanks to States like Nebraska, hard-working family farmers and ranchers produce a wide variety of products that keep our grocery stores stocked and help to feed the world. But our Nation's agricultural bounty doesn't do anyone much good if it can't

get to market, and that is where our complex transportation and infrastructure system comes into play.

The railroad industry, in particular, has a big role in bringing agricultural products to locations across the United States. That includes ports, where they can then be shipped to locations around the world. Whether it is grain or soybeans, railroads provide the means to affordably move thousands of tons of goods where they need to go. It is estimated that rail delivers 1.6 million carloads of agricultural products a year. That is why I am deeply concerned about the potential for a rail shutdown later this week.

I think it is very important that people understand what kind of economic impact such as a shutdown would have and how it would upend our Nation's agricultural sector. The consequences would be devastating. When agricultural products can't be transported, there will be price hikes, and there will be shortages. Our international exports of commodities like corn, soy, wheat, of which a large share moves by rail, will fall dramatically.

Fertilizer prices—an already expensive input due to inflation—will further skyrocket. The mere prospect of a shutdown on Friday means fertilizer and other hazardous materials have already started being removed from the rail networks on September 12. Biofuel plants could be forced to scale down operations or completely shut down.

I would also point out that we have harvest coming up in Nebraska. Family farmers in my State, many of whom are grappling with rapidly rising input costs, need a good harvest season. And if rail service isn't feasible, that possibility could go out the window.

Grain elevators, for example, could run out of storage and be unable to accept additional commodities. Family farmers and ranchers will lose critical revenue streams.

The bottom line is, if rail shuts down, our entire agricultural system shuts down. It is that simple.

All of this economic chaos would come on top of extreme inflation. Today's numbers put grocery prices up 13.5 percent over last year. Think about the toll this out-of-control inflation is taking on our working-class families.

Then there is the international turmoil. Russia's horrific invasion of Ukraine has dramatically curtailed the flow of grain, which, in turn, has exacerbated food insecurity in Africa and the Middle East. And the war has also further strained the fertilizer supply chain. All of this is to say that the stakes of these rail negotiations couldn't be higher.

Nine of the twelve labor unions in the rail sector have been able to utilize the Presidential Emergency Board recommendations to come to an agreement. I note that the Board is composed of neutral, impartial individuals appointed by President Biden. Their recommendations are widely seen as

benefiting all parties. It is critical that the remaining labor unions and the rail industry use those recommendations to reach an agreement as soon as possible.

Our entire agricultural system is at stake here, the economic welfare of the American people is at stake here, and the global food security is also at stake here.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, there are a lot of important things that we do here in the U.S. Senate, hopefully, every day; certainly, every week, month, and over the year. But there are a couple of pieces of legislation which are literally must-pass pieces of legislation. They deserve an even higher priority than our day-to-day work here. These must-pass pieces of legislation are critical to the function of our government.

First, for example, government funding is critical so we can keep the lights on and keep the government working on behalf of the American people. If Congress fails to pass an appropriations bill, the government will literally shut down and millions of government workers will be left without a paycheck and the American people will be left without the services that those government employees would otherwise provide.

The good news is, at this moment, there appears to be little appetite for a funding fiasco at the end of this fiscal year at the end of this month. In a couple of weeks, I expect we will vote on a stopgap funding bill to keep the lights on and the trains moving until the end of the year.

Continuing resolutions like this, leading up to an end-of-the-year omnibus appropriations bill, are never my first choice. My hope would be that we would take up and pass each of the individual appropriations bills on a timely basis and then bring them across the floor of the U.S. Senate, pass them, and get them to the President for his signature. But, unfortunately, that hasn't happened under the current management.

There are other bills that receive the "must-pass" label. These could be anything from farm bills to disaster relief. Each of these are important. But, in my view, the ultimate must-pass piece of legislation is the National Defense Authorization Act.

Each year, this is how we make sure that our men and women in uniform have the support and the tools and the training they need and the pay to compensate them for their service as well as the support their families deserve, which is particularly important in an All-Volunteer military. This is how we maintain our military bases, modernize our weapons systems, and invest in the next generation of weapons.

It is how we take stock of the global threat landscape, which always seems

like it is getting more and more ominous, and we make sure that our country is prepared to counter even our most aggressive adversaries.

That is why Congress has passed a consolidated defense authorization bill for each of the past 61 years. For 61 years in a row, we passed a national defense authorization bill. But, apparently, the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, is contemplating not doing that this year.

A strong and ontime defense authorization act has always been crucial, but this particular moment in history demands even greater attention.

As we know, on February 24—nearly 7 months ago—Russia launched an unprovoked war against Ukraine. Thankfully, the civilized world has rallied around Ukraine, supplying it with the tools and weapons they need not only to fight but to win this war.

At the same time, we know thousands of miles away, the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Republic of China have become increasingly hostile to the West and desperate to project its military power. It continues, at the same time, to commit genocide against the Uighurs and other ethnic minorities, and it is likely preparing an invasion of Taiwan.

North Korea has declared itself to be a nuclear weapons state. Iran is pursuing its own nuclear ambitions and a breakout for those nuclear weapons, which is the point when they actually acquire one. It is getting closer every day.

We know after the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan that the Taliban, which once gave nurture to al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden, attacked the Twin Towers and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.

And, of course, the political instability from the disastrous means or method by which we withdrew from Afghanistan, literally turning over billions of dollars to the Taliban and weapons that they never would have otherwise been able to acquire, has created a tremendous amount of instability in the region, where already Pakistan and India warily eye each other, both of whom are nuclear powers.

So given the walk around the globe and the identification of these multitude of threats, you would think that passing a defense authorization act would be the highest priority for the U.S. Congress and particularly the Senate.

If you think about it, all of the freedoms and the standard of living, the quality of life we enjoy in this country, our prosperity, are all directly related to our ability to keep our country safe and keep the American people safe. That should be our No. 1 priority.

But the truth is, we can't match these stakes. We can't rise to this demand and this need with continuing resolutions and past-due authorizations.

Our men and women in uniform need to prepare and train every day, 365 days

a year. And if we don't pass a defense authorization act now, we will be stealing time that we already don't have.

General MacArthur, who became famous in the Korean war, said the history of failure in war can be summed up in two words: "too late"—too late.

Now, our colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee, on a bipartisan basis, under the leadership of Senator REED, a Democrat, and Senator INHOFE, a Republican, have compiled a strong bill that would strengthen and modernize our national defense. But the Senate Armed Services Committee completed its work on July 18. Here we are, September 13.

Senator SCHUMER, the one who sets the agenda for the U.S. Senate, has yet to bring that bill to the floor. Of all of the must-pass bills that I hear discussed in the media and among our colleagues, rarely are people talking about the Defense authorization bill.

The Presiding Officer succeeded John McCain in the U.S. Senate. John McCain was, of course, not only a war hero; he was a proud patriot. And he was a bear of a man to deal with. But I dare say, if John McCain were alive today, we would be on a defense authorization bill before we break for the midterm elections because he would not let anyone rest if we broke or threatened to break that 61-year consistent threat of meeting that No. 1 priority obligation.

I was hoping that the Senate would consider the Defense authorization bill this month and give our planners at the Pentagon and our commanders the predictability they need, as well as our military families the support that they deserve and need, not to mention our men and women who are on the frontlines fighting to protect our country, the tools and the training they need in order to do their job. I was optimistic that given the clear and present danger of the situation we are living through now, the threat landscape, and the desire to show our bipartisan support for our military, that we would, naturally, make this the 62nd year consecutively to pass the Defense authorization bill.

The only other must-pass item on the Senate's to-do list this month is to keep the government funded, and the Democratic majority has already committed to the short-term extension until the middle of December. So there is just no excuse for putting off the annual Defense bill. But for some reason, to this point, Senator SCHUMER, the Senate majority leader who sets the agenda in the Senate, does not seem to agree that is an urgent, must-pass piece of legislation.

I know there is bipartisan support to encourage him to bring this bill up, but so far he hasn't been swayed. The Defense authorization bill seems to be at the bottom of his priority list, below judicial nominations and a bill to codify a right to marry that is not even in jeopardy.

Given everything that is going on in the world, there is simply no reason to

delay consideration of the Defense authorization bill. In fact, there is every reason to do it on time and for the 62nd consecutive year.

We all know that American strength and leadership are vital to global security and equally vital to protecting our homeland. The Senate simply should not ignore its responsibility when it comes to our readiness.

Now, one of the things that concerns me the most, because he is not talking about this being a priority, is that he will try to stick this Defense authorization bill on an appropriations bill at the end of the year, sort of as a clean-up, but if he does that, he will effectively deny Senators floor time to offer debate and to actually have votes on the bill and how to improve it.

One amendment I intend to offer if given the opportunity is a bill I introduced with Senator SHAHEEN from New Hampshire which would help replenish our defense stockpiles.

As we all know by now, the United States has provided Ukraine unprecedented defense aid—Stingers, Javelins, grenade launchers, small arms, ammunition, and so much more. This assistance is not a handout. This is not a charity project. As much as we want to see Ukraine prevail, our material support for Ukraine is not entirely altruistic. The United States isn't just investing in a Ukrainian victory; we are also putting our resources toward a Russian defeat. We are trying to help snuff out the fire before it spreads even further west. We know what Mr. Putin's aspirations are; it is to restore the great Russian Empire that existed when the Soviet Union existed.

We know that there is a delicate balance to strike here. Our support for Ukraine cannot come, should not come at the cost of our own military readiness. And we have requirements way beyond just Ukraine, as I mentioned earlier—the People's Republic of China, North Korea, Iran.

The United States is a global power, and we have to be ready whenever and wherever the threat arises. We have to be able to replenish our weapons stockpiles quickly so we are ready whatever may come our way. Unfortunately, there are a lot of bureaucratic hurdles in the way.

I was shocked when I saw that the Pentagon is not in a position to replace the Javelins and Stinger missiles that we provided Ukraine because they don't have an operating production line, and they said it may take a couple of years. I know that our friends and allies in Europe that are providing weapons to the Ukrainians have every expectation that the United States will replenish those stockpiles of weapons so that they can defend their country and meet their NATO obligations.

So the level of unreadiness at the Pentagon to meet the current need is shocking. The Defense Department can't place an order for more Javelins and then have them show up at the Pentagon 5 to 7 business days later. It

simply doesn't work like that. The process of purchasing, manufacturing, and deploying this lethal aid takes a lot of time, which, to be frank, we do not have.

Senator SHAHEEN and I have recently introduced a bipartisan bill called the Securing American ARMS Act to remove some of the hurdles and the bureaucratic delay in replenishing those stockpiles. It will give the Department of Defense the ability to fast-track the procurement process. That includes times like these when the United States is providing defense articles to an ally or a partner that is under armed attack by a U.S. adversary.

Our bill would also give the Defense Department the ability to expedite the delivery of defense articles to our allies and partners in need. This will allow us to continue to provide critical support to Ukraine—but not just limited to Ukraine—all without compromising our national defense or our ability to meet other obligations around the world.

I appreciate Senator SHAHEEN working with me on this bill, which now has more than a dozen bipartisan cosponsors.

When the Senate finally begins consideration of the Defense Authorization Act, I hope this legislation will be a part of it. At the same time, as a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I am hopeful we can also reauthorize the U.S. intelligence community, which usually takes a ride on the Defense Authorization Act.

The hard-working men and women of the intelligence community carry out missions day in and day out that inform key policy decisions and the work of the U.S. military. Of course, being intelligence operators, their work is not acknowledged necessarily like a member of our uniformed services, but their service is vital to our missions and our interests around the world.

One great example of the role the intelligence community played in the runup to Russia's invasion of Ukraine was that our intelligence community was able to provide skeptical allies with irrefutable proof of Russia's intentions and showed exactly what Russia was planning before February 24. I have no doubt that this intelligence contributed to the unified response in the days and weeks following. And we engaged in enhanced information and intelligence sharing on a real-time basis that I think has helped facilitate Ukraine's strong national defense and now counteroffensive that they are currently engaged in, trying to recapture some of their territory that Russia has previously occupied.

I want to particularly recognize the chairman and the ranking member of the Senate Intelligence Committee—Senator WARNER, a Democrat from Virginia, and Senator RUBIO, a Republican from Florida—for their leadership in helping us pass the Intelligence Authorization Act unanimously in July. Like other authorization bills, this

outlines funding levels for the intelligence community, but it also contains legislative oversight of America's intelligence apparatus.

Strong oversight is crucial to ensuring accountability, while enabling our intelligence professionals to accomplish the complex and difficult missions the American people demand of them. With the ongoing war in Ukraine and threats from China continuing to grow, we need intelligence at the speed of relevance. This is how we help assure everyone, from our policymakers to our warfighters, that we will have the tools to maintain America's preeminent global position and ensure the defense of our homeland.

I appreciate the hard work of Senator RUBIO and Senator WARNER to advance this reauthorization, and again, I hope, when we take up the Defense Authorization Act at some point, that it will be included.

So, Madam President, let me just conclude where I started. The National Defense Authorization Act is a must-pass piece of legislation. We have passed it for 61 years in a row. Yet, when I hear Senator SCHUMER, the majority leader, talk about things we need to do before the midterm elections, I don't hear a peep out of him on his intention to move that Defense Authorization Act.

Providing for the common defense is one of Congress's most basic responsibilities. If we can't keep the American people and our democracy safe, we will have failed in our first and most urgent duty. There is far too much at stake to let the NDAA linger on the Senate calendar for more months. So my hope is that the majority leader will bring this bill to the floor this month and provide Senators who are not on the Armed Services Committee an opportunity to participate in the process by debating and offering amendments like the one I described earlier so we can strengthen our national defense at this critical moment in our Nation's history.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, what a great time of the year—county fairs, State fairs. The weather is changing. People are getting outside more. It is not quite as hot in most places. Parents have smiles on their faces because their kids are going back to school. College is starting up.

That is what I want to talk about today. Our college campuses are ramping up. There are a lot of good things going on with that. A lot of young people are for the first time going to college, going out for the first time in their lives and making their own decisions, away from home for the first time, putting their budgets together, having to go by their own time with nobody to wake them up, having to wash their own clothes, having to do things they have never had to do be-

fore. For the first time in their lives, they are responsible for themselves 24 hours a day.

I did that for 40 years coaching college football, coaching high school football. It was amazing how many young men and women whom I worked with never saw the Sun come up in their lives. If they played for me, they got to see the Sun come up. We got up early and stayed late.

So it is an important time for all of our young adults in college, K-12—very important—for our high school, elementary, and junior high school kids. For many, many years, it has been an important part of all of our lives in the United States of America, and it has been one point that has made us better than everybody across the world in terms of education. We educate our young people from K-12. Everybody has an opportunity to go to college for an extended education. It is a great opportunity. It is fun to watch. I had a chance to watch a lot of young people have some great opportunities and make a lot of things out of themselves.

I used to tell my players when I coached that you are living in the greatest country on the face of the Earth. If you are born in this country, you hit the lottery. A lot of people don't understand that. If you go to some of these other countries, you will figure it out real quick. But the United States of America, this country, really owes you nothing other than one thing: It owes you an opportunity—an opportunity to do what the heck you want to do or be who you want to be. If you work hard, you might have a chance. A lot of times, you are going to get knocked down. Do you know what this country does? It gives you a chance to get back on your feet and go again. It doesn't owe you one thing other than that. If you take advantage of it, you can achieve it.

For many years, institutions of higher education were great examples of the great American experiment. They were places where free speech was not only allowed but encouraged, and innovation and problem-solving were required for success. Success created some of America's favorite pastimes.

College sports, which have become a piece of our national identity, started a couple of weeks ago. They have immense benefits for young men and women who get involved in sports. But higher education became the envy of the world, as I said earlier. Our colleges and universities produced new research, technologies, and medicines and molded the talent and the talented minds to use these new developments that make our country a better place and make our country No. 1.

But this trend, I hate to say, is changing. Activists have fundamentally shifted higher education to become a vehicle to further their political agenda, and now they are set on forcing American taxpayers to pay for the overpriced indoctrination and taking athletic opportunities away from

those who have worked so very hard to train and compete.

Let's start with the pricetag associated with higher education. The cost of attending college has skyrocketed, but these institutions have done little—very little—to ensure their value has increased along with the increase in price, the increase in tuitions. Bloated school administrations continually drive budgets and tuitions up, to the point where a lot of people can't afford to go to school anymore.

President Biden recently decided to throw gasoline on this fire by attempting to use Executive authority to, as he calls it, forgive student loan debt for millions of Americans. His plan will forgive up to \$20,000 in student loan debt for Pell grant recipients who make \$125,000 a year or less and \$10,000 in student loan debt for all those under the same salary cap.

Think about that. A college-educated person making a six-figure salary would essentially get a \$10,000 handout from hard-working Americans, the majority of whom did not go to college themselves and are struggling to provide for their families thanks to soaring inflation driven by our comrades on the left, Democrats' reckless spending in the last 2 years.

Despite the administration's attempt to convince the country that they are focused on fighting inflation, this debt transfer scheme will do exactly the opposite. It is going to make prices higher. In fact, the Penn Wharton budget model projects the total cost of President Biden's loan forgiveness plan and changes to the other loan programs could cost the American people more than \$1 trillion.

Folks on both sides of the aisle have rightfully criticized this plan because of its clear and indefensible cost, and I share those concerns with everybody that is against this.

I am also concerned about two additional long-term effects of this decision. One, it does nothing to fix the broken system that led to soaring costs of college in the first place. It will, in fact, make college even more expensive. If we are going to do something, let's fix the problem. We are not fixing the problem. We are just adding to the problem. And, two, it allows students and graduates to avoid the consequences of their own actions, further hindering young people from becoming independent, free thinking, and responsible. The thing about education is learning responsibility, and this does exactly the opposite of teaching responsibility at a level where they need to learn.

All Americans, including those who, like me, chose to take on debt attending college must be responsible for their own actions. Hard-working taxpayers who did not go to college should not have to assume the debt of others because this administration decided to fulfill a campaign promise right before a midterm election.

Further, this degradation of the value of college is just the latest in a

decades-long effort by those on the left to fundamentally change higher education and force their agenda on campuses across our country, and it comes right after this administration announced its plan to attack another key part of the American system—athletic competition and the level playing field created by title IX.

I began my career coaching high school a long time ago. But before that, title IX was created in supporting women athletics. I started coaching a few years after title IX was started, and I have seen from the very beginning what title IX has done for women across this country—girls and athletes—and how it has made leaders of young girls and young women who would have never been afforded the opportunity had title IX not passed.

Title IX, to me, is one of the best things this Federal Government has ever done, bar none. It has given the opportunity of a level playing field for young girls to have that opportunity they would have never had. What it did, it said boys and girls have to have the same facilities, coaches, and same athletic budgets, also the same scholarships if they went to a university. Men could not have more than women. And we have seen the explosion of women sports, bar none.

When I was coaching years ago, 3 to 6 percent of the high school girls—3 to 6 percent—played high school athletics. Today, we have close to 60 percent. Why? Because of title IX, because of more sports that title IX afforded and bigger budgets for women athletics. It did a tremendous service to women and girls across this country. I am proud of the progress this country has made and the immense talent that it has brought out because of what title IX has done.

But this anniversary, which was the 50th anniversary in June—think about that, 50th anniversary, how time flies. I am not that old. But the 50th anniversary of title IX was in June. This anniversary comes at a challenging time now for young girls and women in sports. The ability to train and compete fairly is under attack from activists and this current White House. Since 2003, at least 28 biological males have won titles in various women's events around the world. Think about that. Now we are allowing biological boys and biological men to compete against girls and women in sports, and they won 28 titles. How fair is that?

If the current administration and the activists pushing this policy have their way, biological males winning women's sports championships would become the norm. It will be an everyday occurrence. That is not fair. It is not fair for a young girl or woman that has trained all her life in a sport to, at the end of the day, have to compete for a championship against a young boy who says or thinks that he is a woman. What is right about that?

In July, the Department of Education published and proposed a rule to change how title IX is implemented in

order to better align with the administration's progressive agenda. These proposed changes would require schools to allow—this is in title IX now—will allow biological males to compete in women's sports.

Last week, I submitted a public comment to Secretary Cardona that clearly and strongly condemns this new proposed rule. Expanding the definition of sex to include gender identity, to identify whoever you want to identify as, will cause lasting damage to the level playing field title IX originally was created for, which was for women. The change to title IX would be a monumental setback for the generations of women who have benefited from the law over the last 50 years.

So what are we going to do now? We are going to go back to square one because somebody wants to change it. The Department should not move forward with this proposal and not change the rule but, instead, work with Congress on legislative action meant to strengthen protections afforded women in the original statute.

As I know from firsthand experience, participating in college athletics is about more than winning and losing. There is a lot more to it. Student athletes learn many important lessons by participating. It sets our country apart from other countries all over the world—like the value of hard work, discipline, commitment, responsibility. Athletes learn how to work together, be loyal to each other, play for a cause, take responsibility for their own actions, learn how to win—but, more importantly, learn how to lose. Perhaps most importantly, they teach student athletes that free and fair competition allows the best team to win.

That is why I am so strongly opposed to this administration's plans to devalue education and unlevel the playing field in the name of leftwing progress and indoctrination.

These attacks on higher education and women's sports must stop. To best prepare America's young people to be the next generation of leaders our country needs, I am fighting back against these policies, like dismantling title IX and haphazardly forgiving student debt. That encourages young adults to break the rules and ignore their responsibilities.

Instead of making our colleges more expensive and less fair, Congress should be focused on reforms to get to the root of the cause. Universities should be encouraged to cut budgets and lower tuition rates. Students graduating high school should be steered toward career and financial decisions that make sense for them and that they can afford. Everybody doesn't need to go to college.

Lastly, we must reject these ideologies and mobs on the left who don't believe in free speech in the classroom and on our college campuses. Our country cannot thrive without allowing young adults to freely and fairly learn, grow, develop, and create on

and off the field. We must protect that fair playing field while encouraging college students to take responsibility for their own actions and financial decisions, something all of us here in Congress should learn to do as well.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RAILWAY LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, this afternoon, I come here with genuine concern about the possibility of the failure to resolve a railroad labor management dispute, and I express my support for that resolution.

I represent a State, the State of Kansas, its people, America's largest supplier of wheat, and a top leader in agricultural markets of many other crops. I can tell you that a labor strike would disrupt the stability of our ag markets and could prove catastrophic to our global food supply.

At a time in which hunger is rampant around the world, again one of the last things we need is more difficulties in getting agriculture, commodities, and food to people around the globe who are looking for a meal tonight. In my State, corn, soybeans, grain, sorghum—that harvest is underway, and farmers need to be able to ship their crops by train around the country and to our ports where the grain will be sent to feed that hungry world.

In parts of Kansas facing severe drought, feed yards, places that we feed cattle, are shipping grain in from other areas of the country to feed their livestock.

Rail service is critical to making sure these producers are able to get the feed they need and to keep their livestock fed and healthy. The U.S. rail network moves critical agricultural commodities across the Nation, and a complete shutdown of the rail system would result in devastating consequences across an already weak supply chain.

The Association of American Railroads found that a nationwide rail shutdown could idle more than 7,000 trains and lose more than \$2 billion a day in missed economic output. As the deadline approaches, we are already seeing the impact of contingency planning by railways, showing that a full shutdown would be totally unacceptable.

With the trucking industry and other transportation systems already at their maximum capacity, there is no alternative plan that could mitigate the losses in case of a rail transportation strike and that rail service coming to an end.

I have been in regular contact with our rail leaders, including those at Union Pacific and the Kansas City

Southern, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, and I continue to urge all parties to reach an agreement.

Our constituents deserve certainty that will come from reaching that agreement. In the event that the conclusion is not reached, I will utilize my opportunities as a Member of the Senate, as a Member of Congress for congressional intervention and work to shield the impact of a rail shutdown across the Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

ISRAEL AND TAIWAN

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, on November 11, 2001—exactly 2 months after the September 11 attacks—President Bush spoke to the United Nations General Assembly about the universal threat of terrorism.

I want to share just a few lines from that speech:

The suffering of September the 11th was inflicted on people of many faiths and many nations. All of the victims, including Muslims, were killed with equal indifference and equal satisfaction by the terrorist leaders.

Time is passing. Yet, for the United States of America, there will be no forgetting September the 11th. We will remember every rescuer who died in honor. We will remember every family that lives in grief. We will remember the fire and ash, the last phone calls, the funerals of the children.

And the people of my country will remember those who have plotted against us. We are learning their names. We are coming to know their faces. There is no corner of the Earth distant or dark enough to protect them. However long it takes, their hour of justice will come.

Every nation has a stake in this cause. As we meet, the terrorists are planning more murder—perhaps in my country, or perhaps in yours. They kill because they aspire to dominate.

Now, 21 years later, I fear that President Biden and many of my Democratic colleagues have forgotten the lessons they learned from that day and in the years that have followed.

What I recall most about the weeks and months following the attacks is that everyone I talked with, no matter their politics, believed that we were facing a battle of good versus evil.

There was a real clarity of conviction that demanded we all choose a side. Would we stand with freedom or with the enemies of freedom? You can dither and dally all you want on national security policy, but there was not much dithering to be done on that point, at least not in 2001.

But now, in the mainstream media and at the highest levels of the Democratic Party, we see that clarity of conviction ceding ground to moral relativism. It infected this weekend's remembrance. It infected the debate surrounding Joe Biden's disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan. And it has all but derailed any serious discussion about emerging threats, not just from terrorist organizations but from hostile regimes that the Biden administration seems determined to appease.

During this past August work period, I had the opportunity to visit two of

the hot spots. Working with our counterparts in Taiwan and Israel was illuminating for many reasons. I wish every single one of my colleagues would get off their computers, get on a plane, and go talk to them about what it is like to spend every day on the frontlines in this battle against the new "axis of evil."

Here in the United States, we are blessed by the benefit of physical distance from the hot spots. And it is no guarantee of protection, and I believe it has lulled many of my colleagues into a false sense of security concerning the threats we face.

Our friends in Taipei and Jerusalem don't share this benefit. They spend their days watching missiles fly closer to their homes and listening to authoritarian propaganda from Beijing and Iran that threatens innocent families with extinction for the crime of simply existing.

In Israel, they are gravely concerned about the Biden administration's desire to enter into a new nuclear deal with Tehran. They worry that this will move Iran closer to a nuclear warhead. They are concerned about what would happen with the billions of dollars that would flow into Iran's coffers. What would happen with sanctions relief? How will they use this money?

Overall, their fears are dominated by the knowledge that, yes, indeed, Iran is the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism. How will they use the money to finance the work of their proxies? They are particularly concerned how this will instigate growth and expansion of terrorism in Palestine.

In Taiwan, they are concerned about the growing intensity of Chinese Communist Party aggression. I have also heard grave concerns from other island nations that if China overruns Taiwan, they could be the next to fall.

But above all, they conveyed a strong desire to continue working with the United States. Yes, we are their preferred partner. They need our foreign military sales. They want to be able to defend themselves. It means they have to increase their defense capabilities.

Taiwan and Israel aren't the only hot spots that should concern us, but they both represent the first line of defense against the growing influence of the new "axis of evil."

The one thing I heard, over and over again when I was overseas, is that if we allow these nations to become overrun, it will start a domino effect in the Indo-Pacific and the Middle East that will be difficult, if not impossible, to stop.

And as we have seen before, when we give nations like China and Iran an inch, what do they do? They take a mile.

So it is incomprehensible to me that Joe Biden and the Democrats are not doing everything—everything—in their power to stop this from happening.

Over the past few years, I have watched the President and his allies treat the threat posed by the new "axis

of evil” like an academic problem, rather than what it is, a true threat to our freedoms.

There is no excuse for this. They all have access to television and the internet. They know exactly who is in charge in Tehran and Beijing and what they are willing to do to expand their power.

So why have we made so little progress repatriating our supply chains and protecting our economy from the Chinese Communist Party? Why is Joe Biden trying to force the American people into another failed nuclear deal with Iran? Why are they not listening to our closest allies and partners in these regions? Why is this administration having Russia negotiate a new Iran nuclear deal?

If this country continues to treat China and Iran like difficult neighbors instead of a threat to our freedoms, eventually the balance of power will shift in their favor. Nations like Taiwan and Israel will fall. The United States could suffer another devastating attack.

Joe Biden and the Democrats have wasted time rejecting reality in favor of appeasement. They believe that they can negotiate the upper hand and settle things diplomatically. But this isn't diplomacy; this is a hostage situation. If it weren't, images of missiles flying towards civilians would have reignited the same clarity of conviction we all felt after the towers fell and the people in charge of our government would be shouting warnings from the rooftops rather than negotiating away our security behind closed doors.

I would remind my Democratic colleagues that U.N. human rights reports and strongly worded statements and all the other trappings of your current brand of diplomacy mean nothing if you are not willing to put lives and livelihoods on the line to defend them.

So it is time to decide: Will you stand with freedom or with the enemies of freedom?

I want to reiterate President Bush's assessment of the terrorists who attacked our country 21 years ago this week because it is an apt comparison to be made. “They kill because they aspire to dominate.” Think about that one. “They kill because they aspire to dominate.”

What the regimes in Tehran and Beijing are doing right now to our friends in Israel and Taiwan looks different from what al-Qaida did to us on 9/11, but their goals are the same. They seek global domination, and they are growing impatient. We can either wait to see what they will do next or we can stand with our allies and partners and demonstrate our resolve to ensure that the new axis of evil fails.

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.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UKRAINE

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague from the great State of Ohio, Senator PORTMAN, to share with the Senate and the country some of the things that we learned from our recent trip to Ukraine.

I first want to thank Senator PORTMAN. He comes to the floor every week—never gives up, whether things are good or bad—to talk about what is happening in Ukraine.

President Zelenskyy was incredibly grateful—that was the first thing he wanted us to report back to the Senate and to the country—incredibly grateful for all America has done to stand with Ukraine.

We know that this is a country that has given its all. Sometimes we wonder in our own country: What would we put on the line for democracy? Are we going to vote? Or things like that. The people in this country have put their very lives on the line every single day: ballerinas donning camo and going to the frontline; exhausted workers at a nuclear plant trying to protect not just Ukraine but all of Europe in what is the biggest nuclear powerplant in Europe and which supplies 20 percent of Ukrainian energy; the cellist playing beautiful melodies in the bombed-out remnants of a town square to remind people that no matter what Vladimir Putin did to their country, no matter what he did with his inhumane barbarism, culture and love is there in Ukraine, and it is not going away.

Senator PORTMAN and I visited the mass grave in Bucha, and in Irpin we saw many, many apartment buildings that were completely blown apart from the bombs.

We saw firsthand the strength of the Ukrainian people and their leaders. But just as Vladimir Putin has shown his true colors with the bombing and the shelling near a nuclear powerplant, the people of Ukraine have shown their colors in a brilliant yellow and blue. Over the past 6 months since the invasion, their bravery and humanity consistently shine through.

We had, together, traveled to Ukraine. And the last group of Senators who visited before the war started was Senators SHAHEEN, MURPHY, BLUMENTHAL, CRAMER, and WICKER. We witnessed the incredible resolve of the people back then, and it has only grown stronger.

In our meeting with President Zelenskyy for over an hour and with Defense Minister Reznikov and the President's Chief of Staff, we heard, time and time again: the helpfulness of the HIMARS. In fact, the Embassy staff told us that they went to a take-out place in Ukraine and that the people who worked in the restaurant didn't even know they were with our Embassy but knew they were American, and they gave them their bag of food, and on the bag was written the

words “Thanks for the HIMARS.” That is how the people of Ukraine are focused day in and day out on what is happening in their region.

We also, of course, talk about the counteroffensive, and I know Senator PORTMAN will talk in detail about what is happening. And we know the fight is not over. Russia has retaliated by striking infrastructure just in the last few days, and Ukraine is still on the move. But, if anything, this is certainly a sign that our aid—our humanitarian aid, our economic aid, and our military aid—has been very helpful.

The situation, of course, remains dangerous, especially in the Zaporizhzhia region, where the nuclear powerplant is located. We have a situation where the Russians have been bombing and shelling around that plant, where several times Ukrainians have lost power for the power that powers that plant. But also, of course, that plant provides energy. All of it is dangerous.

We called for the IAEA when we were there—they visited literally the next day—to be able to inspect that plant. They were able to—14 inspectors, with 2 being allowed to stay on indefinitely. And, of course, we have called for a demilitarized zone, as has our government.

We also got to meet with the 101st Airborne in Poland, and they, again, underscored our commitment to our NATO allies, the work they have been doing, including helping the Ukrainians remotely to make repairs on various missiles and various weapons and the like. It is an incredible story.

Last week, our administration reported that Moscow is in the process of purchasing rockets and artillery shells from North Korea. It shows how much trouble they are in.

This Senate voted nearly unanimously to allow Finland and Sweden to join NATO. That must happen as quickly as possible because we want to see a united front. As Senator PORTMAN pointed out many times on our trip, there are over 40 nations that are aiding in this effort; it is not America alone.

I always think of that viral video that President Zelenskyy did. He knew the importance of staying in his country and not abandoning his post when the Russians invaded. If you think back to that day, if he had done that, if he had left for a safer location, we would never be where we are today, standing up for democracy. But what he said that night was simply this: We are here. He said: We are here. From that moment on, he and his people inspired the world. Now it is our time to ensure the Ukrainians—as we move forward with our next continuing resolution and supplemental with the budget—that we are here for them; that we know what they are up against, and it is evil, and we stand with their democracy.

Again, I want to thank Senator PORTMAN for his incredible leadership

in working with our leadership, our military, but also the Ukrainian leadership. They know him well.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Minnesota who just talked about our recent visit to Ukraine, where we were able to meet with President Zelenskyy and his top officials and see firsthand what you can see on TV. But, frankly, the emotion and just the incredible courage of the Ukrainian people, when you see it in person, is much more powerful, including going to an airport right outside of Kyiv where a bunch of inexperienced National Guard troops were able to fight off a larger and very seasoned group of Russian and Chechen special operators who landed at that airport.

This was back on February 24. You may remember seeing this on television. I remember watching CNN and seeing these Russian troops landing one after another. Twenty-five helicopters came in, and they were going to use that as a staging area, as you said so well, to not just take Kyiv but take the entire country and topple the government. And this small band of National Guard troops, fighting for their family, fighting for their homeland, and fighting for freedom, as they told us, were able to instead defeat this group of highly trained Chechen and Russian special operators and turn the tide. Within 3 days, they had routed them. Thanks to their bravery and courage, they were not able to use that staging area to then go into the city of Kyiv, which is only about 30 minutes away, and be able to topple that government.

I remember we asked the commander whom we saw there, who was the commander that night when these helicopters arrived: How did you do it? Like, how could this have been possible, that you could fight off these more experienced troops and the world's third biggest army? And his response was: Because I was fighting for my family. Remember that? So we saw constantly.

Senator KLOBUCHAR was always good about ensuring that the people of Ukraine knew that we were standing with them and that we understood the challenge they face and the fact that this is not just a fight for freedom in Ukraine but a fight for freedom that affects all of us around the world. They are the shield, really, of freedom—certainly for Europe and for so much of the rest of the world.

So I appreciate your, again, going with me on the trip.

We took the last congressional delegation into Ukraine before the invasion and now the first authorized one, I guess, after. There is so much we were able to learn when we were there because it was a time when the U.N. inspectors were coming into Zaporizhzhia. This is the biggest powerplant in Europe that Senator KLOBUCHAR just talked about. Thank good-

ness they were able to get to the plant, inspect the plant, and make some changes to try to keep the plant from leaking radioactive material that has the potential to be another Chernobyl and also make a very declarative statement that you must demilitarize that zone, which the Russians still have not done. In fact, they have done just the opposite. They have used that plant as, effectively, a military base by having their military there, using the plant as a shield to fire on Ukrainian positions.

They have also destroyed infrastructure going into Ukraine from that plant, which is very dangerous, but they have used explosives to do so to try to cut off the electricity going into Ukraine because they would like to take that electricity and direct it, instead, to Russia and to Crimea. These are dangerous, dangerous games.

We have seen them play politics with food, destroying bins of grain all along the southern coast of Ukraine, stopping the ships from going out. Finally now, because of the U.N. and Turkey and the negotiations, some ships are going out. But they have used food as a weapon. They have certainly used energy as a weapon. They continue to do so every day, as they are doing in Europe, as they cut off even the Nord Stream 1 Pipeline to Europe, insisting the Europeans give up on their sanctions, which need to be tightened, if anything. Now they are actually using a nuclear powerplant as a weapon of war—not just incredibly irresponsible but dangerously reckless and risking a catastrophe.

So, again, I appreciate Senator KLOBUCHAR coming with me. I appreciate her leadership on this issue. We have tried to keep this issue totally non-partisan, not just bipartisan. The members of the Ukraine Caucus, including Senator KLOBUCHAR and myself, continue to meet regularly and get updates as to what is going on in Ukraine and ensure that we are doing our part here as a leader of freedom-loving countries all over the world.

As she said, there are many other countries participating. In fact, there were 50 countries at the recent conference on providing defensive military assistance to Ukraine. At least 42 countries have provided serious weapons, like these longer range artillery weapons that are so essential to Ukraine's success.

So this is not just America alone, but America has a unique leadership role to play here. That is what we have seen so far. As we come upon another vote here in the U.S. Senate and the House over the next couple of weeks, we have to ensure that we continue to take that leadership role.

I have come to the floor every week for the past 21 weeks—this is the 22nd week—while we have been in session since the invasion began, and the focus has been often about kind of grim news about what Russia is doing: the murders, the rapes, the fact that they are constantly bombing civilian targets,

not just apartment buildings but hospitals and schools. It is a grim story, and it is a sobering experience to see this, as we did in Irpin and in Bucha, to see the ditch that the Russians dug to be able to dump the bodies that have been tortured and murdered.

But today I am, fortunately, able to talk about some much more positive news, which is that, at a time of all these tragic circumstances, the Ukrainians are now making great progress and pushing back this Russian assault.

So we were here in the Kyiv area. This is where we saw some of the results of what the Russian troops had done, the atrocities and the war crimes they had committed—Irpin and Bucha. This is where the airport was we talked about. You remember, at one point, Russians were all in this area. They were pushed out and went down to this area called the Donbas.

The Russians had been making progress down here, frankly, in Donetsk and Luhansk and even in southern Ukraine here, taking Kherson. This is one of the key and one of the first cities that Russia took. Here is Odessa. Here are the ports.

So that is where we were until a couple of weeks ago, but a few weeks have made a big difference. Just 3 days before we arrived in Kyiv, there was a counteroffensive that began, and that counteroffensive was here in the south, so going here toward Kherson, as it is called, and trying to liberate some of these areas that the Russians had invaded. This is what they invaded initially back in 2014, and this is what they invaded more recently. So this Russian war has been going on for 8½ years.

The good news is that this counteroffensive has been making progress, and that progress has been not just here in the south but also up here in the northeast. In fact, in many respects, I think what happened is Russia moved some of its troops down here to the south, knowing that this counteroffensive was beginning. In a surprise move that is really astonishing, the Ukrainian troops have made progress now here in this area, the northeastern part of Ukraine.

This map will show you a little more detail about what is happening up north in Kharkiv. And I show you this in part to show progress but specifically to show and demonstrate to my colleagues that what we provided in military assistance to Ukraine is working. In particular, they have been asking for some time for these weapons called HIMARS, which are rocket systems that allow for a longer range and more accurate use of artillery. Prior to that, the Russians were sitting back and firing on Ukrainian positions, destroying towns—again, a lot of civilian targets—and doing so with impunity because the artillery from Ukraine could not reach them.

So we now know from public sources there are at least 16 of these batteries

that are over in the area. There are also a few from Germany and the UK. They have made a tremendous difference. That is something, again, that is in public reporting, but we have also heard quite a bit about this from their defense secretary and their team.

But here is where we are today. Remember, all this was red in that larger map. Now, after only a few weeks and, really, just a couple of weeks in terms of this offensive, you see the great progress that has been made. A number of these cities that they have taken back are areas where there is a tremendous advantage to the Ukrainians, because this city, as an example, is a rail hub that was being used to supply the Russian troops that are in this part of the Donbas called Luhansk. Now look at that amount of blue. That is all where the Ukrainians have made progress. In fact, they have pushed the Russians right back to the Belarus border or to the Russian border. So this is very positive news.

Again, the reason for it—the reason that Kharkiv Oblast is now free—is because of the work of 42 countries around the world that supplied them the necessary equipment, the necessary ammo, to be able to succeed and because of the courage and bravery, most importantly, of the Ukrainian fighters. Again, think back to that commander at that small airport in Kyiv who said: We are fighting for our families, for our homeland, for our freedom. That gives them a distinct advantage, in my view.

Let there be no doubt that what happened here in this northeastern part of Ukraine was a collapse of demoralized Russian forces who fled, often leaving behind Russian armored vehicles, personnel carriers, tanks. You have seen some of that, perhaps, on the news coverage. On the other side were Ukrainians showing courage, tenacity, and determination.

The Ukrainians not just outsmarted the Russians, but they were braver and charged into the breach to liberate, by the way, thousands, if not millions, from Russian domination. People came out of their homes, by the way, to embrace these Ukrainian soldiers and to thank them—people who had been hiding in their homes, people who had been living under these terrible conditions and suffering from some of the atrocities from the Russian troops.

There was a great photo that I saw that I wanted to show you, which is of a bus stop in the Kharkiv Oblast, the Kharkiv region. This is a bus stop that had been defaced by the Russian soldiers, including putting the Russian flag on it and other graffiti. Here are some Ukrainians repainting this bus stop with, of course, the colors of Ukraine, yellow and blue—yellow standing for the sunflower fields that at one time were all over the country of Ukraine. Unfortunately, because of the war, that production will be down about 50 percent this year, but it is a beautiful sight to see those sunflower fields, which I have seen throughout

Ukraine. And, second, of course, there is blue for the beautiful blue sky.

This is a photograph of people celebrating. I think there is another one there, too. People are celebrating not just the fact that they can reclaim their homes but celebrating the fact that their country is being liberated, that they can, once again, call themselves proud Ukrainians and stand tall. This is what is happening.

Sometimes the events of the day make it difficult to follow what is going on in Ukraine. Remember, we saw it on the front pages and the top of the news for weeks. And then, more recently, we have gotten distracted with other issues. But it is time for us to refocus on Ukraine and ensure that we are helping them to continue to make progress.

Ukraine has the will, the bravery, and the military competence to win. We have now seen that. What they need are the weapons to be able to defend themselves and the equipment that we and other nations of the world can provide for them. The economic aid package that passed here in the Senate back in May included this funding they needed—again, funding for the HIMARS, as an example.

It took longer than many of us wanted for the administration to provide those weapons, but they did provide them and, again, we see what is happening.

Recently, the administration, just this week, is making another request, a supplemental request, for additional funding. This time it is \$13.7 billion in Ukraine-related funding, \$7.2 billion in military assistance of two different kinds and then \$4.5 billion in budget support.

This is a country whose economy has been reduced to a shambles thanks to the Russian invasion, and their economy is down about 40 percent to 50 percent. So until we can have more peace in that country and people can come back, they need budget support, as well as military support, just to be able to pay salaries for first responders and teachers.

I was pleased that Secretary of State Blinken also made a recent surprise visit to Kyiv right after our visit to let Ukraine know that the Biden administration and this country stands with them. He told the leaders the administration will continue to provide long-term support to Ukraine and to 18 other countries that are at risk of a Russian invasion in the Eastern European area.

That funding that he promised is from some existing appropriations. The new money, \$13.5 billion, is a new package. This is a lot of money, but it is important that Congress continue to strongly support Ukraine, particularly during this incredibly critical period for the country's future.

This is a fight, again, not just about Ukraine, but it is a fight about global freedom. If we are not there to help Ukraine and Ukraine were to lose this

fight and Russia were to take Ukraine, the cost we would all pay would be far, far more.

We have to learn the lessons of the past. Last month, we marked 1 year since the chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan, when the Biden administration was rightly criticized for abandoning our allies there. It was a stain on American credibility. It shook the trust of many of our allies around the world. I can say that having talked to many of them in the aftermath, if we were to abandon Ukraine, especially right after they demonstrated such spectacular military success, we would be making that mistake all over again. Many would wonder if America could be trusted to watch their backs.

Remember, Ukraine is a free and democratic country that looks to us, the United States, as a role model. In 2014, they made a very deliberate decision, which was to get rid of a Russian-backed corrupt government and, instead, turn to the West—to Europe, to the United States—to adopt our free-market approaches but also our democratic approaches of free speech, free and fair elections, ensuring that they had transparency and were fighting corruption. That is the country that we want to hold up as a role model and, certainly, continue to support them.

In 1994, we made a commitment after the Cold War ended—along with, by the way, the UK and Russia—that in exchange for them getting rid of their nuclear weapons in Ukraine, we would stand with them and protect their territorial integrity. Of course, Russia is not making good on that pledge, but for the United States of America it is another reason for us to stand with our allies who have chosen to stand with us.

To underscore the point that the assistance is appreciated, every time Senator KLOBUCHAR and I were at the meeting, we heard the same thing, whether it was with President Zelenskyy or whether it was with people who were in these small towns like Kharkiv or Bucha. It was “thank you, thank you, thank you.” There was deep appreciation for what we are doing and thankfulness to the American people.

I will remind everyone that Ukraine has never asked for us to put American boots on the ground. This is not Iraq. This is not Afghanistan. What they have offered for us is an opportunity to protect freedom by providing them with the ability to protect themselves. We can't let Vladimir Putin even begin to think that the West is beginning to falter in this mission, especially as this counteroffensive makes more and more progress as the war crosses the 200-day mark.

It is important to note that we are not the only ones, again, providing it. Nations around the world have banded together and that is important. They know that if aggression can succeed in Ukraine, it can spread elsewhere, including further Russian encroachments in Europe that Russia has openly

talked about, reclaiming the Russian Empire, as they say, and increased Chinese aggression throughout Asia, including in the Pacific Ocean.

The Solomon Islands is an example of that today, increased Chinese aggression with regard to Taiwan, and aggressive moves by Iran, exporting terrorism and instability across the Middle East.

So this is about Ukraine, but it is really about a broader issue, and all countries are watching—our allies and our adversaries.

I know there are some out there who say we can't provide indefinite funding to Ukraine, with no end in sight. I totally agree. That is not what anybody wants to do or no one expects to do. Everyone agrees that our aid to Ukraine will end at the right point, as Ukraine reclaims its rightful territory. The question is just when. We cannot let an arbitrary timeline determine that. We tried that in Afghanistan; it doesn't work. We have to be guided by the reality on the ground.

It is clear that ending our support now would be premature and ill-advised. We have to step up, and this is money well-spent in defense of freedom. A Russian victory would be disastrous for U.S. national security and the stability and volatility of the world, the security of our NATO allies, and, certainly, the security of Eastern Europe.

We know that Russia would not stop there. Vladimir Putin himself has said:

The borders of Russia never end.

He talked about recreating the Soviet Union, recreating the Russian Empire. I would say the borders of Russia end where freedom begins.

Meanwhile, China would see the West's surrender in Ukraine as proof of the West's "weakness." This would further embolden them. A Ukrainian victory would have the opposite effect. It would not only cripple Russia's war machine that President Putin has used to invade Georgia, Ukraine in 2014, Transnistria, Syria, and parts of Africa where they continue to meddle. It would also make Russian military aggression less likely for a long period of time.

With President Putin expected to meet with Chinese President Xi this week, both men know that the United States and their allies stand together against rogue aggression against sovereign countries. That is very important as a message to send.

Of course, with our assistance that we are going to be voting on, once again, here in this body, there have to be safeguards in place. There have to be guardrails. We have to ensure that military assistance is subject to careful accountability.

When Senator KLOBUCHAR and I were there, we talked to the 101st Airborne in Poland, who are handling a lot of the equipment coming in from around the world, from all these dozens of other countries and the United States. They talked a lot about what is called

"end-use monitoring," knowing where these weapons are going precisely to ensure they are going to the right hands, to ensure there is not an issue with regard to how these weapons are being used. It has been more difficult to do that in Ukraine given the security concerns. But during our trip, we heard about real progress being made to increase that U.S. and global oversight of our military aid to Ukraine with real end-use monitoring. As our Embassy in Kyiv begins to bring people back, we have more American eyes on the ground to ensure that oversight. Ukraine, itself, by the way, wants that transparency and strongly supports it.

The price that we pay to stop Russia now is small compared to what we would pay if they succeed, and the deeper price, of course, is being paid by Ukraine. As NATO Secretary Stoltenberg said recently:

The price we pay is measured in currency. The price they pay [in Ukraine] is measured in lives lost every day.

We are on the side of freedom. Ukrainians want their freedom back. They fought for it in 2014 in the Euromaidan. They fought for it several times in their history. The United States and dozens of our allies have stepped up to help them achieve this goal and win this brutal war.

They have this big advantage. They are fighting with heart. They are fighting for the freedom of their homeland, their families. Russia is fighting against an enemy that never truly existed in the first place. They are fighting against a neighbor that never wanted anything but peace with all their neighbors, including Russia, but now has to take up arms to protect itself.

Recent polling by the International Republican Institute, IRI, shows that 98 percent of Ukrainians believe Ukraine will win this war. Their morale is strong. Their spirit is amazing. That was certainly the feeling I got from President Zelenskyy, his team, and every other Ukrainian Senator KLOBUCHAR and I met with on this trip. They are united together for victory.

We met with parliamentarians from four different parties in the Rada, the equivalent of their U.S. Congress, their parliament. They are all together, all working together toward a common cause and a common enemy.

This morale isn't just in Ukraine. I see this spirit every time I go back to Ohio, where tens of thousands of Ukrainians call Ohio their home. These Ukrainian Americans and others from the Eastern European area—others of the community of nations that have been affected by the Soviet Union and Russia over the years—they are sticking together and their morale is high too.

On Sunday, President Zelenskyy brought this spirit to his people in a powerful address to the Ukrainian people. This was a 200-day speech that talked of 200 days of brave troops fighting. He said that he was certain

Ukrainians would get through this difficult path to victory. This was an inspirational speech at a time when the Ukrainian people are making progress toward victory on the battlefield and, therefore, peace by getting Vladimir Putin to the bargaining table. This must be the result.

With our help and the help of all freedom-loving countries, victory can be achieved. That is what is so important right now as we look at this new appropriations bill, this legislation that the administration has sent us to help Ukraine continue its battle for freedom.

My hope is that this week and next, as we take up this legislation, that Congress passes it, showing the same spirit and the commitment to victory as we saw in Ukraine.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

MR. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, before I start my planned remarks, let me thank Senator PORTMAN for his remarks and all his effort. There is considerable bipartisan consensus about the need for support of Ukraine's efforts. The mantle of freedom in the world right now is carried by Ukraine against Russian oppression. I am delighted to have been present for his remarks.

Very early on, there were a few of us here in the Senate who, on a bipartisan basis, decided that the U.S. policy ought to, at a minimum, contemplate the possibility of Ukrainian victory, that writing it off was simply a bad mistake. At the time, it looked like it was a very small prospect, but the courage of the Ukrainian military, as they have pushed back in Kharkiv with counteroffensive and the abundant supply of military hardware that they have received from the West has made what seemed a fantastic, hopeful notion something that actually could be real, and it could be real in a fairly short time.

I, again, thank Senator PORTMAN for his remarks.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

MR. President, I am here on a different subject. I will now turn to that subject.

This is the 18th time that I have come to the floor to expose the dark money scheme that has captured and controlled our Supreme Court.

Over the last 2 years, I have, over and over, exposed how dark money operatives, working from the shadows, have installed Supreme Court Justices handpicked—handpicked—by the minions of far-right donors.

I have exposed the key front groups through which this Court-packing operation is driven and the tactics that the schemers have used to hide the dark money donors who pull its strings.

And when you take a close look at the scheme, the little spider that you find at the center of the dark money web behind it is a character named Leonard Leo.

From his perch at the dark money-funded Federalist Society, Leo crafted a reputation as the Court-capture scheme's puppet master. The key to his craft is an armada of phony front groups that shuffle dark money back and forth, around and amongst each other, to deploy as spin, as propaganda, as political ads, or as hidden campaign funding.

During Donald Trump's time in office, Leonard Leo brokered the scheme to have the Federalist Society or—more accurately—the big secret donors behind the Federalist Society handpick Trump's Supreme Court nominees. Remember that list we all heard about?

Leo coordinated the dark money propaganda machine that kept the heat on Senate Republicans to confirm those nominees, and he supported the big donors' doctrine factories where donor-approved fringe legal doctrines are concocted for the anointed judges to weaponize from the Bench.

Look no further than the recent *West Virginia v. EPA* decision weaponizing the doctrine factory-concocted major questions' doctrine. And this was no small scheme. The latest estimate from earlier this year is that these big donors put \$580 million, more than half a billion dollars, into Leo's network of Court-capture front groups.

Well, little did we know, that was just the beginning. Last month, ProPublica and the New York Times broke the news that a reclusive, far-right billionaire supercharged Leo's dark money operation with a \$1.6 billion donation to a Leo front group. You heard that right, \$1.6 billion into this dark money operation.

The man behind this new slush fund is a billionaire named Barre Seid, and even the way the donation was made was creepy and clandestine. Seid and Leo devised a plan to transfer all the shares in an electronics company to Leo's front group, on the way to selling that company.

So when that company sold for \$1.6 billion, it all went straight to Leo's group and, by the way, helped Seid avoid what would have been roughly \$400 million in taxes.

Seid has a long history of funding far-right front groups. Here is how ProPublica characterized what Seid calls his "attack philanthropy."

Seid has funded climate denialism as well as a national network of state-level think tanks that promote business deregulation and fight Medicaid expansion. He's also supported efforts to remake the higher education system in a conservative mold, including to turn one of the nation's most politically influential law schools into a training ground for future generations of right-wing judges and justices.

So let's unpack all of that, starting with the climate denialism. The "climate denialism" that they are referencing came from a group that he funded called the Heartland Institute. I have talked about the Heartland Institute on the floor before in my "Web of Denial" speeches.

Heartland is a dark money disinformation mouthpiece for fossil

fuel interests. In 2012, Heartland compared climate scientists to the Unabomber. So you can see it is a classy bunch.

According to one of Seid's advisers, he was Heartland's major patron, and he even convinced his business's chief financial officer to join Heartland's board of directors.

If that isn't creepy enough for you, we move on to the national network of State-level think tanks that promote business deregulation and fight Medicaid expansion.

That is a reference to the State Policy Network, a web of dark money front groups that pump into State legislatures the propaganda and legislation designed by fossil fuel and other corporate interests.

The State Policy Network has also received millions from DonorsTrust, which has been called the "dark money ATM of the right," a central node of the rightwing Koch dark money network.

The service that DonorsTrust provides is to scrub the identities of actual donors. It creates dark money. Anonymity is key for these donors, many of whom have financial interests behind their political schemes that they really don't want disclosed.

If a fossil fuel billionaire, say, wants to run ads against me in Rhode Island—folks will get the joke. So the real donor's identity gets laundered through groups like DonorsTrust and comes out under other groups with names like—I am making this one up, but they sound this way "Rhode Islanders for Peace and Puppies and Prosperity."

All of that, of course, leaves citizens in the dark about both the actors and the plot in the politics in which they are supposed to be active participants. And that brings us to Seid's project to "turn one of the nation's most politically influential law schools into a training ground for future generations of right-wing judges and justices." That is a reference to Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University, a central cog in the right-wing doctrine factory.

The cog was not always named Antonin Scalia Law School. In 2016, George Mason received \$10 million from the Charles Koch Foundation, plus another \$20 million from an anonymous donor, orchestrated by that same Leonard Leo, and one of the strings attached was that George Mason rename its law school after Scalia.

When folks at George Mason University, a public university, pushed for answers about all of this, the university, after a legal battle, had to disclose that renaming the law school wasn't the only string attached to that \$20 million donation.

Leo and his donor wanted input over faculty hiring. And that legal battle also unearthed the name of the anonymous donor: Barre Seid. And all of that brings us back to Seid's \$1.6 billion to

the Leonard Leo dark money apparatus.

Remember that with \$0.6 billion, Leo was able to orchestrate a dark money takeover of our Supreme Court, stacking it with far-right Justices, who have already delivered massive victories for their donors: overturning *Roe v. Wade*, undermining the government's power to combat climate change, throwing out century-old commonsense gun regulations.

If he can do that with \$0.6 billion, imagine what kind of damage he will be able to do with \$1.6 billion to squirt out as dark money through his armada of phony front groups.

Leo's already dispensed \$153 million to Rule of Law Trust, which appears to exist solely to funnel money to other dark money groups and another \$16.5 million to his own Concord Fund. If you have been watching these "Scheme" speeches, you will remember that the last time I addressed the scheme in this Chamber, I laid out how the Concord Fund and its corporate twin, the 85 Fund, are the central nodes in a collection of phony front groups that deploy fictitious names, fictitious names to mask their connections.

The coordinated and colocated front groups, Concord Fund and 85 Fund, operate through the fictitious names Judicial Crisis Network and Honest Elections Project, among other fictitious names. So, yes, you have got this right. In this dark money netherworld, the front groups have front groups.

With this new billion-dollar slush fund, Leo can take those efforts to entirely new levels: more voter suppression, which is the job of Honest Elections Project; more abortion bans, which was the accomplishment of Dobbs; more climate denial, which was powered by *West Virginia v. EPA* and the earlier EPA decision by the Supreme Court about the Clean Power Plan; more power for corporations, which is, of course, the constant goal of this dark money operation; more disinformation; and more dirty dark money in politics—sluiced around inside this covert apparatus until it gets squirted out through even more phony front groups.

This dark money slime will ooze everywhere. With pivotal elections coming up this fall, this slime will ooze out through your television sets, through your mailboxes, through your telephone, all of it designed to smear and lie to benefit far-right donor interests.

The phony front group squirting out the slime will have innocuous-sounding names, but make no mistake, hiding behind many of them will be Leo and his secretive billionaire backers.

While this tactic isn't new, it has been perfected by the rightwing. It began with the Koch brothers, who spent the last decade pumping dark money into our politics, producing a decade of successful climate obstruction, until finally we got the Inflation Reduction Act passed with the first real climate measures Congress has

ever passed, but because of the Koch brothers' pressure, we had to rely entirely on Democrats to get that bill passed. We did not get one Republican vote in the Senate. We did not get one Republican vote in the House.

Constant assaults on workers' rights, endless attacks on the Affordable Care Act, and, of course, the rightwing billionaires own big payoff, big tax cuts for billionaires—it is probable that for all of the money that got thrown into this dark money apparatus by rightwing billionaires, some of them probably made more money than that back from the tax cuts that were delivered for them under the Trump administration. This is a it-pays-to-play dark money operation.

And the result is that all this dark money has reduced the once Grand Old Party to the political operation of a handful of extremist megadonors.

The dark money assault on our democracy is not over. Right now, Leonard Leo, his rightwing donors, and their dark money apparatus are devising the next phases of the scheme.

They have already captured the highest Court in the land, but they will not stop until they have enacted their entire radical agenda. They will turn their sights on State courts, on city councils, on local school boards—anywhere they can find a way to subvert democracy with dark money.

So now is the time to fight back, and the first step is to pass the DISCLOSE Act. It is way long past time that we shine the light on the dark money schemers.

You may recall that in the Citizens United decision, by a vote of 8 to 1, even that Court said that dark money is corrupting. That is an established principle of the Citizens United decision.

Well, if it is corrupting, we ought to get rid of it, because the American people deserve to know who captured their Supreme Court and who keeps flooding our politics with dark money.

When you spend that kind of money, there is a motivation, and voters, citizens, deserve to know.

To be continued.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we revert now to the closing script, and I will ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate consider the follow nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 921, 1101, 1102, 1040, and 1042; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Bruce I. Turner, of Colorado, for the

rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament; E. Martin Estrada, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Central District of California for the term of four years; Gregory J. Haanstad, of Wisconsin, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin for the term of four years; the following named officer for appointment in the United States Coast Guard Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203(a): to be Rear Admiral, Miriam L. Lafferty; the following named officer for appointment to serve as the Director of the Coast Guard Reserve in the grade indicated under title 14, U.S.C., section 309(b): to be Rear Admiral (Upper Half) Rear Adm. Miriam L. Lafferty, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 22-07, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Pakistan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$450 million. After

this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-07

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Pakistan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * \$0 million.
Other \$450 million.
Total \$450 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: This Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Case is a follow on effort and consolidation of prior F-16 sustainment and support cases to support the Pakistan Air Force F-16 fleet by reducing duplicate case activities and adding additional continued support elements.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Included are U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics services for follow-on support of Pakistan's F-16 fleet to include participation in F-16 Aircraft Structural Integrity Program, Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program, International Engine Management Program, Engine Component Improvement Program, and other technical coordination groups; aircraft and engine hardware and software modifications and support; aircraft and engine spare repair/return parts, accessories and support equipment; classified and unclassified software and software support; publications, manuals, and technical documentation; precision measurement, calibration, lab equipment, and technical support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of aircraft maintenance and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (PK-D-QAP).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: PK-D-NAP, PK-D-SAF, PK-D-QAJ, PK-D-QCX.

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

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: September 7, 2022.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Pakistan—F-16 Case for Sustainment

The Government of Pakistan has requested to consolidate prior F-16 sustainment and support cases to support the Pakistan Air Force F-16 fleet by reducing duplicate case activities and adding additional continued support elements. Included are U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics services for follow-on support of Pakistan's F-16 fleet to include participation in F-16 Aircraft Structural Integrity Program, Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program, International Engine Management Program, Engine Component Improvement Program, and other technical coordination groups; aircraft and engine hardware and software modifications and support; aircraft and engine spare repair/return parts, accessories and support equipment; classified and unclassified software and software support; publications, manuals, and technical documentation; precision measurement, calibration, lab equipment,

and technical support services; studies and surveys; and other related elements of aircraft maintenance and program support. The estimated total cost is \$450 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a partner nation that is a force for political stability in the region by allowing Pakistan to retain interoperability with U.S. and coalition forces in ongoing counterterrorism efforts and in preparation for future contingency operations.

The proposed sale will improve Pakistan's capability to meet current and future threats by continuing the sustainment of its F-16 fleet, which is the Pakistan Air Force's premier multi-role jet fighter and greatly improves Pakistan's ability to project combat power in support of counterterrorism through its robust air-to-ground capability. Pakistan will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Fort Worth, TX. There are no known offsets proposed in conjunction with this sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Pakistan.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 858, Jennifer H. Rearden, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, while returning to Washington, DC, on September 12, my flight was temporarily grounded by inclement weather, delaying my return to Washington, DC. As a result, I was unable to attend the vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 986, Salvador Mendoza, Jr., of Washington, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

I would have voted yea on the confirmation had I been able to attend the vote.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present I would have voted YES on rollcall vote No. 331 on the confirmation of Salvador Mendoza, Jr., to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1134, Natalie K.

Wight, of Oregon, to be United States Attorney for the District of Oregon for the term of four years.

REMEMBERING QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, the attacks of September 11, 2001, exposed the American people to a level of vulnerability we had not encountered since the Second World War. While the terrorists failed in their objective of breaking us, they were successful in forcing the rest of the world to decide if they would give in to fear and remain silent or take a stand against the violent hatred that motivated the murders of almost 3,000 innocents.

For me, the memory of 9/11 is and always will be dominated by fear for the safety of my own children. The hours that passed without hearing from them were among the loneliest of my life, and indeed, that loneliness was shared by every American who spent the next few terrible days waiting for the phone to ring. Our sense of isolation was compounded by a growing chorus of voices that blamed Americans for the bloodshed in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

When Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II broke with centuries of tradition and directed the band of the Coldstream Guards to play the "Star-Spangled Banner" outside Buckingham Palace just 2 days after the attacks, she did much more than make a political statement. Her small act of rebellion confirmed that the special kinship between our nations will unite us forever under a common cause of freedom. While some chose cowardice in the wake of the attacks, she recognized the anguish of a friend and offered a gesture meant only to assure us that we were not, and never would be, alone.

For more than 70 years, the Queen ruled with the same grace and dignity she afforded the American people in our darkest hour. On behalf of all Tennesseans, I offer my gratitude for her long life of service, my condolences to the royal family, and my assurances to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth that, should great need arise, there will be no need to ask for our help, for we are already standing beside you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO FRED SMITH

• Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Fred Smith, founder and executive chairman of FedEx for receiving the distinguished L. Welch Pogue Award for his outstanding lifelong contributions to the field of commercial aviation.

On September 14, Mr. Smith, a proud Memphian and generous benefactor to his city, will receive due commemoration for his renowned achievements and contributions involving his organization, career, and passion.

Since 1971, the iconic Tennessee company he founded has facilitated deliveries not just in the United States but across the world.

This includes FedEx's work on the Project Airbridge Operation, a partnership executed by FedEx under the direction of the Federal Government that expedited the importation of critical supplies at the height of the pandemic.

This award, first presented in 1994, recognizes individuals with a lifetime of achievement in aviation and recognizes individuals who not only have a vision for where the industry is headed, but have acted to make it a reality.

I can think of no one more deserving to receive such an award. Let us celebrate this achievement and commitment to excellence that Mr. Smith has shown throughout his career.●

REMEMBERING LARRY PETREE

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Larry Petree, a beloved member of the Bakersfield community and a pioneer in the creation of a uniquely Californian brand of country music.

Larry Petree was born in Oklahoma in 1933 at the heart of the Great Depression. Like so many Americans from Dust Bowl communities in the 1930s, at the age of 9, Larry's family moved out West and settled in Bakersfield, CA. He attended Bakersfield High School before going on to serve a tour of duty in the U.S. Army and then working for over three decades as a mechanic with the Kern County Fire Department, where he could overhaul truck engines with ease.

But Larry's friends and fans knew him best working with a different instrument. From his seat behind his pedal steel guitar, he helped to produce the "Bakersfield Sound," an entirely new, rock 'n roll-inspired genre of country music that introduced the sounds of California country to a national audience in the 1960s.

For decades, Larry's masterful control of the twangy steel guitar brought life and energy to the honky-tonks and watering holes of the Central Valley. Playing alongside country artists Red Simpson, Tommy Hays, and the Western Swingsters, his music joined the likes of Merle Haggard and Buck Owens to help fuel a movement that proved California could be home to the country music industry. And he did it all, in large part, thanks to the support of his wife Betty, his beloved partner for over 60 years.

California is grateful for his service to our country, his contributions to our culture, and for the timeless music he introduced to our communities.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4822. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

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-4861. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-487, "Medically Necessary Foods Coverage Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4862. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-488, "Procurement Agencies Alignment Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4863. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-489, "HIV/AIDS Data Privacy Protection and Health Occupation Revision Clarification Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4864. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-490, "Sexual Harassment Data Collection and Reporting Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4865. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-491, "Human Rights Enhancement Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4866. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-524, "Clean Hands Certification Equity Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4867. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-525, "Rebecca Coder Park Designation Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4868. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-526, "Non-Compete Clarification Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4869. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-527, "Climate Commitment Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4870. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-528, "Clean Energy DC Building Code Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4871. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-524, "Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4872. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-530, "Juneteenth History and Planning Commission Establishment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4873. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an alternative plan for pay adjustments for civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule and certain other pay systems in January 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4874. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Assistance Program's Simplified Procedures Large Project Threshold" (RIN1660-AB10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 19, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4875. A communication from the Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's fiscal year 2022 Commercial Activities Inventory and Inherently Governmental Activities Inventory and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4876. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on the Physicians' Comparability Allowance Program"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4877. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a legislative proposal relative to amending Title V to appoint and pay highly qualified experts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4878. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Program Fraud Civil Remedies: Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment" (RIN3206-AN39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4879. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of cyclopentyl fentanyl, isobutyryl fentanyl, para-methoxybutyryl fentanyl, and valeryl fentanyl in Schedule I; Correction" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-565)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4880. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Placement of 10 Specific Fentanyl-Related Substances in Schedule I" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-476)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Au-

gust 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4881. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of para-Methoxymethamphetamine (PMMA) in Schedule I" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-509)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4882. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidate (PMK glycidate), 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid (PMK glycidic acid), and alpha-phenylacetoacetamide (APAA) as List I Chemicals" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-542)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4883. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Specific Listing for 4F-MDMB-VINACA, a Currently Controlled Schedule I Substance" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-819)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4884. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Registration Requirements for Narcotic Treatment Programs With Mobile Components" ((RIN1117-AB43) (Docket No. DEA-459)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4885. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of N-Ethylpentylone in Schedule I" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-482)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 2, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4886. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled "Authority to Permit Continued Presence in the United States"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4887. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to an audit of the Garden for the period from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4888. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Justice Management Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining DOJ Acquisition Regulations (JAR)" (RIN1105-AB54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 19, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4889. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Victims Compensation Fund established

by the Witness Security Reform Act of 1984; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4890. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals" (RIN1615-AC64) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4891. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4892. A communication from the General Counsel, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of Unmanned Aircraft Accident" (RIN3147-AA20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4893. A communication from the National Listing Coordinator of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat" (RIN0648-BJ44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4894. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reinstating Class D FM Exemption to Section 73.3527(e)(8)" (MB Docket No. 22-240) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4895. A communication from the Senior Attorney of the Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Partitioning, Disaggregation, and Leasing of Spectrum" ((WT Docket No. 19-38) (FCC 22-53)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4896. A communication from the Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wireline Competition Bureau released a Second Report and Order entitled Affordable Connectivity Program" ((RIN3060-AL16) (WC Docket No. 21-450)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4897. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power Television and Television Translator Stations; Update of Parts 74 of the Commission's rules Related to Low Power Television and Television Translator Stations" ((MB Docket Nos. 03-185 and 22-261) (FCC 22-58)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate

on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4898. A communication from the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wireline Competition Bureau released a Third Report and Order entitled Affordable Connectivity Program Your Home, Your Internet Pilot Program" ((RIN3060-AL16) (WC Docket No. 21-450) (FCC 22-65)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 23, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4899. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Transportation, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4900. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Incorporation by Reference in Safety Standard for High Chairs" (Docket No. CPSC-2015-0031) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4901. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Gabilan Mountains Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AC72) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 25, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4902. A communication from the Acting Deputy Program Director and Acting Director for Privacy Act Compliance, Office of Privacy and Open Government, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records" (RIN0605-AA46) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4903. A communication from the Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures of the Transportation Security Oversight Board Review Panel Concerning Federal Aviation Administration Airman Certificates" (RIN1601-AB09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 19, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4904. A communication from the Chairman of the Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "URCS Data Reporting" ((RIN2140-AB59) (Docket No. EP 769)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4905. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor/Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Maintaining Pavement Marking Retroreflectivity" (RIN2125-

AF34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4906. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-44 and Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V-446 in the Vicinity of Samsville, IL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0971)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4907. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment and Removal of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Eastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1082)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4908. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment and Removal of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Eastern United States" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1082)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4909. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4015" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31436)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4910. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4016" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31437)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4911. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4018" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31439)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 18, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4912. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-417; Tok Junction, AK" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0865))

EC-4934. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of United States Area Navigation Routes Q-162 and Q-166; Bishop, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0741)) received into adjournment of the Senate

EC-4955. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22094" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0394)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President

of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4956. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22092" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0450)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4957. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-22091" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0453)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4958. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22090" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1073)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4959. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-22103" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0296)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4960. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Stemme AG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Stemme GmbH & Co. KG) Gliders; Amendment 39-22116" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0809)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4961. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-22100" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0295)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4962. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Support and Services (Formerly Known as Saab AB, Saab Aeronautics) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22114" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0507)) received during adjournment of the Senate

in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4963. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters; Amendment 39-22108" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0806)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4964. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; GE Aviation Czech s.r.o. (Type Certificate Previously Held by WALTER Engines a.s., Walter a.s., and MOTORLET a.s.) Turboprop Engines; Amendment 39-22117" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0385)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4965. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes; Amendment 39-22113" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0461)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4966. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22106" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0454)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4967. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-22122" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0384)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4968. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39-22112" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0470)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4969. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22111" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0505)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16,

2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4970. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22063" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0788)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4971. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Camarillo, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0244)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4972. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D Airspace and Class E Airspace; Fort Worth and Dallas-Fort Worth, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1047)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4973. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D Airspace, Removal and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Oxnard Airport, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0243)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4974. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Class E Airspace and Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace; Point Mugu NAS (Naval Base Ventura Cp) Airport, CA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0242)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4975. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Victoria, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0693)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4976. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Class E Airspace; Milford, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0523)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4977. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Independence, IA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0474)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4978. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revocation of Class E Airspace; Rocksprings Four Square Ranch Airport and Sonora Canyon Ranch, TX” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0473)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4979. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Poughkeepsie, NY” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0524)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4980. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class R Airspace; Greenwood, SC” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0432)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4981. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class R Airspace; Fort Dodge, IA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-1006)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4982. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Columbia, MO” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0694)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4983. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Sturgeon Bay, WI” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-1005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4984. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Raleigh, NC” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0525)) received during adjournment of the Senate

in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4985. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 567” ((RIN2120-AA63) (Docket No. 31444)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4986. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-229; Hope, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1083)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4987. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-233; Kotzebue, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1097)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4988. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-367; St. Mary’s, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1157)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4989. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q-136; MI” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0624)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4990. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Jet Routes J-82 and J-94; Extension of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route Q-122; Amendment of VOR Federal Airways V-100, V-138, V-456, and V-505; Removal of the Fort Dodge, IA, Domestic Low Altitude Reporting Point; In the Vicinity of Fort Dodge, IA” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1043)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4991. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-267; Nome, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0812)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August

31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4992. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-368; Salmon, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0819)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4993. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-227; Fairbanks, AK” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0811)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4994. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Multiple Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes and Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes in the Vicinity of Liberal, KS” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2022-0918)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4995. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-768; Northcentral United States” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1189)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4996. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of VOR Federal Airways V-7, V-341, and V-493, in the Vicinity of Menominee” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0994)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4997. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-175, in the Vicinity of Malden, MO” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1029)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4998. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of VOR Federal Airways V-26, V-193, and V-285, and Revocation of White Cloud, MI, Domestic Low Altitude Reporting Point in the Vicinity of White Cloud, MI” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0972)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate

on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-4999. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4021" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31442)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5000. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4022" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31443)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5001. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4020" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31441)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5002. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 4019" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31440)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5003. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters; Amendment 39-22139" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0510)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5004. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22136" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0586)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5005. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-22135" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0522)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Com-

mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5006. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.); Amendment 39-22134" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0590)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5007. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22096" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2021-1177)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5008. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership (Type Certificate Previously Held by C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership (CSALP); Bombardier, inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-22137" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0990)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5009. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes; Amendment 39-22133" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2021-0958)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5010. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22104" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0462)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5011. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22127" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2021-1005)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5012. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-22129" ((RIN2120-AA64) (FAA-2022-0884)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to

the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1116. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-146).

S. 2793. A bill to authorize the Administrator of General Services to establish an enhanced use lease pilot program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-147).

S. 3552. A bill to provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-148).

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. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4823. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to remove the overtime wages exemption for certain employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 4824. A bill to provide for proper oversight of North Korea policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 4825. A bill to criminalize the intentional obstruction of roadways on the Interstate System; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 4826. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to modify the definition of the term "at-risk community"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 4827. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a national sepsis data trust, and to fund State-based pilots and programs to establish interoperable State-based sepsis data trusts; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4828. A bill to provide consistent leadership, purpose, and administrative support for the primary governmentwide executive councils, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 4829. A bill to create intergovernmental coordination on addressing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 4830. A bill to reaffirm actions taken by the Secretary of the Interior for the benefit of Indian Tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 4831. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to limit the ability of Federal Reserve banks to issue central bank digital currency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4832. A bill to temporarily prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until a certain level of taxpayer services have improved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 4833. A bill to improve the health and resiliency of giant sequoias, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 4834. A bill to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING:

S. 4835. A bill to provide for the removal of small-diameter trees in fire hazard areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 4836. A bill to allow COVID-19 relief funds to be used for disaster assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 4837. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to establish within the Mount Hood National Forest in the State of Oregon Indian Treaty Resources Emphasis Zones, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 4838. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the rate for allowances based on mileage for beneficiary travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 4839. A bill to reauthorize and expand a grant program for State and Tribal response to opioid and stimulant use and misuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 4840. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 4841. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 4842. A bill to require the United States Coast Guard to implement new rules for Mer-

chant Marine credentialing for veterans and members of the Uniformed Services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 4843. A bill to permit visiting dignitaries and service members from Taiwan to display the flag of the Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 757. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the peaceful democratic and economic aspirations of the Sri Lankan people; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. Res. 758. A resolution designating the month of September 2022 as "Macedonian American Heritage Month" and celebrating the language, history, and culture of Macedonian Americans and their incredible contributions to the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 759. A resolution honoring Boston Celtics legend Bill Russell, 11-time National Basketball Association champion, first Black head coach of the National Basketball Association, and civil rights activist; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 760. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as "Patriot Week"; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 761. A resolution designating the week of September 18 through September 24, 2022, as "Gold Star Families Remembrance Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. COONS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MORAN, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KING, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BURR, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. Res. 762. A resolution honoring the life and accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth II and expressing condolences to her family and the United Kingdom on her passing; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 344

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retirement pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 377

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 744

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 744, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

S. 1125

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 1566

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1566, a bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals.

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1873, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 1892

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1892, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify employer-provided fringe benefits for bicycle commuting.

S. 2242

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from

New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2242, a bill to prohibit commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2607, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2706

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors 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. 2736

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to exclude vehicles to be used solely for competition from certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2872

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2872, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the adjusted gross income limitation for above-the-line deduction of expenses of performing artist employees, and for other purposes.

S. 3018

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3018, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes.

S. 3957

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3957, a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to make certain activities eligible for grants from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 4030

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4030, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish a cattle contract library, and for other purposes.

S. 4179

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4179, a bill to establish the Space National Guard.

S. 4325

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4325, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 4389

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4389, a bill to provide for the abolition of certain United Nations groups, and for other purposes.

S. 4466

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4466, a bill to amend the Peace Corps Act by reauthorizing the Peace Corps, providing better support for current, returning, and former volunteers, and for other purposes.

S. 4469

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4469, a bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to prescribe rules prohibiting disinformation in the advertising of abortion services, and for other purposes.

S. 4567

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4567, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 4605

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security

Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

S. 4702

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4702, a bill to impose limits on excepting competitive service positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes.

S. 4742

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4742, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to create a Department of Defense Military Housing Readiness Council to enhance oversight and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and for other purposes.

S. 4760

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4760, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to provide the Commodity Futures Trading Commission jurisdiction to oversee the spot digital commodity market, and for other purposes.

S. 4769

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4769, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize and modernize the registered traveler program of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 4815

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4815, a bill to clarify regulatory certainty, and for other purposes.

S. 4817

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4817, a bill to prevent the use of additional Internal Revenue Service funds from being used for audits of taxpayers with taxable incomes below \$400,000 in order to protect low- and middle-income earning American taxpayers from an onslaught of audits from an army of new Internal Revenue Service auditors funded by an unprecedented, nearly \$80,000,000,000, infusion of new funds.

S. 4818

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4818, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal and local funds to impose or enforce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate in District of Columbia schools, and to repeal the Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood

Workers Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 enacted by the District of Columbia Council.

S.J. RES. 56

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 56, a joint resolution directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

S.J. RES. 61

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 61, a joint resolution to provide for the resolution of issues in a railway labor-management dispute, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 754

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 754, a resolution designating November 13, 2022, as "National Warrior Call Day" in recognition of the importance of connecting warriors in the United States to support structures necessary to transition from the battlefield.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4823. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to remove the overtime wages exemption for certain employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Guaranteeing Overtime for Truckers Act, which I introduced today.

America's truckdrivers are on the frontlines of keeping goods and our economy moving. More than 70 percent of goods across the United States are shipped by truck.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting supply chain crisis exacerbated longstanding challenges for truckers, including long hours away from home and time spent waiting—often unpaid—to load and unload at congested ports, warehouses, and distribution centers.

As our Nation makes historic investments in our port and supply chain infrastructure through the bipartisan infrastructure law, we should also improve wages and working conditions for essential workers and ensure they are paid for all of the hours they work.

However, for more than 80 years, Federal law has denied truckers guaranteed overtime pay benefits that are afforded to nearly all other professions.

This means that if a truckdriver experiences delays due to congestion or weather, they are often not paid even though they are working.

The motor carrier exemption is exacerbating trucking workforce challenges. Additionally, research suggests that when truck labor rates are fair, there is less driver fatigue, fewer regulatory violations, and lower crash rates.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill to repeal the overtime exemption for motor carriers.

I want to thank Senator MARKEY for co-leading this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this bill that will ensure that trucker compensation reflects the fact that these jobs are essential.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 4826. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to modify the definition of the term "at-risk community"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Community Wildfire Protection Act, bipartisan legislation that Senator DAINES and I are introducing today.

This bill would ensure that those communities that are deemed to be under the greatest threat from wildfire are eligible to receive existing Federal wildfire grants. This sounds obvious but unfortunately is not the case under existing law.

This will help more communities in our home States of California and Montana and others throughout the West access Federal grants to reduce hazardous fuels around their communities and reduce the threat posed by wildfire. In particular, it would protect areas at risk of a large-scale wildfire that would significantly threaten human life and property.

Aligning the definition in law for at-risk communities to today's environmental realities is more important than ever given the increased spread, frequency, and destructiveness of wildfires, especially in the West.

The current definition of an "at-risk community" was codified in the 2003 Healthy Forest Restoration Act. That law requires that, other than experiencing significant wildfire risk, an eligible community must either be adjacent to Federal land or included on a list generated in 2001 consisting of voluntary input from States and Tribes.

To be clear, including a town on this list was not based on an objective evaluation of wildfire risk or threat to life and property, only whether an individual Governor or Tribal leader decided to add it. There are obvious omissions from the list that show its inadequacy, and in fact, 19 States and territories never submitted a single community.

For example, in California, big cities like Fresno, Fairfield, and Napa are not included, all of which have experi-

enced major wildfires in recent years, nor are countless small towns that are at great risk of wildfire. The town of Grizzly Flats, CA, which was devastated by the 2021 Caldor Fire, is also notably absent from the list.

The exclusion of these communities means that they are not eligible for Federal grant funding that would help them develop and implement wildfire resiliency plans, such as hazardous fuels reduction, nor can they utilize critical authorities to expedite wildfire mitigation projects on nearby Federal lands.

Our bill would simply end the practice of making Federal grants contingent on being this outdated, incomplete list. Instead, our legislation would allow communities to be included based on the most up-to-date quantitative wildfire risk data for the entire United States—data that are already maintained by the U.S. Forest Service.

Our bill would also allow communities not immediately within or adjacent to Federal lands to qualify as "at risk" of wildfire. This is important given a recent survey of more than 22,000 fires that indicated that wildfires are more likely to start on private lands and burn into Federal forestlands than the reverse. Federal policies must adapt to recognize this fact, not prevent funding from going to where it would be most effective.

Better tailoring Federal grants to the areas at greatest risk of wildfire is particularly essential given congressional funding of wildfire resilience projects, including \$1.8 billion that passed as part of the recently enacted Inflation Reduction Act.

I am proud that our bill has received the support of the National Association of Counties, Rural County Representatives of California, the National Association of State Foresters, the Pacific Forest Trust, and the California Fire Safe Council.

I am pleased to work with Senator DAINES on this commonsense bill that will save lives, save communities, and ensure that Federal dollars are spent as effectively as possible.

Mr. President, my bill is simple—just three lines long—but it would ensure that our Federal policies enable billions in wildfire resiliency funding to be applied where it is needed most.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4832. A bill to temporarily prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until a certain level of taxpayer services have improved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 4832

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 “Increase Reliable Services Now Act”.

SEC. 2. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL TAX ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Internal Revenue Service may not hire any person for the purpose of conducting enforcement activities during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the first date after such date on which—

(1) the Internal Revenue Service has maintained, for 6 consecutive months—

(A) a level of service for accounts management phone lines of not less than 70 percent; and

(B) an average speed of answering calls in 5 minutes or less; and

(2) not less than 90 percent of the regular employees of the Internal Revenue Service perform work in person at their job sites.

(b) ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.—For purposes of this section, the term “enforcement activities” means activities described in section 10301(a)(1)(A)(ii) of Public Law 117-169.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON USE OF ADDITIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FUNDS FOR TAXPAYER AUDITS.

Section 10301(a)(1)(A)(ii) of Public Law 117-169 is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “: *Provided further*, That the Internal Revenue Service shall not audit taxpayers with taxable incomes below \$400,000 at a greater rate than such taxpayers were audited for the most recent taxable year beginning before the date of the enactment of this Act”.

SEC. 4. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE HIRING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Internal Revenue Service may not hire any person (other than for activities related to return processing and call center operations) during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the first date after such date on which the Internal Revenue Service meets the requirements of subsection (b).

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements specified in this subsection are the following:

(1) With respect to the processing of taxpayer correspondence, tax forms, and payments, the Internal Revenue Service has a backlog not in excess of 1,000,000 cases.

(2) With respect to tax returns eligible for a refund, refunds are issued to taxpayers on average within six weeks or less of the receipt of the return.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 4833. A bill to improve the health and resiliency of giant sequoias, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of legislation that I introduced today along with Senator PADILLA to preserve the enduring legacy of California’s giant sequoias: the Save Our Sequoias Act. I thank Senator PADILLA for working with me on this important bill, as well as the bipartisan sponsors of similar legislation in the House.

The Save Our Sequoias Act would charge a dedicated group of Federal, State, local, and Tribal land managers

known as the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition with developing wildfire resilience projects to help save these magnificent trees.

The bill would also provide Federal Agencies with narrow, targeted authorities to implement these projects quickly and protect our remaining sequoias, as well as create a strategy to enhance sequoia reforestation.

Giant sequoias are one of the most iconic plants in the world. The sequoia known as General Sherman is the largest tree on Earth at more than 100 feet in circumference and 275 feet tall.

Sequoias grow quickly, producing a 50-foot tree’s worth of wood each year, yet can live to be thousands of years old. They are also remarkably fire-adapted, with spongy bark that can be up to 2-feet thick.

Perhaps most importantly to me, these incredible trees only grow in my home State of California. Just being around these trees is a humbling experience. Their immensity puts them in a class by themselves, and it is no wonder that they have been the source of reverence and amazement.

For many years, sequoias were considered nearly immune to the effects of wildfires, but unfortunately devastating fires in recent years have overwhelmed even their potent defenses. Officials have estimated that 20 percent of all mature giant sequoias have been destroyed just since 2020.

Scientific research has additionally suggested that without significant action, another 20 percent could be lost in the next 3 years. This would be a staggering tragedy and demands action. As former President Theodore Roosevelt himself put it, “A grove of giant redwood or sequoias should be kept just as we keep a great and beautiful cathedral.”

The vast majority of giant sequoias live on Federal land, and I thank President Biden and his administration for using existing authorities to try to save these magnificent trees. Nevertheless, Congress can and should enact legislation to protect sequoias long into the future.

Our bill would accomplish this goal by first codifying the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition, an existing group of public land managers with jurisdiction over sequoia groves, and requiring it to develop a strategy to make sequoia groves more resilient to wildfire. It would also provide congressional support for the Biden Administration’s current actions under an emergency declaration to expedite sequoia wildfire resilience projects.

Federal agencies should not be reliant on emergency authorities, however, in order to implement necessary wildfire resilience projects in the future. To that end, our bill provides those Agencies with narrow, targeted authorities to continue making progress on those projects and authorizes funding for dedicated personnel. It also establishes a grant program for sequoia resilience projects that occur off of Federal land.

Lastly, our bill ensures that we do not simply mitigate future sequoia losses but also begin the process of regrowth. Since sequoias can live to be thousands of years old, it is never too early to begin rejuvenating these majestic trees.

Mr. President, giant sequoias are one of the great treasures of the world, not just of California. It is incumbent upon Congress to pass our bill to ensure they are protected and can be cherished for thousands of years to come.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 757—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN SUPPORT OF THE PEACEFUL DEMOCRATIC AND ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS OF THE SRI LANKAN PEOPLE

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 757

Whereas Sri Lanka gained its independence peacefully in 1948, bringing an end to British colonial rule;

Whereas, more than 100,000 Sri Lankans died or went missing in subsequent decades of ethnic conflict, most acutely at the end of the civil war in May 2009;

Whereas the roots of the conflict, including historical inequalities, remain largely unresolved;

Whereas the period of peace, which began in 2009, contributed to Sri Lanka’s high growth and economic development, building on a tourism-based economy;

Whereas Gotabaya Rajapaksa was elected as Sri Lanka’s President on November 16, 2019, and on November 21, 2019, he appointed his brother, Mahinda Rajapaksa, as Prime Minister;

Whereas Sri Lanka’s governance under President Rajapaksa was highly corrupt, nepotistic, and lacked transparency;

Whereas on August 8, 2020, Human Rights Watch described President Rajapaksa’s rule in 2020 as “a campaign of fear and intimidation against human rights activists, journalists, lawyers, and others challenging government policy”;

Whereas the Government of Sri Lanka declined \$480,000,000 in United States assistance in 2020 in the form of a grant from the Millennium Challenge Corporation, which was designed to reduce poverty through economic growth;

Whereas, the Government of Sri Lanka, under the rule of President Rajapaksa—

(1) devoted state resources for personal political purposes with little transparency;

(2) implemented misguided agricultural policies; and

(3) borrowed billions of dollars from China to develop economically unviable mega projects;

Whereas, since 2019, Sri Lanka has faced an economic crisis, only further exacerbated by predatory loans from the People’s Republic of China as part of its debt trap diplomacy;

Whereas Sri Lanka’s economic crisis caused millions of Sri Lankan citizens to live in extremely dire conditions, with severe shortages of medicine, food, and fuel;

Whereas many Sri Lankans have immigrated in search of income to support their

families as a result of the ongoing crises, often separating spouses and parents from children;

Whereas, beginning in March 2022, the citizens of Sri Lanka courageously exercised their fundamental freedoms of speech and assembly to peacefully protest the government's failed economic policies and repression;

Whereas, the Government of Sri Lanka failed to make its bond and loan payments in April 2022, resulting in the country's first financial default in May 2022;

Whereas tens of thousands of Sri Lankan citizens rallied in largely peaceful protests on July 9, 2022, to which the government responded with live fire and tear gas;

Whereas the events of July 9, 2022, demonstrated that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has lost the confidence of the Sri Lankan people;

Whereas, on July 20, 2022, the parliament of Sri Lanka elected Ranil Wickremesinghe as President of Sri Lanka;

Whereas the current Government of Sri Lanka has thus far failed to respond to public concerns, including establishment of transparent investigations into credible allegations of corruption;

Whereas, on July 13, 2022, amid mounting public protests, Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled Sri Lanka for Singapore where he formally resigned as president, only to return to Sri Lanka on September 3, 2022;

Whereas the Government of Sri Lanka has used the country's Prevention of Terrorism Act to target peaceful political opposition;

Whereas the United States cosponsored United Nations Human Rights Council resolution, HRC 46/1 (2021), includes strengthening the capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to collect, analyze, and preserve information and evidence for future accountability processes for gross violations of human rights in Sri Lanka;

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, issued a report on February 25, 2022, noting setbacks in efforts to hold individuals accountable for human rights violations in Sri Lanka and highlighting the need for "deeper institutional and security sector reforms that will end impunity and prevent the recurrence of violations of the past";

Whereas the September 2022 Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Report on Sri Lanka stated, "[f]or sustainable improvements to take place, however, it is vital to recognize and address the underlying factors which have contributed to the economic crisis, including embedded impunity for past and present human rights violations, economic crimes, and endemic corruption";

Whereas the United Nations Human Rights Council will discuss the human rights situation in Sri Lanka at its upcoming 51st regular session in September 2022; and

Whereas President Wickremesinghe announced that Sri Lanka—

(1) would restart bailout negotiations with the International Monetary Fund in August 2022; and

(2) had reached an initial agreement on September 1, 2022: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the peaceful democratic and economic aspirations of the Sri Lankan people;

(2) urges Sri Lankan security forces to respect the legitimate rights of Sri Lankans, including to protest peacefully;

(3) urges Sri Lankan President Wickremesinghe to work with opposition parties on behalf of all Sri Lankans, including Tamils, Muslims, and other religious and ethnic minorities;

(4) commends the United States Agency for International Development for announcing more than \$92,000,000 in economic and humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka since June 2022;

(5) commends the International Monetary Fund for calling for structural reforms to address corruption vulnerabilities that hamper Sri Lanka's long-term potential growth;

(6) commends the Government of India for providing more than \$3,500,000,000 in lines of credit to the Government of Sri Lanka for food, medicine, and fuel;

(7) commends the Government of Japan and the Government of Australia for providing urgent medicine, food, and health care assistance for the Sri Lankan people;

(8) calls on the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue nations to mobilize additional humanitarian assistance, provide desperately needed fuel, and offer economic support and advice to the Government of Sri Lanka;

(9) urges the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the recommendations detailed in the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' report that was published on February 25, 2022; and

(10) calls on the United Nations Human Rights Council to extend and reinforce the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' mandate from HRC 46/1 (2021) for an additional 2 years and to fully resource the Sri Lanka Accountability Project.

SENATE RESOLUTION 758—DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2022 AS "MACEDONIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" AND CELEBRATING THE LANGUAGE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE OF MACEDONIAN AMERICANS AND THEIR INCREDIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BRAUN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 758

Whereas there is evidence that the earliest Macedonians in the continental United States arrived on or around the year 1492;

Whereas, since the 1880s, tens of thousands of Macedonians fled to the United States seeking civil liberties, human rights, religious freedom, and economic opportunities and in response to the 1903 Ilinden Uprising against the Ottoman Empire, the Balkan Wars, the 2 World Wars, the Greek Civil War, and the communist policies of Yugoslavia;

Whereas the Macedonian community in the United States is a vibrant community that is embedded within the mosaic of the United States, partaking in all walks of life, business, medicine, law, technology, civic engagement, government, the military, education, the arts, culinary world, athletics, and more;

Whereas the United Macedonian Diaspora estimates there are 500,000 individuals of Macedonian heritage living in the United States, with sizeable communities in Michigan, New York, Ohio, New Jersey, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Florida, California, Arizona, Texas, and Virginia;

Whereas Macedonian-American immigrants contributed to building monumental transportation routes in the United States, including the Great Northern Railroad;

Whereas, in 1922, Macedonian-American immigrants Tom and John Kiradjieff, using old Macedonian recipes passed down by their parents and grandparents, developed the recipe for Cincinnati chili, a beloved dish in the

United States, which, in 2013, was named one of the "20 Most Iconic Foods in America" by Smithsonian magazine;

Whereas, in the early 20th century, Macedonian immigrants created their own version of the famous Coney Island hot dog, which remains a staple dish at Coney Island-style restaurants throughout the Midwest;

Whereas Macedonian-American Stoyan Christowe, who immigrated to the United States in 1911, was an author, journalist, World War II intelligence officer, Vermont State Representative from 1961 to 1962, and Senator from 1963 to 1972 and wrote the book entitled "This is My Country", which was a favorite of President Franklin D. Roosevelt;

Whereas Macedonian-American Michael Alexander (Lazaroff) of Pittsburgh and New York City was a renowned international attorney who served as a legal adviser to many British and Irish government organizations and corporations for which he was honored by Her Majesty Elizabeth II as a Commander of the British Empire and, as a nonalcoholic, served in Alcoholics Anonymous from the mid-1950s through 1993 as legal adviser, chairman of general services board, trustee, and trustee chairman;

Whereas Macedonian-American Judge Jimmy N. Dimos served as a district judge for the 4th Judicial District Court of Louisiana from 1999 to 2006 and member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1976 to 1999, serving as Speaker of the House from 1988 to 1992;

Whereas, in 2018, Macedonian-American Judge Phillip Naumoff of Mansfield, Ohio, was elected as Richland County Common Pleas Court Judge;

Whereas, in 1995, Macedonian-American Ljubica Z. Acevska of Mansfield, Ohio, and Washington, D.C., became the first Ambassador of North Macedonia to the United States;

Whereas Macedonian Americans have greatly contributed to the economy of the United States, creating countless jobs for the people of the United States in Macedonian-American communities;

Whereas Macedonian-Americans Mike Ilitch, recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and Marian Bayoff Ilitch, who played a significant role in the civil rights movement and paid rent in Detroit for activist Rosa Park for more than a decade—

(1) opened the first mom-and-pop Little Caesars pizza shop in 1959, which grew into the third-largest pizza chain in the world;

(2) are owners of the Detroit Red Wings—coining Detroit as "Hockeytown"—and the Detroit Tigers; and

(3) in 2015, made history by giving Wayne State University \$50,000,000, the largest donation ever made to the school, highlighting their lifelong dedication to promoting entrepreneurship, education, and the revitalization of Detroit;

Whereas Macedonian-American Christopher Ilitch, president and chief executive officer of Ilitch Holdings, Inc., and chairman of Ilitch Charities, which has given more than \$220,000,000 in grants since 2000 for causes from youth development to community revitalization, has continued the tradition and vision of his parents Mike and Marian Ilitch to further the global standing of Detroit by developing The District Detroit, which has grown into a dynamic sports and entertainment district featuring award-winning theaters, 4 professional sports teams, and 3 multi-use sports venues, including the state-of-the-art Little Caesars Arena, home of the Detroit Red Wings and the Detroit Pistons, and world-class entertainment and community events;

Whereas 4 of the 8 names of women ever engraved on the Stanley Cup are Macedonian-Americans Marian Ilitch, Denise Ilitch,

Lisa Ilitch, and Carole Ilitch Trepeck, whose names were engraved in the Stanley Cups won by the Detroit Red Wings in 1997 and 1998;

Whereas Macedonian-American Andrew Peykoff, Sr., of California—

(1) founded Niagara Bottling, LLC, in 1963, which is one of the largest private water bottling companies in the United States;

(2) through the Andrew D. Peykoff, Sr., Scholarship Program has awarded more than \$2,000,000 to college students in the United States;

(3) through Niagara Cares, has delivered millions of bottles of clean water for disaster relief efforts in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and Mexico City; and

(4) provided a \$10,000,000 grant for the Jaime Peykoff Follicular Lymphoma Initiative to fund follicular lymphoma research grants, international scientific workshops, and clinical awards;

Whereas Macedonian-American George Atanasoski of Ormond Beach, Florida, who immigrated to the United States in 1970 and was a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, founded Microflex Inc., a manufacturer that supplies a wide range of flexible metal products to large clients such as General Electric, Ford, Siemens, General Motors, Rolls Royce, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

Whereas Macedonian-American Katrina Markoff, originally of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was recognized by President Barack Obama as a Champion of Change in Small Business and founded Vosges Haut-Chocolat, which was named one of the 10 Best Chocolatiers in the World by National Geographic;

Whereas Macedonian-American Mike Zafirovski of Forest Hills, Illinois, recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and former presidential appointee to the National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee—

(1) served on the board of Boeing;

(2) was President and Chief Executive Officer of Nortel, a global communications technology company;

(3) was President and Chief Operating Officer of Motorola; and

(4) during a 25-year career at General Electric, served as president and chief executive officer of 5 subsidiaries of General Electric in the consumer, industrial, and financial services sectors;

Whereas Macedonian-American Dr. Leon Speroff of Portland, Oregon, who was recognized as a giant in obstetrics and gynecology, made significant achievements in reproductive endocrinology, changing how medicine is practiced;

Whereas Macedonian-American Dr. George Daicoff of St. Petersburg, Florida, a renowned cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon, was a maverick in his field of pediatric heart surgery which was an emerging, unknown field in the 1970s, installed a pacemaker in the smallest premature infant in 1984, and conceived and performed important research that advanced the field of pediatric heart surgery;

Whereas Macedonian-American Dr. Peter T. George—

(1) won 3 Olympic Medals for the United States and 5 world championships in weightlifting;

(2) was the middleweight champion at the Pan-American Games; and

(3) became a doctor in oral medicine and pioneered treatments for obstructive sleep apnea;

Whereas Macedonian-American Dr. Jovan Laskovski, of Akron, Ohio, was inducted into the International Society for Hip Arthroscopy (commonly known as “ISHA”) in 2013 and became 1 of 26 surgeons in the United States inducted into ISHA;

Whereas Macedonian Americans have tremendously contributed to athletics and professional sports in the United States, including—

(1) Vlatko Andonovski, the head coach of the United States Women's National Soccer Team;

(2) Sasho Cirovski, the Head Men's Soccer Coach of the University of Maryland Men's Soccer Team;

(3) Dino Delevski, a former soccer player for the Milwaukee Wave and a former coach for the Chicago Inferno of the Major Arena Soccer League;

(4) Stefan Kozlov, a professional tennis player;

(5) Kevin Kouzmanoff, a former professional baseball player and current coach in the Oakland Athletics organization;

(6) Cedi Osman, a basketball player for Cleveland Cavaliers;

(7) Jovan Kirovski, a former soccer player and the current Technical Director for the Los Angeles Galaxy;

(8) brothers George and Louis Nanchoff, former soccer players in the North American Soccer League and the Major Indoor Soccer League (commonly referred to as “MISL”);

(9) Sandre Naumovski, a MISL soccer player for the Philadelphia KiXX;

(10) Pete Stoyanovich, a former professional football player for the Miami Dolphins, Kansas City Chiefs, and St. Louis Rams;

(11) Paul Naumoff, a former All-Pro linebacker in the National Football League (commonly referred to as the “NFL”) for the Tennessee Titans and the Detroit Lions; and

(12) Mike Vrabel, a former All-Pro, 3-time Super Bowl Champion, NFL football player for the New England Patriots and Kansas City Chiefs, and current head coach for the Tennessee Titans;

Whereas Steven Stamkos, an immigrant from Canada of Macedonian heritage, is captain of the Tampa Bay Lightning, the 2021 Stanley Cup Winner;

Whereas Macedonian-American Pandel Savic—

(1) served with the First Marine Division in the South Pacific theater during World War II, fighting in the Battles of Peleliu and Okinawa;

(2) was quarterback for The Ohio State University Buckeyes football team, taking the team to victory in the 1950 Rose Bowl; and

(3) played an important role in the golf community and served as the longtime chairman of the Professional Golfer's Association Memorial Tournament, which Savic founded with Jack Nicklaus;

Whereas Macedonian-American Nick Vanoff directed and produced famous musicals, movies, and television shows in the United States, including “Kiss Me Kate”, “The Tonight Show”, “City of Angels”, “The Sound of Christmas”, and “The Julie Andrews Hour”, and created and produced the annual “Kennedy Center Honors”;

Whereas Macedonian-American Dimitri Dimitrov, former maitre d' at Tower Bar in Los Angeles and San Vicente Bungalows, is Hollywood's most famous maitre d' according to Bon Appetit and the Hollywood Reporter;

Whereas Macedonian-Americans Klime and Anita Kovaceski of Miami, Florida, have earned notable recognition for their restaurant CRUST, which was named one of the “100 Best Restaurants in America” for 2017 and 2019 by OpenTable, one of the “Top 25 restaurants around the world” for 2019 by OpenTable/KAYAK, and one of the “101 Best Pizzas in America” in 2020 by The Daily Meal, and was voted “Miami's #1 Italian restaurant” on TripAdvisor from 2015 to 2020;

Whereas Macedonian Americans contributed to the construction of several dozen

Macedonian Orthodox churches throughout the United States as part of the American-Canadian Macedonian Orthodox Diocese, under current auspices of His Grace Metropolitan Metodi, and have played a major role in other Orthodox Church communities throughout the United States for more than a century;

Whereas 2022 marks the 10th anniversary of the Congressional Caucus on North Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans, which was founded by former Representative Candice S. Miller and is currently co-chaired by Representatives Brendan F. Boyle, Claudia Tenney, Debbie Dingell, and Lisa McClain;

Whereas 2022 is significant for Macedonian Americans because September 8, 2021, marked the 30th anniversary of the independence of a Macedonian country; and

Whereas the incredible contributions and heritage of Macedonian Americans have helped improve the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2022 as “Macedonian American Heritage Month”;

(2) expresses warm congratulations and best wishes to all Macedonian people around the world as they mark Macedonian Independence Day;

(3) esteems the integral role of Macedonian Americans in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(4) urges the people of the United States to observe Macedonian American Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that celebrate the contributions of Macedonian Americans to the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 759—HONORING BOSTON CELTICS LEGEND BILL RUSSELL, 11-TIME NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPION, FIRST BLACK HEAD COACH OF THE NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. REED) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 759

Whereas William “Bill” Felton Russell was born on February 12, 1934, in West Monroe, Louisiana;

Whereas, after graduating from McClymonds High School in Oakland, California, in 1952, Russell was recruited to play basketball at the University of San Francisco;

Whereas, in 2 seasons, Russell led the University of San Francisco Dons men's basketball team to a combined record of 57-1 and 2 national championships and was named most outstanding player of the 1955 National Collegiate Athletic Association Basketball Tournament;

Whereas, in the 1956 draft for the National Basketball Association (commonly known as the “NBA”), the Boston Celtics acquired Russell, who the St. Louis Hawks had selected with the second overall pick in the draft;

Whereas, at the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, Russell was the captain of the United States Men's Olympic Basketball team, averaged a team-high 14.1 points per game, and led the United States to a gold medal victory over the Soviet Union;

Whereas, throughout his career in the NBA as a player and a coach, Russell earned an unprecedented number of awards and accolades, including—

(1) a record 11 NBA championships, received in years 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, and 1969;

(2) five Most Valuable Player awards, received in years 1958, 1961, 1962, 1963, and 1965;

(3) twelve All-Star designations, received in years 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, and 1969;

(4) three All-Star Game Most Valuable Player Awards, received in years 1959, 1963, and 1965; and

(5) an NBA Lifetime Achievement Award, received in 2017;

Whereas, in Game 7 of the 1957 NBA Finals between the Celtics and the St. Louis Hawks, during the final minute of regulation, Russell, who scored 19 points and had 32 rebounds, hit a left-handed lay-up and then chased down and blocked a shot in transition, forcing the first of 2 overtimes;

Whereas the Celtics won the game and championship in what fellow Celtics player Tom Heinsohn called the “greatest game ever”;

Whereas Russell was a player-coach for the Celtics from 1966 to 1969, making him the first Black head coach in the history of the 4 major professional sports leagues;

Whereas the strength, courage, and leadership of Russell extended beyond the basketball court to the fight against racism and for civil rights in the United States;

Whereas, in 1961, Russell led his teammates in a boycott of an NBA game in Lexington, Kentucky, to protest racism and discrimination after a local coffee shop refused to serve 2 Black Celtics players;

Whereas Russell marched with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom;

Whereas, in 1963, Russell offered support for demonstrations against segregation in Boston public schools and addressed Black students taking part in a sit-in;

Whereas, on June 4, 1967, Russell took part in the Cleveland Summit, where he joined other prominent Black athletes to express solidarity with Muhammad Ali’s decision to refuse to join the Armed Forces upon being drafted to fight in the Vietnam War;

Whereas, on February 15, 2011, President Barack Obama awarded Russell the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor in the United States, stating that “Bill Russell, the man, is someone who stood up for the rights and dignity of all men. He marched with King; he stood by Ali. When a restaurant refused to serve the Black Celtics, he refused to play in the scheduled game. He endured insults and vandalism, but he kept on focusing on making the teammates who he loved better players, and made possible the success of so many who would follow. And I hope that one day, in the streets of Boston, children will look up at a statue built not only to Bill Russell the player, but Bill Russell the man.”;

Whereas, on August 11, 2022, the NBA announced that it will honor the life and legacy Bill Russell by permanently retiring his uniform number, 6, throughout the league, making Russell the first player to have his number retired across the NBA;

Whereas Russell has earned the love, respect, admiration, and gratitude of the city of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States; and

Whereas Russell passed away on July 31, 2022, at age 88: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the legendary life of William “Bill” Felton Russell, a giant on and off the basketball court; and

(2) expresses sincere condolences to the family and friends of Russell as the city of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachu-

setts, and the United States mourn with them.

SENATE RESOLUTION 760—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS “PATRIOT WEEK”

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 760

Whereas the events that led to the signing of the Constitution of the United States by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787, have significance for every citizen of the United States and are honored in public schools across the United States on Constitution Day, which is September 17 of each year;

Whereas the rule of law, the social compact, democracy, liberty, equality, and unalienable human rights are the essential values upon which the United States flourishes;

Whereas diversity is one of the greatest strengths of the United States, and the motto inscribed on the Great Seal of the United States, “E pluribus unum”, Latin for “out of many, one”, symbolizes that individuals in the United States from all walks of life are unified by shared values;

Whereas exceptional, visionary, and indispensable individuals such as Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, John Adams, John Marshall, George Washington, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison founded or advanced the United States;

Whereas the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions signed in Seneca Falls, New York, the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the “I Have a Dream” speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr., express sentiments that have advanced liberty in the United States; and

Whereas the Bennington flag (commonly known as the “76 flag”), the Betsy Ross flag, the current flag of the United States, the flag of the women’s suffrage movement, the Union flag (commonly known as the “Fort Sumter flag”), the Gadsden flag, and the flags of the States are physical symbols of the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”;

(2) recognizes that understanding the history of the United States and the first principles of the United States is indispensable to the survival of the United States as a free people;

(3) acknowledges, in great reverence to the victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks, that citizens of the United States should take time to honor the first principles, founders, documents, and symbols of their history;

(4) recognizes that each generation should renew the spirit of the United States based on the first principles, historical figures, founding documents, and symbols of the United States; and

(5) encourages citizens, schools and other educational institutions, and Federal, State, and local governments and their agencies to recognize and participate in Patriot Week by honoring, celebrating, and promoting the

study of the history of the United States so that all people of the United States may offer the reverence that is due to the free republic.

SENATE RESOLUTION 761—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24, 2022, AS “GOLD STAR FAMILIES REMEMBRANCE WEEK”

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 761

Whereas the last Sunday in September—
(1) is designated as “Gold Star Mother’s Day” under section 111 of title 36, United States Code; and

(2) was first designated as “Gold Star Mother’s Day” under the Joint Resolution entitled “Joint Resolution designating the last Sunday in September as ‘Gold Star Mother’s Day’, and for other purposes”, approved June 23, 1936 (49 Stat. 1895);

Whereas there is no date dedicated to families affected by the loss of a loved one who died in service to the United States;

Whereas a gold star symbolizes a family member who died in the line of duty while serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, through their service, bear the burden of protecting the freedom of the people of the United States;

Whereas the selfless example of the service of the members and veterans of the Armed Forces, as well as the sacrifices made by the families of those individuals, inspires all individuals in the United States to sacrifice and work diligently for the good of the United States; and

Whereas the sacrifices of the families of the fallen members of the Armed Forces and the families of veterans of the Armed Forces should never be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 18 through September 24, 2022, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”;

(2) honors and recognizes the sacrifices made by—

(A) the families of members of the Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in order to defend freedom and protect the United States; and

(B) the families of veterans of the Armed Forces; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Families Remembrance Week by—

(A) performing acts of service and good will in their communities; and

(B) celebrating families in which loved ones made the ultimate sacrifice so that others could continue to enjoy life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 762—HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO HER FAMILY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON HER PASSING

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr.

CORNYN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. COONS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MORAN, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KING, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BURR, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 762

Whereas Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was born on April 21, 1926, to the Duke and Duchess of York;

Whereas, during the Second World War in 1945, then-Princess Elizabeth joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service and became the first female member of the Royal Family to join the Armed Services as a full-time active member;

Whereas, following the death of King George VI, Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne on February 6, 1952, as sovereign of the United Kingdom;

Whereas Queen Elizabeth II conducted her first state visit to the United States in October 1957, where she met with President Dwight D. Eisenhower;

Whereas, during her reign, Queen Elizabeth II has—

(1) visited the United States on 4 state visits, participated in 5 state dinners, and conducted 2 unofficial visits; and

(2) met with 13 United States Presidents, more than any other head of state;

Whereas, during her reign, Queen Elizabeth II bore witness to significant scientific and diplomatic advances, such as the first moon landing and the fall of the Berlin Wall;

Whereas, on May 16, 1991, Queen Elizabeth II became the first British monarch to address Congress, where she celebrated the longstanding partnership between the United States and the United Kingdom;

Whereas Queen Elizabeth II has invited 15 British prime ministers to form a government in her name, bearing witness to historic and enduring political, diplomatic, and economic relations with the United States and mutual allies;

Whereas, during her reign, Queen Elizabeth II witnessed the self-determination of former British colonies around the world;

Whereas His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, served the British people and the Commonwealth of Nations alongside Queen Elizabeth II for their 73 years of marriage;

Whereas Queen Elizabeth II passed away on September 8, 2022, at Balmoral in Scotland; and

Whereas Queen Elizabeth II, on her passing, was the longest reigning monarch in the history of the British monarchy, serving 70 years, 7 months, and 3 days: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) remembers Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and her more than 70 years of service

in support of the British people and the Commonwealth of Nations;

(2) expresses gratitude to Queen Elizabeth II for her efforts to maintain strong bilateral relations between the United Kingdom and the United States; and

(3) extends condolences to the family of Queen Elizabeth II, to the people of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and to the peoples of the Commonwealth of Nations.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I have four 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

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, September 13, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Claire Gute and Ashley Martin, interns in my office, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, introduced earlier today: S. Res. 759, S. Res. 760, and S. Res. 761.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to re-

consider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The resolutions (S. Res. 759, S. Res. 760, and S. Res. 761) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, were printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-81, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Commission on the National Defense Strategy: The Honorable Alissa M. Starzak of the District of Columbia.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO HER FAMILY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON HER PASSING

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 762, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 762) honoring the life and accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth II and expressing condolences to her family and the United Kingdom on her passing.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 762) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 14, and 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; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Montecalvo nomination postcloture; further, that all

postcloture time on the Montecalvo nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. For the information of the Senate, there will be two rollcall votes starting at 11:30 a.m., with additional votes possible later in the day.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:20 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 13, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRUCE I. TURNER, OF COLORADO, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be rear admiral

MIRIAM L. LAFFERTY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 309(B):

To be rear admiral (upper half)

REAR ADM. MIRIAM L. LAFFERTY

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

E. MARTIN ESTRADA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

GREGORY J. HAANSTAD, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING REVEREND
CARLTON MAHONE, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of strong faith, a distinguished public servant and community leader, Reverend Carlton Mahone, Sr., for 50 years of preaching the Gospel in the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church. Reverend Mahone's five decades of ministry was celebrated at a gathering at Holsey Chapel CME Church in Columbus, Georgia on August 20, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

Carlton Mahone was born in Atlanta, Georgia to the union of retired CME minister Reverend E. L. Mahone and the late Fannie Mahone. He joined the St. Paul CME Church in Shiloh, Georgia at an early age and was educated at Ruth Carter High School in Talbotton, Georgia and, subsequently, Morris Brown College in Atlanta. After college, he relocated to Dayton, Ohio to attend the United Theological Seminary to receive training to be a minister of the Gospel. Today, Reverend Mahone is the pastor of the Holsey Monumental CME Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Pastor Mahone's faith called him to be a servant leader at many different churches across the United States, including pastorates in Georgia, Ohio, and Washington state, and Alaska where his ministries at the First CME Church in Anchorage from 1989 to 1994 earned him recognition from the NAACP and will always have a special place in his heart. In addition to his pastoral ministry, Reverend Mahone is a dedicated community leader and public servant, and his passion for mentoring and improving the lives of young people led him to run for, and win, a seat on the Talbot County, Georgia Board of Education in 2020.

Reverend Mahone has been recognized numerous times for his community leadership. He was named the 1983 Distinguished Pastor of the Year of the Georgia Conference for the Sixth Episcopal District by the Phillips School of Theology. He was recognized again in 2019 for his ministerial service, receiving Outstanding Pastor of the Year for the North Columbus-LaGrange District of the West Georgia Region of the Sixth Episcopal District. Additionally, he is a past president of the South Georgia Black Caucus and is currently the third Vice President of the Georgia Black Caucus.

1 Peter Chapter 4, Verse 10 tells us, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." Reverend Mahone exemplifies this verse through his dedicated community service in volunteering with the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. He also served as the Executive Director for Children and Youth Commission in Fitzgerald, Georgia, and as Chairman of Even Start, a federal program to in-

crease literacy among our nation's children and their parents.

At the center of Pastor Mahone's accomplished life is the unwavering love and support of his family and his loving wife, Lisa Thomas Mahone. Pastor Mahone is the father of 5 children, grandfather of 7, and great-grandfather of 2.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, The Holsey Monumental CME Church family and entire Chattahoochee Valley community, in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Pastor Carlton Mahone, Sr. upon the celebration of his 50th year of pastorship and his many years of humble service to humanity.

HONORING CHARLES DEMETZ
UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY 2022 GRADUATE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Charles DeMetz as a member of the United States Merchant Marine Class of 2022.

DeMetz graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy on Saturday, June 18, 2022, and was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserves.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to DeMetz's unselfish devotion to the people of this great Nation.

The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

South Mississippi is proud of DeMetz and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire Nation, as a United States Naval Reserve Officer.

As Ensign DeMetz embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, graduating from a program as prestigious as the Merchant Marine Academy.

I would like to send DeMetz my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

Semper Fidelis.

HOMETOWN HERO—SIMONE EDMOND AND TEKENDRIA VALENTINE

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic actions of

Simone Edmond, a Dallas ISD school bus driver, and of Tekendria Valentine, a school bus monitor. These two brave individuals went beyond their scope of responsibility by risking their lives to save two children in danger.

On Monday August 22, rushing floodwater swept away two young siblings who were waiting for the bus to pick them up. Simone and Tekendria, who were working together on the same bus, saw the two siblings in the floodwater and took swift action.

Thinking quickly, they decided to tie seatbelts together and use it as a rope to pull the kids to safety. The process required them to plunge themselves into the rushing floodwater and risk their own lives.

Simone and Tekendria's bravery, commitment to our children, and selfless actions should serve as an inspiration to all of us. On behalf of the residents of Texas-24, I thank Simone and Tekendria for their courageous actions.

REMEMBERING FREDERICK
EUGENE ZEHNDER

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Frederick "Fred" Eugene Zehnder, founder and editor of the San Leandro Times, the Castro Valley Forum, and prominent KTVU news director, on the anniversary of his passing on June 27, 2021.

Born on a dairy farm in Lakeport, California on March 5, 1934, Fred's love for journalism began at the age of 10 when he started the Scotts Valley News. This one-page weekly report was written, edited, and delivered all by Fred.

In 1952, Fred attended Humboldt State College where he earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism. While studying at Humboldt, he worked part-time at the local radio station in Eureka, California.

In 1956, Fred was drafted into the Army. At his posting in Fort Bliss, Texas, he worked as an Army public information officer under Sam Donaldson. After his time in the Army, Fred worked for KVIQ-TV in Eureka as the station's first news director. He later worked for several other networks, including KPIX Channel 5, CBS-TV, and KGO-TV. In 1988, Fred became the news director at KTVU Channel 2 in Oakland, California, until his retirement in 1999. For over 20 years, he worked with talents such as Dennis Richmond, Barbara Simpson, Elaine Corral, Leslie Griffith, Julie Haener, Bill Martin, and Mark Ibanez.

While working at KTVU, Fred founded the San Leandro Times and later purchased the Castro Valley Forum. Every Wednesday, over 22,000 copies of the Castro Valley Forum continue to be delivered for free to Castro Valley residents and businesses. Additionally, on Thursdays, over 38,000 free copies of the San

• 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.

Leandro Times are distributed to businesses and residents throughout San Leandro.

Fred tragically lost his life at the age of 87, after being struck by a drunk driver while walking in his Alameda neighborhood.

Fred shaped the journalism landscape in the East Bay, both in print and television. We're grateful for his commitment to community journalism and the legacy he created. He is survived by his three brothers, John, Robert, and David; his seven nephews and niece, Andy, Chris, Jim, Mark, David, Rob, Mitch, and Carolyn; and his long-time friends and business partners Howard and Claudette Morrison.

CELEBRATING MR. AND MRS.
GOLDENKRANZ

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 70th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Betty Goldenkranz. Mr. and Mrs. Goldenkranz exhibit strong values of family, commitment, and sacrifice, and their dedication to each other and to their life of service is well-deserving of recognition today.

Steve and Betty Goldenkranz both hail from Brooklyn, New York and came of age during the Great Depression. After Mr. Goldenkranz enlisted in the United States Navy during the Korean War in 1951, the two married on September 23, 1952, and soon relocated to Newfoundland, Canada for a military assignment. After another relocation to Virginia Beach, Virginia and a tour of service, the young couple returned to Brooklyn, and by 1957, were parents to their three sons Michael, Jeffrey, and Andrew.

After leaving the U.S. Navy, Mr. Goldenkranz worked for Lockheed Aircraft during the 1960s Space Race, while Mrs. Goldenkranz served their family as fulltime homemaker, filling the home with music and supporting their sons' education. Later, Mrs. Betty Goldenkranz earned her teaching credential, became a renowned educator, was recognized as the New York State Reading Teacher of the Year in 1987, and continued to mentor other educators through her work with Hunter University. After leaving Lockheed, Mr. Goldenkranz returned to higher education and graduated in 1974—the same year his oldest son graduated. While Working in the home furnishing industry until his retirement, he was an ardent and enthusiastic supporter of then-New York State Assembly member CHUCK SCHUMER and has remained as such throughout his career in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Both Steve and Betty are forces of change in their communities, encouraging their children and neighbors to be active in their community. Together, they enjoy being patrons of the arts and attending the opera, ballet, and theater. In 2013, Mr. and Mrs. Goldenkranz relocated to Aptos, California, where they continue to engage with their community. Now, Steve is active with the Alzheimer's Association in an effort to best support his wife, and both work closely with local political organizations and their Temple Beth El community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in cele-

brating Mr. and Mrs. Goldenkranz as they ring in their 70th anniversary. May they continue to honor the Central Coast and all who know them with their wisdom, humor, and generous spirit.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month and its 2022 theme, Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation. The theme inspires us to ensure that all people are welcomed to help build stronger communities and a united country. From September 15, 2022, through October 15, 2022, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the people of the United States will once again celebrate the cultures, traditions, and the many remarkable contributions Hispanic Americans have made throughout our country's history.

Hispanic Heritage Month, which begins each year on September 15, recognizes the anniversaries of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile observe their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Since its inception as National Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968, which later became National Hispanic Heritage Month in 1988, Americans have taken this time to reflect on the many noteworthy and outstanding efforts of generations of Hispanic Americans which has helped to establish a more successful and honorable nation.

America's success is reliant upon the rich heritage and cultural diversity of its people. Hispanic Heritage Month commends the many Hispanic leaders and members of our communities who have added to the prosperity of the United States in every facet of our society.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to once again join me in recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month. Throughout America's history, present, and future, the Hispanic community has played and will continue to play a vital role in enriching the quality of life for the people of the United States, and they are worthy of our deepest admiration and gratitude.

HONORING WWII VETERAN BOB
RAMOS ON HIS 101ST BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob Ramos, a brave and dedicated World War II veteran aboard the USS *Oklahoma City*. As part of the U.S. Navy, Mr. Ramos was an active service member for two years, earning the American Campaign Medal, Navy Occupation Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal, Honorable Service Lapel Pin, and Honorable Discharge Button.

Born on August 23, 1921 to Spanish immigrants, Mr. Ramos grew up in Niagara Falls. He attended Trott Vocational School where he specialized and excelled in welding. Upon his graduation, Mr. Ramos found employment at a Buffalo shipyard, where he built landing crafts to support the war effort. While there, his superiors took note of his skills, leading Mr. Ramos to be scouted by Hooker Chemical to work on a secret project, which he later learned was a part of the Manhattan Project.

Mr. Ramos worked for Hooker Chemical until he was drafted into the U.S. Navy in March 1944. Sent aboard the USS *Oklahoma City*, Bob achieved the rank of Fireman First Class working in the boiler room. He and his shipmates were among the first to witness the aftermath of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A few weeks later, Mr. Ramos was present at Tokyo Bay where the Japanese surrendered.

Following the war, Mr. Ramos was rehired by Hooker. He continued to work on projects involving atomic energy and helped with the closure of the Three Mile Power Plant after its partial meltdown.

Mr. Ramos met and fell in love with fellow Niagara Falls native, Margaret, whom he married prior to his service in the Navy. Margaret sadly passed in 2014 due to Alzheimer's disease, but Mr. Ramos fondly remembers the great times they had together and the care he provided her. Mr. Ramos is survived by his daughter, Cynthia, and his several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom he keeps in close contact with.

Now retired, Mr. Ramos spends his time baking and caring for his garden. He likes to show off his skills, frequently baking for his friends and family. For his niece's wedding, he offered to make over 1,000 pizzelles, an Italian waffle cookie, for all the guests. Mr. Ramos was also appointed chairman of the Niagara Falls Senior Council at its formation. Currently, Mr. Ramos regularly volunteers at the John Duke Senior Center in Niagara Falls.

As one of approximately 240,000 World War II Veterans still alive today, we owe a great deal of gratitude to Mr. Ramos for all he has done to protect our country. Madam Speaker, we stand together today to celebrate Bob Ramos on his 101st birthday.

HONORING JENNY DO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory and in honor of Jenny Do, who passed away on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at the age of 56. She was a talented artist, attorney, and activist who was beloved and deeply respected in my district.

Jenny fled Vietnam as a child refugee. She came to this country to begin a new life and pursue her education. She earned a legal degree and became very involved in issues affecting the Vietnamese American community. She served in numerous organizations, including the notable Friends of Hue Foundation, to provide services to improve and implement sustainable solutions in impoverished communities. She sat on the City of San Jose's Art Commission and was committed to raising

awareness about Vietnamese arts, culture, and social issues. As the founder of Ao Dai Festival and Green Rice Gallery, she curated many well-received exhibitions around the Bay Area.

With almost 20 years of legal experience, Jenny was an attorney specializing in worker's compensation cases. She was a fearless advocate for everything she believed in and was willing to help anyone that needed support.

Jenny battled cancer for 15 years and established a support network for Vietnamese American cancer patients. She shared her experience living with cancer over the years and her resiliency was an inspiration to many.

In 2017, Jenny led the efforts to combat the devastating flood of Coyote Creek and made sure the impacted community received assistance from all levels of government. She established a training program to increase disaster preparedness amongst Vietnamese Americans. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Jenny was at the forefront of the community mobilizing efforts to distribute more than 40,000 sets of PPE equipment to healthcare workers. She also led efforts to distribute food to the homeless and elderly throughout the Santa Clara County.

Jenny Do touched people from all around the world and was an extraordinary human being. She was a beacon of light and a role model for many. I was honored to see her work firsthand throughout San Jose and am thankful for her tireless commitment and service to the community. Jenny will be greatly missed. Please join me in honoring her and sharing my deep condolences with her family and our community that mourns her loss.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARY FREEMAN KELLER ZERVIGON, A CHERISHED PUBLIC SERVANT FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA CELEBRATING HER LIFE AS A TIRELESS CIVIC ACTIVIST AND FIXTURE AT CITY HALL FOR DECADES

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana. My dear friend, Mrs. Mary Freeman Keller Zervigon was an amazing human being, that left us far too soon. She passed away on August 27, 2022 surrounded by her loving family.

A lifelong New Orleanian, Mrs. Zervigon was a policy leader, philanthropist and beloved civic leader who held posts in two mayoral administrations and spent countless hours serving on civic boards working to improve the city. She lived her life doing what she believed was the right thing to do.

Raised with civic activism in her DNA, her grandfather A.B. Freeman, who led the Louisiana Coca-Cola Bottling Co., was too a civic leader and philanthropist. Her mother, Mrs. Rosa Freeman Keller, was an outspoken advocate of racial justice whose accomplishments included desegregating New Orleans' public libraries.

At the time of her death, Mary was president of the Board of Liquidation, City Debt,

and a member of Xavier University of Louisiana's Board of Trustees, the governing boards of New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School, the Jesuit Social Research Institute and the School Leadership Center. She also served on the Public Affairs Research Council's research committee.

For much of her life, Mary worked full-time. When Moon Landrieu served as mayor, she was his executive assistant, then director of the city's Transportation Department. During Sidney Barthelemy's mayoral administration, she served as the city's lobbyist in Baton Rouge. Her ability to cut right to the chase made her an ideal lobbyist representing New Orleans during tough Legislative sessions. From 1988 to 1992, Mary also served as chairwoman of the Louisiana Tax Commission.

She was a trustee of one family foundation and the president of another. Although Mary's work with those charities was public, she also gave generously—and anonymously—to many other causes and organizations.

Mary may have been humble, but she was hardly a doormat, said former first lady Sybil Morial, who worked with her on the New Orleans Science and Math High School Board. "She spoke her mind," Morial said. "She had a lot of qualities her mother had. . . . I had great admiration for her because she was so frank."

A lifelong New Orleanian, Mary graduated from the Isidore Newman School. She did not finish college until after she married Luis Mario Zervigon, had five children, and later divorced. Then she enrolled at Loyola University New Orleans, where she earned undergraduate and law degrees.

In 1973, Mary was a delegate to the state Constitutional Convention. Other civic activities in her résumé included memberships on the Sewerage & Water Board, the Human Relations Commission and the boards of the Bureau of Governmental Research, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, the Metropolitan Area Committee, Loyola University New Orleans, and the Girl Scouts Louisiana East. She also served as a Girl Scout troop leader.

In recognition of her tireless service, Mary received the Alexis de Tocqueville Award, the highest honor from the United Way of Southeast Louisiana, and the Hannah G. Solomon Award from the National Council of Jewish Women.

She is survived by three sons, Andrés Zervigon of New York City and Carlos and Luis Zervigon, both of New Orleans; two daughters, Alicia Zervigon of New Orleans and Rosa Landry of Abita Springs; 12 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Madam Speaker, I am humbled to have crossed Mary Freeman Keller Zervigon's path during my lifetime. The support and guidance I received from her during my professional career will be something I will cherish forever. I am humbly grateful for all she has done to serve so many that crossed her path. I am honored to celebrate Mary as a true leader in the great State of Louisiana.

RECOGNITION OF MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH'S 100TH YEAR

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mt. Zion Baptist Church for 100 years in the Kalamazoo community.

This church—one of the first to be built by African Americans for African Americans in Kalamazoo—has been a pillar of the city for a century now after it was founded by Reverend Yale H. Putney in a storefront on Main Street. Only a few years after its founding, the growing church relocated to a one-room schoolhouse on East Ransom Street and next moved into a vacated church in 1945 on the corner of North Edwards and Parsons Streets. Finally, the congregation built their home on then-Chestnut Street in 1979, where it remains to this day. Chestnut Street was later renamed Roberson Street in 1980 to honor former pastors B.A. and A.E. Roberson.

Under each of these roofs, Mt. Zion Baptist Church established a place of worship and built a Christ-like community around it. Mt. Zion always has offered a helping hand to our city, recently offering their church to double as a COVID-19 vaccination site under the leadership of Reverend Addis Moore. As always, the Church saw a need, and met it. Reverend Moore has said in the past that a church's purpose in the African American community is to be "the lifeline of that community, where you find everything you need." I thank Reverend Moore for his servant's heart and strong leadership that has brought Mt. Zion to 100 years of service.

HOMETOWN HERO—PIPELINE TO POSSIBILITIES

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize four women who are working to inspire the next generation of North Texans through their nonprofit—Pipeline to Possibilities.

Judges Shequitta Kelly, Stephanie Huff, Lisa Green, and Amber Givens are using their platform as judges to teach Dallas ISD students important information like what classifies as a crime and what life changing consequences those crimes entail.

Their efforts are forging real impacts on North Texas students and encouraging them to stray away from a life of crime.

A Dallas ISD student who recently participated in Pipelines to Possibilities put it best, saying "every action has a consequence . . . so just be careful whatever you do in life."

I have no doubt that because of the incredible service these four women have done for the next generation, our community will become an even greater place to live.

These four women have already been asked to expand their program to other schools around North Texas and even across the country.

On behalf of our entire community, I'd like to thank Judges Kelly, Huff, Green, and Givens

for their dedication to brightening North Texas and inspiring the next generation.

HONORING MR. ANTHONY TONEY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the valuable contributions of Mr. Anthony Toney to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County as a mentor, coach, and role model for our community's youth. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County inspires and empowers youth to realize their full potential and become responsible, healthy, and productive citizens.

Mr. Anthony Toney leads by example, teaching us all that giving back to the community makes a real difference in people's lives. Raised in the city of Salinas, he graduated from North Salinas High School in 1981 and then attended Hartnell College. Mr. Toney's exceptional athletic and academic achievements afforded him the opportunity to study and play football at Texas A&M University, where he studied Industrial Education and graduated in 1985. After being drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles in 1986, Mr. Toney embarked on a five-year professional football career.

After retiring, Mr. Toney returned to the central coast of California and began working with Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey. After 22 years, Anthony Toney now represents the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County as the Seaside and Salinas Clubhouse Director, empowering Club members and staff to be the best versions of themselves. For the past ten years, the Johnson-Toney Football Camps, co-founded by Mr. Toney, have promoted healthy competition for athletes of all abilities and taught children and young adults the importance of being a well-rounded member of their community.

Throughout his career, Anthony Toney has received recognition for his outstanding contributions to the community, including at the California State University, Monterey Bay Seventh Annual Celebration of Community. Additionally, he was honored as the Master of Ceremonies for the Gilroy Special Olympics Spring Games. Today, he is rightfully honored with the Luis Perez Community Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. Anthony Toney for his years of service to the Central Coast. I extend my personal appreciation to Mr. Anthony Toney as his efforts continue to inspire and support the Central Coast's young people.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO FENCING AT THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the No Fencing at the United States

Supreme Court Act, which would prohibit the installation of permanent fencing at the U.S. Supreme Court. Last year, I introduced a bill that would prohibit the installation of permanent fencing at the U.S. Capitol complex.

After the Supreme Court's draft opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* was leaked in May, the Supreme Court installed temporary anti-climb fencing around its grounds, which remained in place until late August. While the Supreme Court has not announced plans to install permanent fencing, temporary security measures often become permanent.

While I understand the importance of protecting the Supreme Court building, the Justices and Supreme Court employees, we can and must maintain our commitment to security without sacrificing public access by using the least restrictive means necessary to address security.

Permanent fencing would send an un-American message to the nation and the world, by transforming our democracy from one that is accessible and of the people to one that is exclusive and fearful of its own citizens. The Supreme Court has long welcomed First Amendment protests and demonstrations without becoming a fortress.

Public property should be open to the public. The distance between government and the people has grown, with trust in government, including the Supreme Court, low. We should not entrench that distance further by placing intimidating barriers between ourselves as public servants and the people we serve. There are more effective, less obtrusive security solutions than archaic fencing.

Moreover, the Supreme Court is in a residential neighborhood in the District of Columbia. The Supreme Court grounds are widely used by both D.C. residents and visitors. Permanent fencing would block that use.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

BOB FERGUSON

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a Washington State giant and true champion for Tri-Cities, Bob Ferguson, who peacefully passed away in August.

The first chairman of the Tri-City Development Council, or TRIDEC, Bob played a critical role at the Hanford Site and in the economic development for our region. His resume is nothing short of inspiring—he was one of the youngest reactor operators at Hanford's B Reactor; Project Manager at the Fast Flux Test Facility, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy in President Carter's Administration, Managing Director of the Washington Public Power Supply System, President of R.L. Ferguson & Associates, and much more.

He worked tirelessly to advance energy and education causes and donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to local colleges, culminating in the creation of the Institute for Northwest Energy Futures at Washington State University Tri-Cities.

Bob was not only a pivotal leader and pioneer for Central Washington and the nuclear

energy industry, but he was also a good friend. Bob was a visionary—he was determined, generous, and kind.

Bob's death is truly a loss for our community, but his leadership and contributions to Central Washington and the country will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH ALEXANDER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph Alexander of Los Angeles, California upon his centennial birthday.

Joseph Alexander was born in 1922 in Kowal, Poland. He and his family lived in Kowal until the 1939 Nazi German invasion of Poland when Joseph was 16 years old. At the onset of the war, for reasons still unknown to Joseph, his family was spared during the initial roundup of Jews in their community, and his family was able to escape and join other relatives in the town of Blonie. In 1940, Joseph along with his parents and five siblings, were transported to the Warsaw Ghetto in Poland. It was at this time that Joseph's father bribed some guards to allow Joseph and two of his siblings, an older sister and younger brother, to escape from Warsaw back to Kowal. This was the last time Joseph saw the rest of his family. After three days in Kowal, he was taken by train to a labor camp. Over the next six years, Mr. Alexander was sent to twelve different concentration camps, including the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau in occupied Poland and Dachau in southern Germany.

Upon arriving in Auschwitz, Mr. Alexander's left forearm was tattooed with the number 14284. While captive, he endured forced labor under threat of starvation and death—building sewers, a dam, an airport, and laying cobblestone streets and railroad tracks. According to Joseph, one of the ways he survived was to always try to work at every camp, and with the biggest and strongest men, so that he was not grouped with the elderly and sick. Following the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, Joseph was sent back to the Warsaw Ghetto from Auschwitz, to clean up the aftermath of the destruction.

As the Home Army, the Polish underground resistance movement, advanced towards Warsaw, Mr. Alexander was sent to concentration camps in Germany, and after being moved around several times, ended up at Dachau. In 1945, the Allied forces neared the camp, and he was subsequently sent on a death march. Due to the impending American liberation, the guards abandoned the march, leaving Mr. Alexander and the other prisoners to fend for themselves. During this time, Joseph and a fellow prisoner managed to survive off a dead horse that they found in the snow. Mr. Alexander later recounted that it was "the best meal we'd had in a long time." They were found by American troops a day later. He immigrated to the United States in 1949, where he married and had two children.

Today, Joseph shares his experiences during the Holocaust with students in the Burbank and Glendale Unified School Districts, Woodbury University in Burbank, and as a volunteer at the Los Angeles Holocaust Museum. Mr. Alexander and other Holocaust survivors

are living examples of a tragic time in our history, reminding us of the atrocities committed during the Holocaust, and the dangers of allowing fascism and hate to overtake a democratic society.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring the centennial birthday of this courageous and resilient Holocaust survivor, Joseph Alexander.

HONORING THE REMAINING NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the last remaining Navajo Code Talkers. They are the definition of strength and honor in the face of adversity. To represent Navajo Nation in Congress is a privilege. It means representing a place where culture and values thrive from the heart.

Eighty years ago, when our country needed heroes, 29 young Navajo men answered. As World War II raged on, they took their heart language of peace and harmony to create a single indigenous language code. Hundreds more Navajo men fought for our freedoms in the war as well. At Iwo Jima in particular, they encoded, transmitted, and decoded without error hundreds of messages. Their service was key to the Allied Victory in the Pacific Theater.

Today, I am honored to share the stories of the three remaining Code Talkers:

Thomas H. Begay, 94, is originally from Chichiltah, New Mexico and currently resides in Window Rock, Arizona. He enlisted at age 16 and served in the United States Marine Corps. Upon his original enlistment, Mr. Begay was unaware of the secret program for Navajo speakers. He served on six combat missions from 1943 to 1946. He was honorably discharged on July 23, 1946 after serving in the 5th Signal Company, 5th Marine Division; 27th Marine Regiment, and 5th Marine Division.

John Kinsel, Sr., 98, is from Lukachukai, Arizona and served in the United States Marine Corps. He enlisted at the age of 18 and was honorably discharged on January 1, 1946. Mr. Kinsel Sr. was awarded the purple heart on April 11, 1989, for wounds suffered in action at Iwo Jima on March 2, 1945. He also received the congressional silver medal in 2001 for his service as a Navajo Code Talker.

Peter MacDonald, Sr., is from Teecnospos, Arizona and joined the United States Marine Corps at the age of 15. He served from 1944 to 1946 in the 6th Marine Division. His service took him overseas to the South Pacific and North China. He also received the Congressional Silver Medal for his service. Beyond his military service, Mr. MacDonald served as Chairman of the Navajo Nation from 1971 to 1983 and 1987 to 1991.

Today, we offer our gratitude and admiration for these three remaining Navajo Code Talkers and their families. I have no doubt that the world as we know it would not be the same without them. Their stories remind us of our commitment to fight for our democracy. Because of them we all walk in freedom.

RECOGNIZING DR. THERESA HARRIS-TIGG, AN ADVOCATE OF EDUCATION AND FRIEND OF THE WESTERN NEW YORK COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Theresa Harris-Tigg and her impact on the greater Buffalo area. Her story is one of inspiration and achievement. Theresa's significant presence on students all around Western New York is nothing short of extraordinary. I would like to offer my heartfelt condolences to her husband, Robert, and her four children, Robert, Marvin, Ebony, and Jason.

One of the first African Americans to integrate at Buffalo Public School 78, in 1972 Theresa became a proud graduate of Bennett High School. In subsequent years, she would add Master's degrees in business, English, and secondary education from Bryant and Stratton College, D'Youville College, and Canisius College, respectively. She earned her doctorate in educational leadership and policy from the University at Buffalo.

Theresa taught for thirteen years at School 11, School 66, and McKinley High School. She would go on to teach as a professor emeritus at SUNY Buffalo State and Houghton Colleges. Meanwhile, she served on the Buffalo Board of Education as the East District Representative. She also served two terms as the Vice President of Student Achievement for the Board of Education.

Most recently, Theresa had become a professionally certified Christian life coach after many years of fellowship at New Covenant United Church of Christ.

While her family and friends grieve this loss, our entire community should never forget the sacrifices and strides that Theresa made throughout her lifetime of successes. On behalf of the countless students that felt her impact on a daily basis, we thank her for all that she left behind here in Buffalo. Her contributions will remain for many years to come.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GLEN COVE HOSPITAL

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Glen Cove Hospital on the occasion of its centennial anniversary of serving the residents of Glen Cove and the surrounding communities.

Glen Cove is my hometown. We all took Glen Cove Hospital for granted until a few years ago, when there was a possibility it would be gone. This year, as we celebrate its 100th anniversary we are grateful to everyone who has rallied to ensure that the hospital not only survives, but thrives. It is a central part of our existence and our long-term sustainability.

My mom was an operating nurse in the Glen Cove Hospital. My dad served on the Glen Cove Community Hospital Board. I was born

in Glen Cove Hospital. Helene and I had our three children in the Glen Cove Hospital. We have been to the emergency room for stitches and breaks, or high fevers, or to visit loved ones who are sick, or . . . to pay our last respects to our closest friends and family. The hospital is woven into the very fabric of our lives.

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of this indispensable and vital asset, I am recommending myself to doing everything I can to ensure that the Glen Cove Hospital continues to be a warm, inviting, community-centered, beacon of excellence. I thank the hospital leadership both in Glen Cove and at Northwell Health, especially Executive Director Kerri Scanlon, Medical Director Dr. Brad Sherman and Northwell's President and CEO Michael Dowling. I thank the doctors, nurses, laboratory staff, maintenance workers, kitchen crew, social workers, volunteers, accountants, receptionists, security workers and everyone else who makes Glen Cove Hospital such a special part of our lives.

I would like to make special mention of one Glen Cove resident—Saul Katz. Mr. Katz is one of the visionaries that proposed the first merger between the North Shore hospital system and Glen Cove Hospital, despite the objection of other Glen Covers, . . . like my dad. That vision, and his decades to devotion, has given us the premier Northwell Health system of today. And, not only due to Saul's vision, but also his and his wife, Iris's overwhelming and consistent decades of generosity, the Glen Cove Hospital will continue to grow as one of the jewels in the Northwell crown. The Katzs are special people, and we are fortunate that they are from Glen Cove.

As Glen Cove Hospital enters its second century, I am grateful to the hospital and its staff for being such a special part of our community and look forward to its continued growth. Here's to the next 100 years.

CELEBRATING OAXACA BY THE SEA

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Oaxaca by the Sea Celebration and the cultural partnership, between Seaside, California and Oaxaca de Juárez, Mexico.

Many Seaside community members have Oaxacan roots, and Oaxacan culture can be found throughout Seaside. In July, the city of Seaside made an official visit to the southwestern capital city of Oaxaca de Juárez in Oaxaca, Mexico and entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to recognize the Sister City relationship between the two cities.

The agreement between these two cities will solidify a long-term relationship between the people and businesses of both cities, enhancing the cultural connection for years to come. In addition to increased cultural awareness, this important relationship between the two cities will positively impact educational partnerships and developments, business, tourism, and trade.

Hosted annually, the Oaxaca by the Sea Celebration is a testament to the community's

desire to showcase the diversity of culture within Monterey County. The Oaxaca by the Sea Celebration provides community members an opportunity to showcase, celebrate, and educate our neighbors on the complex and dynamic cultural experiences held by Seaside residents of Oaxacan descent. This celebration preserves the roots and the culture of our community through dance, food, music, and art.

Madam Speaker, I offer my sincere appreciation to the organizers of the Oaxaca by the Sea Celebration and to the dedication of Seaside and Oaxaca de Juárez's governments to uniting our communities through their shared culture and customs.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MINERAL AREA COLLEGE AND FLAT RIVER JUNIOR COLLEGE

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mineral Area College of Park Hills, Missouri as it celebrates 100 years since its founding to offer advanced education after high school.

It began as Flat River Junior College, the third public junior college in Missouri with classes for 38 students on September 5, 1922. In 1965, voters in six public school districts approved the founding of Mineral Area College as successor to Flat River Junior College and in 1970, the campus was established where it is today just off U.S. Highway 67.

Since its founding, the college has educated more than 18,000 students, offering 2-year degrees in a variety of areas including nursing, business, technology and the arts. Welding training and an HVAC program are the most recent additions with an Industry and Technology Center set to house career and technical programs beginning next fall.

The college has been competitive in athletics, impressive in the arts and always evolving to offer its students an education that prepares them for a bright future.

It is my great pleasure to celebrate the founding of Flat River Junior College 100 years ago and to acknowledge the continued treasure it is as Mineral Area College today before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HOMETOWN HERO—GARLAND ISD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Garland ISD for its dedication to ensure our North Texas veterans are set up for success when they return home.

Last month, after recognizing the statewide struggle to find employees, Garland ISD partnered with Soldiers to Sidelines—a non-profit aimed at helping soldiers get the training, credentialing, and even the networking needed to build post military careers in coaching.

I have met with several veterans' groups across North Texas and they have all expressed the immense challenges they face transitioning into civilian life. By partnering with Soldiers to Sidelines, Garland ISD has affirmed its commitment to helping the heroes of North Texas overcome this obstacle.

It is imperative we lift up and support the veterans who have risked it all for our country. I'd like to thank Garland ISD for going above and beyond to do exactly that.

**HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
DR. E. MICHAEL CAMPBELL**

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. E. Michael Campbell who recently retired as the Director of the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics, or LLE, in my district.

Only the fourth Director in the 50-year history of LLE, the U.S. Department of Energy's largest university-based program and home to the most powerful lasers at any university in the world, Mike's tenure was marked by significant strategic growth at LLE and distinguished service in support of the nation's economic and national security. LLE reached new highs in numbers of staff, scientists, students, external users, academic and industry partnerships, and total research funding. He bolstered and expanded LLE's international leadership in inertial fusion, high-intensity lasers and optics, and high-energy-density physics (HEDP) research. He has been an outspoken proponent of strengthening the US's leadership in these fields throughout his illustrious career. As a natural bridge-builder and advocate for science, Mike fostered strengthened relationships within the Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) community, including with the other ICF facilities, federal agencies including the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, National Science Foundation and Department of Defense, academic collaborators and industry partners. Mike often joked about his eight thousand best friends, and it is an honor to be counted among them.

Dr. Campbell is an internationally known expert in fusion, high-energy-density science, high-power lasers and their applications, and advanced energy technologies. Mike helped to invent the first laboratory x-ray laser and was instrumental in establishing the National Ignition Facility and the role of lasers in HEDP research in support of NNSA's stockpile stewardship mission. He has won numerous awards including the DOE's E.O. Lawrence Award, the American Nuclear Society's Edward Teller Award, the American Physical Society's John Dawson Award, the Department of Energy's Excellence in Weapons Research Award, and the Leadership Award of Fusion Power Associates. He is a Fellow of the Optical Society of America, American Physical Society, and the European Institute of Physics. He has published over 250 articles in scientific journals and holds five patents. He received his degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, and the University of Western Sydney. Beyond these achieve-

ments, Mike has an infectious enthusiasm, especially for the scientific endeavors he oversaw, as well as dinosaurs and the blues. He is also a gifted cartoonist and has depicted multiple Members of Congress among his many drawings.

Mike firmly believes in learning from history and has an amazing array of stories of previous giants of the field, always working to ensure their efforts are not forgotten but instead inspire the next generation. His passion for education and mentorship was a focus and hallmark of his leadership of LLE. I have had the opportunity to meet and interact with a number of LLE's talented students and was always deeply impressed with not only their technical knowledge but also their ability to clearly and concisely communicate its importance to a general audience. I know that our future is in better hands due to the future leaders Mike has promoted throughout his career. In addition, Mike also worked to create a more diverse and inclusive research environment at LLE. He established a senior-level diversity manager position to increase workforce diversity in STEM related positions, established LLE HEDP Equity Scholarships, pushed for LLE to join an American Physical Society program to increase diversity in physics departments and laboratories, and greatly expanded access to research opportunities and scholarships to area high school students from diverse, underserved backgrounds.

Madam Speaker, although I am saddened that Mike's leadership of LLE has come to a close, I know that our Nation has greatly benefitted from Mike's service and I expect that even in retirement, he will continue his life's work to advance science and inspire others.

**HONORING GEORGE THOMAS
NOLAN**

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of George Thomas Nolan of Garland, Texas. Mr. Nolan passed away on August 12, 2022, and leaves behind a legacy that his family should be proud of.

Mr. Nolan was born on December 24, 1940, in Bay Shore, New York. Like myself, he was raised by a single parent. He joined the Army as a young man in the 1950s and served as a helicopter mechanic in Germany. He later went on to be a mechanic and shop steward at several airlines.

Later, he suffered a loss no parent should suffer. His daughter, Cari died, at the age of 38. After this tragedy, Mr. Nolan poured himself into community work, registering voters, knocking on doors and working to promote "fairness and equality."

He devoted his golden years to strengthening Medicare.

I was so honored to meet Mr. Nolan as part of my work to lower prescription drug prices. I even had the pleasure to invite him to join a roundtable with Speaker PELOSI on that subject this year.

Mr. Nolan was a great North Texan, a loving family man and a patriot.

He leaves behind his wife of 55 years, Bobbye Nolan, and his son, Tim J. Nolan. He

is also survived by his daughter-in-law Laurie Stone and grandchildren, Leah, Emma, and Nathan, as well as his first grandchild and daughter of Cari, Abigail Slider.

RECOGNIZING THE WOMEN WHO SOAR

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Mary Kraft, Sylvia Waller, and Polly Letofsky who will be honored by the Northwest Douglas County Chamber & Economic Development Corporation as "Women Who Soar."

Each year, the Northwest Douglas County Chamber & Economic Development Corporation recognizes three women in the Denver Metro Community who inspire our community and are blazing the path for future generations.

Mary Kraft has been recognized as a "Woman Who Soars" because in the face of a multitude of struggles, she harnessed innovation and technology to advance her farm's capabilities. Her and her husband used an innovative approach to nurture their Blue Toothed cows—growing the herd from 200 to 6,000. Mary held the first leadership role by a woman and eventually became President of American Agriculture at the Colorado Livestock Association.

Sylvia Waller has been recognized as a "Woman Who Soars" by challenging and changing the standard of beauty. At the age of 62, she became the first African American in 32 years to be crowned Mrs. Colorado. Sylvia believes beauty has no age, shape, or color, rather it is found in the heart and spirit. Sylvia is a passionate Volunteer Community Educator for the Alzheimer's Association, using her personal experience as a caretaker for her father who suffered from dementia to help promote services for individuals and families dealing with the disease.

Polly Letofsky has been recognized as a "Woman Who Soars" because of her efforts to support authors who self-publish their work. She founded My Word Publishing which disrupted the publishing world by helping authors professionally self-publish their books while maintaining 100 percent of their rights. Since its inception, Polly's business has grown into a publishing library of 750 books and representing authors from 14 countries.

From using innovative methods in farming to creating a publishing house for self-publishing authors, this year's recipients have made a lasting impact on those around them and in our community. It is leaders like these three women who will allow us to achieve a more prosperous and inclusive future and I congratulate them all on being recognized as "Women Who Soar."

HONORING JACK COLMER UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY 2022 GRADUATE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Jack Colmer as a member of the United States Merchant Marine Class of 2022.

Colmer graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy on Saturday, June 18, 2022, and was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserves.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Colmer's unselfish devotion to the people of this great Nation.

The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

South Mississippi is proud of Colmer and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire Nation, as a United States Naval Reserve Officer.

As Ensign Colmer embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, graduating from a program as prestigious as the Merchant Marine Academy.

I would like to send Colmer my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

Semper Fidelis.

CELEBRATING MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Monterey Peninsula College as it celebrates 75 years of commitment to higher learning and service to the central coast of California. Since its establishment in 1947, Monterey Peninsula College has continued to provide transformative educational opportunities to students.

Monterey Peninsula College first began instruction in 1947 at Monterey High School. The next year, 280 students enrolled at the college's Fremont Street campus, and in 1949, 34 students were the first to graduate from this college by the Bay. By 1957, Monterey Peninsula College celebrated a milestone as it enrolled 1,000 students, and the College embarked on expanding its campus to include a library, arts and music center, athletic swimming pool, theater, and instruction buildings in the years that followed. The Library and Technology Center opened in 2003 and four years later, the College celebrated the first day of classes at the new Education Center in Marina.

Monterey Peninsula College continues to expand educational opportunities for its ever-growing student population. From 1971 to 1973, Monterey Peninsula College operated an extension campus at Fort Ord, which greatly benefitted Armed Forces personnel and

their families. From 1982 until 1993, a partnership between the College and the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula created the Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing. This continued expansion of its facilities and programs ensures students at Monterey Peninsula College have access to high-quality education and post-graduate opportunities.

Monterey Peninsula College's illustrious history includes visits and recognition from many renowned educators, athletes, and activists. In 1960, the former First Lady and civil rights activist Eleanor Roosevelt spoke at the College, followed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the following year. American activist Rosa Parks also spoke at the campus in 1990, bolstering the impressive history of this institution as well as its goal to enrich students' educations.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Monterey Peninsula College and its remarkable rise from its humble beginnings in Monterey High School to becoming a respected institution. I personally extend my gratitude to Monterey Peninsula College's administration, instructors, leaders, and visionaries who continue to provide its students with life-changing opportunities and experiences.

HOMETOWN HERO—GARLAND ISD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Garland ISD for its dedication to ensure our North Texas veterans are set up for success when they return home.

Last month, after recognizing the statewide struggle to find employees, Garland ISD partnered with Soldiers to Sidelines—a non-profit aimed at helping soldiers get the training, credentialing, and even the networking needed to build post military careers in coaching.

I have met with several veterans groups across North Texas and they have all expressed the immense challenges they face transitioning into civilian life. By partnering with Soldiers to Sidelines, Garland ISD has affirmed its commitment to helping the heroes of North Texas overcome this obstacle.

It is imperative we lift up and support the veterans who have risked it all for our country. I'd like to thank Garland ISD for going above and beyond to do exactly that.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF RICHARD AND ANN COBB

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Dr. Richard Cobb and Ann Ventress Cobb.

Richard and Ann met at Cleburne County High School; he played in the band and she was a majorette—they have been together ever since. On August 12, 1972, they were

married at Heflin Baptist Church in Heflin, Alabama.

Richard was employed at Jacksonville State University as Department Head of Management, Marketing and e-Commerce Department in the College of Business. Ann was employed by Cleburne County Board of Education and taught High School English at both Ranburne and Cleburne County High Schools.

Richard, who served in the United States Marine Corps, has had his commercial driver's and private pilot's licenses since he was in high school, and for years Ann has provided support for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

The Cobbs are members of Heflin Baptist Church. They were blessed with two children: David (Misty) and Laura (Chad). They have six grandchildren: Nathan, Charis, Jonas, Ayla, Reaves and Fields.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Richard and Ann, and wishing them a happy 50th anniversary.

CELEBRATING CHAPLAIN BENJAMIN VEGORS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chaplain Benjamin Vegors, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on Sunday, September 25, 2022. Benjamin lives in Walla Walla, Wash., where for the last four decades, he has lived an inspiring life full of purpose. As anyone who knows him will tell you, Benjamin has had a positive impact on every person he has crossed paths with, both in his service to our country and community.

Chaplain Vegors is a man of great integrity, and he is a tremendous example to the next generation. He valiantly protected our country's freedom and liberty in the midst of World War II, when he served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945. During a particularly fateful mission in which two of his plane's engines were shot out, Chaplain Vegors made a promise that if he survived, he would serve God for the rest of his life.

Benjamin stayed true to his word. After his time as a serviceman, Chaplain Vegors turned his focus to living a life dedicated in service to God and His people. He attended Seminary at Multnomah Bible College in Portland and was appointed as a full-time chaplain at the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center in Walla Walla in 1972. For 42 years, Chaplain Vegors selflessly served his brothers and sisters in arms, veterans from all across Eastern Washington, by offering his counsel and care until his retirement in 2014 at the age of 91.

During his remarkable 100 years of life, Chaplain Benjamin Vegors has undoubtedly fulfilled his mission to serve God and help others. Madam Speaker, on this most special day, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Benjamin Vegors the happiest 100th birthday and celebrating the legacy he will leave within our community for generations to come.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE WELFARE OF EMAD SHARGI

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to express concern about the welfare of Emad Shargi, a longtime resident of the District of Columbia who has been unjustly and inhumanely detained in Iran since 2018.

While visiting his wife's family in Iran, Mr. Shargi was arrested in the middle of the night by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and forcefully taken to the notorious Evin Prison, where he was held in solitary confinement and intensely interrogated for eight months. He was then released and cleared of the fabricated charges but was denied the return of his travel documents and banned from leaving the country. In November 2020, he was sentenced, without a trial, to 10 years in prison on fabricated charges. He is in Evin Prison. His family and I are concerned about his wellbeing.

I call upon the State Department to prioritize the immediate release of Emad Shargi and to do everything possible to bring him home safely.

SPC ROBERT PARKER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Stratford Borough resident Robert Parker.

Specialist and Combat Life Saver Robert Parker has been a resident of Stratford, New Jersey for nineteen years and has dedicated his life to his community and our country. SPC Robert Parker was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, enlisting in the Army National Guard in 2000. He was deployed abroad to Iraq shortly after purchasing his home in 2003 and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Robert also served in Kuwait and was a part of the national response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Louisiana. Ultimately, Robert served in the Army National Guard for six years attaining the rank of E4 as a transportation specialist and saved lives during combat. He was stationed at the Philadelphia Armory when in the United States and Camp Arifjan in Kuwait during the Iraq war before he was discharged in 2006.

SPC Robert Parker is the recipient of the Combat Action Badge, Army Achievement Medal, and National Defense Service Medal. He has also been awarded a Global War on Terrorism Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the A/M Device Army Service Ribbon.

In continuing his dedication and service to his community and country, SPC Robert Parker is involved locally, serving his neighbors and fellow veterans as a member of the VFW 7365 in Stratford, New Jersey. He also

serves as a coach of local basketball teams and Sterling Knights youth football. Robert has also built a career as a commercial roofer and member of Local 30, as well as bartending.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring SPC Robert Parker, of Stratford, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to his community, country and to those who have bravely served and defended the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF OFFICER DOMINIC HALL

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life and legacy of an outstanding public servant, Officer Dominic Hall. A military veteran and police officer with the Appleton Police Department, Officer Hall dedicated his life to serving his Nation and our Northeast Wisconsin community. Officer Hall was committed to serving the United States and Northeast Wisconsin through many different roles. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps after graduating from Xavier High School and was active duty from 2008 to 2012. He then reenlisted in the Army National Guard where he continued serving until 2018. His dedication and commitment to his country has been memorialized by countless recognitions received during his career, including the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three Campaign Stars, the Bronze Star, USN Meritorious Unit Commendation, USMC Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and more. It is evident through his years of impeccable service that Officer Hall's dedication to his nation and community never wavered. I am incredibly grateful for his selfless and dedicated service.

Officer Hall continued to serve his community by joining the Police Department in the City of Appleton in 2017. Since 2017, he protected his friends and neighbors and was recognized by receiving the Appleton Police Department Commander's Commendation for apprehension of a homicide suspect, and the Appleton Police Department Life Saving Award. Officer Hall's exemplary character and thoughtfulness will certainly be missed by many throughout the City of Appleton and Northeast Wisconsin.

Throughout Officer Hall's fight with cancer that began in 2021 he continued to shine a light in our community. His battle with cancer brought together his church community at St. Pius X Parish frequently praying for healing. I am confident Officer Hall inspired many throughout our community with his fighting spirit.

Madam Speaker, today the people of Northeast Wisconsin thank Officer Dominic Hall for his extraordinary devotion to his community. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Jacole, his two children, and all the people who were touched by his life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SAMUEL SANDOVAL

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Mr. Samuel Sandoval, a Navajo Code Talker of World War II.

In 1922, Mr. Sandoval was born in Nageezi, New Mexico. At just 16 years old, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and joined other Navajo servicemembers in the fight for freedom and liberty. He endured five combat assignments including at Bougainville, Guadalcanal, Guam, Okinawa, and Peleliu. He was highly decorated for his actions throughout the campaigns. In fact, Mr. Sandoval was the person who received and decoded the message of Japanese surrender on August 15, 1945.

Mr. Sandoval's devotion to service and his community continued long after World War II. He became a certified substance use counselor to restore harmony to the lives of many of his kinsmen from his military service. He worked to preserve Diné Bizaad, the heart language of the Navajo people, and to emphasize the Navajo language code's impact on the country.

At 98 years old, Mr. Sandoval served as the Vice President of the Navajo Code Talkers Museum Corporation. He pushed for the realization of a museum to showcase and honor the code and the culture of Diné.

Mr. Sandoval and his wife, Malula Sandoval, raised 11 children. On July 29, 2022, Samuel Sandoval—warrior, teacher, and motivator—drew his last breath and passed away.

May we all give thanks for his service and honor his legacy.

HONORING MONTEREY COUNTY FILM COMMISSION

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Monterey County Film Commission and its 35 years of service to the Monterey Peninsula. The commission's mission to inspire, facilitate, and assist in film and media production in Monterey County is invaluable to our ability to showcase the pristine beauty of the central coast of California and create positive economic impact.

Since its creation in 1987, the Monterey County Film Commission has been a leader in the media industry, attracting and assisting the production of hundreds of movies, television shows, commercials, documentaries, and still photography productions. Over the years, the Commission's work has generated over \$126 million in revenue for our community. Most recently, the Peninsula was home to HBO's critically acclaimed *Big Little Lies*, filmed in Monterey and Pacific Grove. Other productions have included, *Ratched*, filmed in Salinas, Big Sur, and Monterey; *All the Old Knives*, filmed in Carmel-by-the-Sea and Big Sur; and *Malcolm & Marie*, filmed in Carmel Valley—notably one of the first movies completed during the coronavirus pandemic.

The creation of this organization was not without its challenges, but with years of hard work and perseverance, the Commission is the foundation of our local media industry and serves as a liaison for producers, government entities, and local businesses. Additionally, the Commission serves our community by highlighting desirable filming locations through domestic and international tradeshow, sales outreach, and direct public advertising campaigns.

The Commission, through its artistic and generous spirit, strives to inspire and educate the next generation of filmmakers. The hard work of the staff and Board of Directors continues to provide our community and our country with successful and critically acclaimed productions set on the breathtaking Central Coast that we are all fortunate enough to call home.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the history, dedication, and contributions of the Monterey County Film Commission. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Monterey County Film Commission as an exceptional group of community and artistic leaders who strive to showcase the beauty of the Monterey Peninsula to the world.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT WILKINS FOR HIS SERVICE TO SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Wilkins for his service to Southern Illinois. Bob was hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1973 and served as the Operations Manager at the Carlyle Lake Project Office, Kaskaskia River Project and Jerry F. Costello Lock and Dam over the years.

During his nearly 47 years of service, Mr. Wilkins was involved with working groups including the Kaskaskia Watershed Association, Carlyle Lake Association, Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders and Okaw River Basin Coalition. These groups consist of federal and state agencies, community leaders and stakeholders who develop solutions to service the Kaskaskia Watershed, which covers about 10 percent of Illinois.

Bob's efforts to obtain funding for the operation and maintenance of the lock and dam and the support of commercial towing on the Kaskaskia have allowed Southern Illinois Transfer, Kaskaskia River Terminals, and Kaskaskia Shipyard to expand commercial navigation on the river. To commemorate his work, including 20 years as operations manager of the Kaskaskia River Project and Jerry F. Costello Lock and Dam, the shipyard has named the next vessel in the retractable wheelhouse towboat series after Bob.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Robert Wilkins on this momentous occasion. I thank Bob for his service to our Southern Illinois communities and congratulate him on his retirement.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOHN W. CHAMPION

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John W. Champion. John was born July 22, 1961, in Jackson, MS to William M. and Annette Champion. He attended Oxford High School, playing every sport he could including basketball, baseball and football. A die-hard Ole Miss Fan, John was a graduate of The University of Mississippi, earning his Bachelor's Degree and law degree. Well respected and accomplished in his field, in 1993, he was appointed Assistant District Attorney.

In 2001, John became the District Attorney for the 17th Circuit Court District, serving his community with integrity. An avid golfer, his idea of a relaxing afternoon was a day spent on the course with good friends. John loved Italian food, but enjoyed the meal most when it was shared with his family and friends. A family man at heart, he treasured any opportunity to spend time with his loved ones. John was preceded in death by his father, William M. Champion and his cousin, Dr. Lynn Johnston Stavely.

John is survived by his mother, Annette Johnston Champion of Oxford, MS; daughters, Brittney Champion and her wife, Courtney McCullar of Senatobia, MS and Kelli Champion of Atlanta, GA; sister, Laura C. Hall of Atlanta, GA; grandchildren, Brittani Champion and Zofia Champion; three nieces, Sara Hall, Annette Hall, and Grace Hall; and one nephew, Jackson Hall.

HONORING GEORGE E. "TRIPP" WADE, III

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, dedicated father, gifted entrepreneur, and tireless community servant, George Emmett "Tripp" Wade, III. Sadly, Tripp passed away suddenly on August 31, 2022. A celebration of his remarkable life was held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

George Emmett "Tripp" Wade, III was born on September 8, 1959, in Savannah, Georgia, to the union of George Emmett "Sonny" Wade, Jr. and the late Gertrude (Trudy) Crockett Wade. "Tripp" graduated from the University of Georgia in 1981 with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics. He used his academic training and the experience gained in his formative years to run the family business, The Wade Companies, a linen and laundry company that was started by his grandfather in 1939 and expanded by his father. Following school, Tripp returned home, working with his father and further expanded the family's entrepreneurial efforts to include ColorMac 2, Henri's Formal Wear, and HOOAHWEAR military apparel. Because of his extraordinary success in the dry cleaning and laundry industry,

he was selected to be on the board of the Central States Corporation Network (CSC). This network represents all of the independent rental laundries in the United States and Canada.

"Tripp's" life was more than just about running a successful business. He was about serving people and his community. With the breadth of his business acumen, he was a natural to spearhead economic development initiatives in the Chattahoochee Valley. His portfolio was vast and wide reflecting his gift of time and talent to numerous organizations including; Midtown, Inc. where he served a three year term as President; The Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce; The Columbus Sports Council; The Saint Francis Foundation; the Better Business Bureau; and the Summerwinds Condominium Association. While "Tripp" was a natural leader, he was also a graduate of Leadership Georgia and Leadership Columbus. Dear to his heart, however was his association with the Columbus Rotary Club where he was a member for 32 years, serving as the 2006–2007 President and later as the Foundation Chair.

His life and career were built on relationships. He met people and judged them not by who they were when he met them, but who they could become. "Tripp's" own words cement this fact: "From the beginning of my career, I learned the value of long-term relationships." He used the relationships that he built over his lifetime to make the world a better place for humankind.

"Tripp" loved his family and they were the center of his life. None of his success would have been possible without the love and support of his wife of 30 years, Alice Skinner Wade, his devoted parents George Emmett "Sonny" Wade, Jr. and Gertrude (Trudy) Crockett Wade, as well as his three devoted sons, George Emmett Wade, IV, William Andrew Wade, and Wesley Crockett Wade.

On a personal note, "Tripp" was my friend. Every time I interacted with him, he mentioned something that he felt would make the community better. He lived and breathed community service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in honoring and commending the life and legacy of George Emmett "Tripp" Wade, III for a life well lived and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. May they be consoled and comforted by their faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTROOM ACCESS ACT OF 2022

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. NORTON, Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Restroom Access Act of 2022, which would require retail establishments to provide individuals with medical conditions requiring immediate use of a restroom, such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, access to employee-only restrooms when such establishments do not have public restrooms. Indi-

viduals would have to present a Department of Labor-issued identification card certifying such a medical condition.

Individuals with certain medical conditions need immediate access to a restroom. When public restrooms are not available, it can create uncomfortable or embarrassing situations for these individuals. As long as there are no safety concerns, which my bill addresses, these individuals should be able to use employee-only restrooms.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

THE LITTLEST OF ANGELS, IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE CHILDREN WHO DIED ON 9/11

HON. ANDREW R. GARBARINO

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. GARBARINO. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a poem, *The Littlest of Angels*, by Albert Carey Caswell.

Rise.

Rising up to Heaven with tears in their eyes.
So very protected the while,
held so very tenderly with the Lord at their side.

Rise up to heaven now my sweet child.

A child,
is but such a warm smile.

For within them so lies,
the very hope of all of Woman and Mankind.
Where all our bright futures so lie.

A bright light,
now with the warm glow of an Angel in flight.

The true validation that God so exists,
and of which all is so right.

Those little ones whose hearts to ours such warm feelings ignite.

Where, all of our dreams so begin and so end on this night.

With such promise, such bright lights, such high hopes, such smiles,
and wonderful laughs bringing us delight.

As we gaze at them so very closely in time,
surely its there we find our Lord's hand upon them so divine.

When, such a wicked dark evil comes in we find.

Stealing away these lives so very precious,
ones of such promise and light in hearts and in minds.

For word's can't express this the world's darkest of all sins.

As its here on earth our tragic pain cry begins.

Knowing we will never see them again.

Oh these dark hearted deeds,
foul works all planted by The Devil's henchmen these seeds.

Of such wickedness,
all in these most nefarious of all acts.

Bringing heartache and grief these true sons of Satan heart contracts.

'Oh the tears, oh the tears,
for all of those lost precious stolen years.
As a torrent of heartache and grief upon hearts appears.

Forever and a day flows here.

A child now forever to be,
not to blossom and grow tall like a tree.

To give the world a life's journey.

With their fruition upon earth to see.

Growing old and wise from love's seed.

And the great blessing of a family.

For all those broken hearts now left behind,
try to find some solace to escape your misery.

In knowing the darkness is no match for the light.

And all your loved ones dwell as Angels from here to eternity in heaven's light.

Raining tears, raining tears,
as our children cry here.

With his arms all around them,
as our Lord now wipes their tears.

"My children you have nothing to fear".

One day your family will all be here.

Come to me and spend the rest of eternity here.

Our life is but a short one upon this Mother Earth.

And from a distance what now seems but only the worst.

Is not,

for an eternity up in Heaven with our Lord is that not for what we all search?

Amen.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" MODEL

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, I rise today to recognize an individual that has made significant contributions to our nation's fish and wildlife conservation efforts, as well as America's longstanding outdoor traditions. This individual is also the inaugural recipient of an award named after members of this body that have made lasting and significant contributions to our nation's outdoor heritage.

Robert "Bob" Model was born in Greenwich, Connecticut in 1942 to Faith Rockefeller Model and Belgian Jean Model. Model attended The Browning School in New York and then graduated from Elon College in Elon, North Carolina in 1967. Bob and his wife, Mona, now live in Cody, Wyoming where he is a rancher, outfitter, and businessman, as well as a hunter, conservationist, philanthropist, and active participant in wildlife conservation.

Bob has long been a champion of private lands in sustaining our public wildlife resources and of the need to improve sportsman and landowner relations. On his Mooncrest Ranch, Bob has actively worked to enhance wildlife habitat on both private and public lands. In an ongoing partnership with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department and the Shoshone National Forest, Bob has successfully grown a non-migratory elk herd in the Rattlesnake Mountain and Trout Creek Basin area from 250 elk to well over 2,000 since the mid 1970s. The herd is maintaining their population in very difficult circumstances, including wildfires and drought. In addition, the Mooncrest Ranch provides several hundred days annually of free public access for big game hunting.

While Bob is an excellent steward of the land, his most noteworthy contributions to wildlife conservation in Wyoming and throughout the country are in the public policy arena at the national level. Bob is a member, past president, and chairman of the Boone and Crockett Club. During Bob's tenure as president, he was a leader in re-establishing the Club's historic role as one of the premiere conservation organizations promoting hunter ethics and advancing national policy on wildlife conservation and hunting heritage. As a well-read historian, Bob understands, believes, practices, and even preaches the conservation

philosophy of Theodore Roosevelt and George Bird Grinnell who were founders of the Boone and Crockett Club. As a Boone and Crockett member, Bob has personally provided major support for Boone and Crockett endowed professorships at the University of Montana, Oregon State University, and Texas A&M. Bob has also been an advocate for professional wildlife management with a long tenure on the Board of Directors for the Wildlife Management Institute, including a stint as Chairman. He was a founder and past chairman of the American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP) which is a coalition of over forty of America's most respected hunter/conservation organizations that meet to discuss and take action on the most important conservation issues facing our country. The AWCP has developed and forwarded a conservation vision to the Bush, Obama, Trump, and Biden Administrations and works actively with administration officials to implement the necessary policy revisions.

During the George W. Bush Administration, Bob was a member and chairman of the Sporting Conservation Council and served as a member of the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council during the Obama Administration. Bob is also a founder and board member of the National Conservation Leadership Institute in Shepherdstown, WV, a joint endeavor between state and federal wildlife agencies, private conservation organizations, and natural resource industry to provide world-class leadership training to the next generation of conservation executives.

Bob has also been instrumental in the founding and growth of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the largest bipartisan, bicameral caucus in the United States Congress, bringing together members with professed support for hunting, fishing, and professional wildlife management. Since the Caucus's founding in 1988, Bob has remained active and involved through his support of numerous Caucus initiatives and his many contributions to the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, including his nearly two decades of service on the Foundation Board of Directors, including a term as Chairman of the Board.

In recognition of Mr. Model's service to conservation—both on-the ground and in the policy arena—Mr. Model has been chosen as the inaugural recipient of the Dingell-Young Sportsmen's Legacy Award, a fitting tribute to an individual whose life has epitomized dedication to America's outdoor heritage.

Named in recognition of the Dingell family—Congressmen John D. Dingell, Sr. and my husband, John D. Dingell, Jr.—and my good friend, the late Congressman Don Young, the Dingell-Young Sportsmen's Legacy Award is a fitting tribute for Mr. Model. Each day as Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, I think about the award's namesake patrons. Like them, Mr. Model's contributions were built upon a commitment to never allowing partisan politics to cloud his love of the great outdoors and his commitment to the time-honored traditions of hunting and fishing.

In closing, I want to thank Mr. Model for his many contributions to America's outdoor heritage and congratulate him for the well-deserved recognition as the first ever recipient of the Dingell-Young Sportsmen's Legacy Award.

HONORING PAUL TAFALLA

HON. COLIN J. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Paul Tafalla, a brave and courageous North Texas veteran who passed away on July 2.

Paul Tafalla was a son of Dallas. As one of six siblings, he was raised in the historical "El Pozo" neighborhood in South Dallas. After moving with his family to East Dallas, Paul attended and graduated from Crozier Tech High School.

After graduation, Paul enlisted in the United States Army, where he would serve a 4-year enlistment with two tours to Vietnam. He bravely served in the 1st Cavalry Infantry division aboard the Huey and Chinook gunships, one of the first helicopter divisions to experience combat in Vietnam.

When he returned home to the United States, he married the love of his life, Sarah Lucille, in 1973 and had three beautiful children. Paul later worked as a precision optician on defense contracts at Texas Instruments for more than 20 years.

Paul was a member of the Freemasons and the Shriners Society, as well as belonging to other organizations such as the American Legion, Disabled Veterans, and VFW. He received several awards for his heroic bravery over his life. He was awarded the Carnegie Medal of Heroism and was honored by numerous city and state organizations, including the State Legislature of Texas, for saving four lives in a head-on car collision.

He also served his community by mentoring youth through sports. Paul received two Coach of the Year awards and led teams to multiple division titles and championships.

Paul lived a very selfless life and was known to always put others before himself. He was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. Paul's courage and kindness will leave a lasting impact on so many in Dallas.

I was lucky to know Paul, and I am proud to honor the life and legacy of Paul Tafalla today. His memory lives with his wife, children, and grandchildren. My thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones and the Dallas community today.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR RICK DAVIS, A LEADER IN HIS HOMETOWN OF TONAWANDA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, the former mayor of the City of Tonawanda, Rick Davis, for his recognition as Democrat of the Year.

A graduate of Tonawanda High School, Rick joined the Air Force in 1992. Trained as a meteorologist, Rick was eventually stationed in South Korea, and later in several U.S. cities. Upon re-entry to civilian life ten years later, Rick dedicated his career to continuing his love of meteorology—but this time he did so with the Federal Aviation Administration. He continues his work there today.

In 2006, Rick decided to expand his contributions in public service by running for and serving as 4th Ward Councilman in the City of Tonawanda from 2006 through 2009. In 2013, Rick ran for Mayor, eventually serving two terms.

Over that time, Rick was able to obtain more than \$30 million in grant funding and left Tonawanda with a budget surplus in excess of \$8 million—the largest surplus in the city's history. Projects like the Intermodal Hub, Canal Street Plaza, and improvements to Gateway Park were made possible through his leadership. Rick had recognized some of the most pressing issues facing Americans in the 21st century: economic growth, healthcare, and housing. For each of these challenges, Mayor Davis can point to tangible changes in city policy. This includes revamping the city's Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan and ensuring the Zombie Housing Grant program's presence in Tonawanda.

Furthermore, during the pandemic, Rick Davis was a noteworthy figure for one distinctive reason: he was the only mayor in our congressional district to participate in Zoom meetings in front of a Metallica banner. All jokes aside, I trust that the next chapter of his life will include spending more time with his wife, Megan, with the ten children they share in their blended family, as well as with their three grandsons. Throughout his tenure, Rick delivered results to thousands of citizens within New York's 26th Congressional district, and we all owe him a debt of gratitude for his selfless dedication to the people he represented.

HOMETOWN HERO—TEXAS-24 TEACHERS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all of the incredible teachers of Texas-24 as they begin a new school year.

Our teachers work tirelessly to prepare the next generation of North Texans for a lifetime of success. Without their wisdom and guidance, our students would not be equipped with the tools necessary to navigate their future careers.

Their flexibility and dedication to the next generation was on full display last year. As schools shut down during the pandemic, our selfless teachers had to adapt to a new environment to ensure our students continued their education.

With this new year beginning, I'd like to thank our Texas-24 teachers for their dedication and many sacrifices made in the name of education. This week—and every week—take time to thank a teacher.

RECOGNIZING WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with pride and sincere respect that I take this time

to recognize Westminster Presbyterian Church, of Munster, Indiana, as its members and leaders join in celebration of the church's 60th anniversary. The congregation will be commemorating this momentous occasion with a special service and celebratory brunch on Sunday, September 18, 2022.

In 1961, twenty-nine families met to discuss the establishment of a new Presbyterian church in Munster, Indiana. After obtaining its validation, the church, which would later come to be known as Westminster Presbyterian Church, held its first service on February 4, 1962, at the Independence Park Community Building. Eighty individuals were in attendance while thirty-three children met at the town hall for Sunday School. The congregation then began holding services at Munster Christian Reformed Church under the leadership and guidance of its first pastor, Reverend Gerald Gregg. During its early years, Westminster's membership continued to grow, and the congregation soon purchased five acres of land on the corner of Elliott Drive and Columbia Avenue, the location that would become its permanent home. Westminster's first service at the new building took place on Palm Sunday, April 11, 1965.

Westminster's second pastor, Reverend Richard Rogers, arrived in January of 1979 and would remain in this capacity for nearly thirty years. During his extraordinary tenure, the membership experienced immense growth, additional Sunday worship services, and began to televise services. Eventually, in the mid-1990s, Westminster would make the decision to replace its building, while keeping its original sanctuary, in order to accommodate its growing needs.

A beacon of hope in the community, Westminster Presbyterian Church has been dedicated to charitable efforts within Northwest Indiana and beyond. Throughout the years, the church has graciously supported local organizations including Habitat for Humanity, Greater Hammond Community Services, the Samaritan Center, Sojourner Truth House, and Northwest Indiana Veterans Village, among others. Westminster's members have also selflessly dedicated their time and efforts to feeding the homeless in their communities and providing blankets and winter clothing items for schools and relief organizations. Globally, the church's mission has directly improved the lives of countless individuals through its support of organizations including Heart for Africa, Living Waters, and Malawi Matters, as well through its commitment to aiding those impacted by the devastating Haitian earthquakes of 2010.

Despite the challenges in recent years caused by the COVID pandemic, Westminster Presbyterian Church has continued to thrive and is currently led by Reverend Angela Ryo. The church's outstanding musical programs have been a source of pride for the community, and its Christian educational programs, which are offered for children, teens, and adults, have been essential to its members. Westminster Presbyterian Church is truly a congregation worthy of emulation.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Westminster Presbyterian Church, of Munster, Indiana, on its special milestone. For the past sixty years, it has served as an exceptional partner in the Northwest Indiana community. The members and church leaders have dedicated them-

selves to serving others, especially those most in need, and they are an inspiration to us all.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MT. VERNON MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Mt. Vernon Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

The cemetery was acquired by Gene and Betty Wells in 1952. In 1967, their daughter and son-in-law, Cathy and Eugene Stanford, acquired and placed 25 flags to honor our heroes in uniform laid to rest in the cemetery. Over the years, they also began placing homemade crosses bearing the names of each veteran interred there. Earlier this year, the Stanfords and their staff set up an avenue of 419 flags and 1,200 crosses to represent every veteran laid to rest at Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

In 2019, a local citizen encouraged Memorial Gardens to participate in the Wreaths Across America program. Since then, the Mt. Vernon community comes out to the cemetery every year to place small flags at the marker of each veteran ahead of Veterans' Day. When the wreaths arrive in December, the community uses those flags to easily identify which graves bear the heroes from the Mt. Vernon area who served our nation.

I also want to recognize the Stanfords' daughter, Lieutenant Colonel Samantha Stanford, who answered the call to serve on September 11, 2001. Twenty-one years later, she continues to patriotically serve our nation in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Stanfords' efforts to keep the memory of generations of servicemembers alive and for the important role they've played in providing a place of comfort for grieving Southern Illinois families.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF MUNFORD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Town of Munford on their 20th anniversary.

In the latter part of 1999 and early 2000, the citizens of the Community of Munford, Alabama, located in the northern portion of Talladega County, began a campaign to incorporate the community. One of the main purposes for incorporating was to separate itself from the City of Oxford, which was rapidly expanding and moving closer and closer to Munford.

In August of 2002, an election was held, and the Town of Munford was incorporated with a population of 1,508. The newly elected mayor and five council members took office in November of that year. Now Munford was in control of its own growth.

Munford has a very strong Water Board and Volunteer Fire Department to serve the area. The town also has a brand new middle school and high school and a new elementary school. The future looks bright for this great small town.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Town of Munford on their 20th anniversary.

COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 5641, THE SPEED RECOVERY ACT

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 5641, the SPEED Recovery Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the Committee report filing.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, August 22, 2022.

Hon. GARY PETERS,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 5641, the SPEED Recovery Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jon Sperl.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

H.R. 5641, SPEED RECOVERY ACT—AUGUST 3, 2022

(By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars)

	2022	2022–2027	2022–2032
Direct Spending (Outlays) ..	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	1	*

* = not estimated.

Mandate Effects:

Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? No.

Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2033? No.

Contains intergovernmental mandate? No.

Contains private-sector mandate? No.

H.R. 5641 would codify a final rule issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in August 2022 that allows more disaster relief projects to qualify as small projects and thus be approved for federal assistance under a simplified review process. That rule increased the upper monetary threshold for small projects from \$139,800 to \$1 million. Projects under the threshold are approved for assistance based on estimated costs rather than on the actual costs of projects and are typically approved for assistance more quickly.

Because H.R. 5641 would codify an existing regulation, CBO estimates that enacting the provision related to a higher threshold for small projects would not affect the budget, relative to current law.

In addition, within three years of enactment, H.R. 5641 would require the inspector

general of the Department of Homeland Security to audit projects that have received assistance under the higher threshold for the simplified review process to determine whether there has been waste or abuse. Using information from FEMA and the Government Accountability Office about the cost of similar audits, CBO estimates that implementing that requirement would cost about \$1 million over the 2022-2027 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Jon Sperl. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

CELEBRATING MRS. HELEN B. RUCKER

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the vibrant life of Mrs. Helen B. Rucker as we celebrate her 90th birthday. Mrs. Rucker is a pillar of the Monterey Peninsula and her dedication to social equality cements her legacy in the history of the Central Coast.

Since 1964, Mrs. Rucker has been a civil rights activist, educator, and community leader in the city of Seaside. Through her varied roles as a member of the School Board and City Council, a leader of the Monterey County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and founder of the Seaside Voter Education Center, Mrs. Rucker's work has been a testament to her passion for the well-being of her community.

Mrs. Rucker's efforts to combat social injustices dates back to her days as a librarian and teacher. Throughout her tenure as an educator, Mrs. Rucker provided opportunities for students to learn and grow. She and her husband, Mr. James Rucker, went on to open a library, where students receive free tutoring and a work environment free of distraction. After retiring in 1988, Mrs. Rucker served on the Seaside City Council and participated in major policy decisions regarding water management, transportation, and Fort Ord Military Base. Additionally, in 2005, Mrs. Rucker was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, where she took on leadership roles in programs like After School Tutoring and the California State University, Monterey Bay Service-Learning Institute.

Mrs. Rucker's efforts to advance the rights and well-being of Monterey Peninsula residents has earned her consistent recognition and admiration from her community. In 2015, Mrs. Rucker was honored as the 29th Assembly District Woman of the Year for "enriching the lives of so many residents in the Monterey Bay Area through her selfless and tireless work to teach students, boost civic engagement, and participate in governance." In February of this year, in recognition of her lifelong community work and activism, Mrs. Rucker was given an honorary key to the city of Seaside by Mayor Ian Oglesby. In April, California State University, Monterey Bay revealed the University's Helen Rucker Center for Black Excellence. This center provides additional resources and support to students of the African diaspora.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Helen B. Rucker in celebration of her life's work in education, civil rights, and community leadership. Mrs. Rucker will continue to serve as a model for selflessness and compassion for our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her today.

RECOGNIZING MARY HOSTETTER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Hostetter of Kimmswick, Missouri, founder of the Blue Owl Restaurant & Bakery, who is retiring after 40 years.

Mary started the business in her home and then opened The Blue Owl in August of 1985. Since then, she has established The Blue Owl as a place for a hearty meal, a warm welcome, and a delicious dessert. No visit to Jefferson County is complete without a trip to The Blue Owl.

Through her TV appearances and articles in magazines and newspapers, the world has learned of Mary, and she has surely become an Ambassador of Good Eating. Her Mile High Levee Pie pays tribute to Kimmswick's triumph in the 1993 flood and is evidence of her strong commitment to her community and her customers. It's just one of the dishes for which she is famous.

Mary is indeed a treasure whose passion for food and service lives on in her daughter, Kim Byerly, who, with her husband Dan will continue Mary's legacy of excellence at The Blue Owl.

As she trades her blue apron for a wonderful retirement, it is my great pleasure to honor Mary Hostetter today before the United States House of Representatives.

HOMETOWN HERO—THOMAS BOOTHBY

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Boothby, a high school senior at Trinity Valley School who has gone above and beyond to give back to underprivileged North Texas students.

Thomas had the selfless goal of giving kids the same opportunity to learn that he has. That is why he started Tools to Teach, a non-profit organization designed to help kids excel in the classroom even though they might not have the necessary resources to do so.

With Tools to Teach, Thomas puts together backpacks full of supplies to give to students around DFW, which has helped them stay in school and increased literacy rates in our community.

Thomas's selfless pursuit to help his community and the next generation of North Texans should serve as an inspiration to all of us.

On behalf of everyone in DFW, I'd like to thank Thomas for his work and wish him the best as he finishes up high school this year.

HONORING JOSHUA RIVERA,
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY 2022 GRADUATE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Joshua Rivera as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2022.

Rivera graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy on Friday, June 17, 2022, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Rivera's unselfish devotion to the people of this great Nation.

The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

South Mississippi is proud of Rivera and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire Nation, as a United States Air Force Officer.

As Second Lieutenant Rivera embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Rivera my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

Semper Fidelis.

TRIBUTE TO THE MONTROSE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montrose Search and Rescue Team, in Montrose, California upon its seventy-fifth anniversary.

Over its 75-year history, the Montrose Search and Rescue Team has come to the aid of citizens lost or injured in the mountains locally and statewide, and through their consistent efforts, these brave men and women have saved countless lives.

Originally called the Montrose Mountaineers, this organization was formed in 1947 by a group of Civilian Air Defense members to assist people who became lost or injured in the local mountains. The team has since extended its aid outside the Los Angeles area, traveling throughout California to help in rescue or recovery efforts.

As one of eight non-profit, volunteer rescue teams affiliated with the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department, the team is on call 24 hours a day to rescue stranded hikers, natural disaster victims, and other individuals in need of help. Receiving many calls each year, the group is one of the most active search and rescue teams in Los Angeles County. As part of their service, team members also conduct searches for downed aircraft, rescue people stuck in tunnels, mines, and underground utility vaults, and evacuate citizens from cars which have fallen off mountain roads.

These volunteer heroes, who come from a variety of professions, serve their community without asking for anything in exchange. They search through rubble, scale cliffsides, and brave surging waters to save lives. Their selfless dedication and invaluable service provide a model for all of us and deserve recognition.

I consider it a great privilege to recognize the Montrose Search and Rescue Team, and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the team upon its seventy-fifth anniversary.

HONORING ROBERT LAMAR
ANDERSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a loving husband, dedicated father, doting grandfather, Air Force Veteran, trailblazing banker, tireless community servant and dear friend of longstanding, Robert Lamar Anderson. Sadly, Robert transitioned from labor to reward on September 1, 2022, and a celebration of his remarkable life was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 10, 2022 at Christ Community Church, 4078 Milgen Road, in Columbus, Georgia.

Robert Anderson was born to the union of the late Luther and Mary Anderson in 1942. He was a proud product of the Muscogee County School System, graduating from Spencer High School in 1960. A very learned man, Robert graduated from Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University, in 1970 with a B.S. Degree in Education. Robert went on to earn his M.S. in Education from Georgia State University and later attended the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University.

Robert served his country faithfully, in The United States Air Force from 1964 to 1967, receiving an Honorable Discharge with the rank of Sergeant. He spent a year working as a Biology Teacher with the Muscogee County School District before launching a new career that would change his life and community forever.

In 1971, Robert became a trailblazing banker with Columbus Bank and Trust, becoming one of the first African American banking officers in Columbus, Georgia. In 2007, after 36 remarkable years, he retired as Senior Vice President for Government and Community Affairs, having worked his way up the ranks and having used his positions to help those who would not otherwise have a chance to finance and pursue their dreams. I was one of those with whom Robert took a chance when he helped finance my first business loan to start my law practice in 1972. There are countless other businesses in the Chattahoochee Valley area that would never have been, were it not for Robert Anderson. He worked with soldiers and veterans to support their financial needs and in the process enhanced their lives and service to their country.

Even after retiring from Columbus Bank and Trust, Robert did not rest on his laurels. He rejoined the workforce as President of the Columbus Division of Citizens Trust Bank from 2009 to 2011; served as a member of the Adjunct Faculty of Miller-Motte College from 2012

to 2014; then ended his career where he started, in the classroom, as a substitute teacher for the Muscogee County School District from 2014 to 2018.

Robert loved serving his community. The foundation for that service was laid when he joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at Fort Valley State College—now Fort Valley State University. He embodied the Fraternity's Motto that "Friendship is essential to the soul." He never met a stranger and befriended all he met.

He gave his time and talents to many worthwhile causes to include his beloved Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Lambda Iota Chapter; The Chattahoochee Sports Hall of Fame; Campaign Chair, Committee to Elect State Representative Calvin Smyre; Leadership Columbus; Columbus Jaycees; The Historic Columbus Foundation; The Columbus Museum Board of Directors; Controller's Civic and Social Club; Allied Students at Fort Benning; Chattahoochee Valley Libraries; Muscogee County School Board; Georgia School Board Association and numerous others.

His love for our nation's armed forces and for youth fueled his passion for service on the Second Congressional District's Academy Selection Committee for many years, identifying young men and women to attend the United States Military Service Academies to become the future leaders in defense of American democracy. For this, our country will forever be grateful.

Robert was a lover of the Arts. He served on the board of the Liberty Theatre Cultural Center in Columbus, Georgia for many years, working tirelessly to keep the doors open and earning the distinction of "Chairman Emeritus."

Most importantly, Robert Anderson was a man of faith. He was a faithful member of the South Columbus United Methodist Church, a certified Lay Leader and District Lay Leader for the Northwest District of the United Methodist Church. Robert also used his warm, deep, bass-baritone voice to sing praises to God in numerous United Methodist Church choirs. Jackie Robinson once said that: "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." Robert Anderson's life was important because of the many lives that he touched in service to God and humanity.

Robert loved his family and they were the center of his life. His success in no small part was due to the love and support of his wife of 35+ years, Louise Anderson; his children, Yolanda Anderson, Veronica Anderson-Lewis, Tawana Anderson and Dr. Shae Anderson; his grandchildren, Blake L.A. Richardson and Alexandria Lily Frances-Anderson.

On a personal note, Robert was my friend for over 50 years. He had a heart of gold, always encouraging, supporting, and offering sage advice and counsel. I will forever cherish his friendship and support.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Mr. Robert Lamar Anderson. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends and all who mourn his loss. May we all be consoled and comforted by our faith in the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE NOVA SPARK
FOUNDATION

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nova Spark Foundation for its efforts collecting and donating critical supplies to Ukrainian orphanages and children displaced by the war in Ukraine.

Founded by Ukrainian immigrants in Colorado, Yulia Boozer and Olga Funk, Nova Spark was established to help an extremely vulnerable group of Ukrainians: children whose parents have been killed during the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Yulia and Olga recognized a lack of support for orphans of the war and built this organization to fill that need.

Nova Spark works with small-scale and family-style orphanages, and those caring for disabled children in Ukraine. Their fundraising initiatives have allowed Nova Spark to provide funding to orphanages and foster homes to repair physical damages sustained during the war. Additionally, the organization has partnered with Project C.U.R.E. to send Kits for Kids, providing basic necessities, humanitarian aid, STEM toys, baby supplies and college essentials, for displaced orphans across Ukraine.

Orphans are among the most vulnerable victims of war, and I commend Nova Spark for its continued efforts to provide orphanages with various necessities as supply lines and availability of products in Ukraine change. I am proud to recognize them for their tireless work and dedication to Ukrainian children. It is organizations like the Nova Spark Foundation that provide hope in the darkest of times, and I know that their generosity is not only felt in Ukraine, but in our global community as a whole.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
MOON LANDRIEU, A CHERISHED
PUBLIC SERVANT FROM THE
STATE OF LOUISIANA CELEBRATING HIS LIFE AS HUSBAND,
FATHER, STATE REPRESENTATIVE,
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER,
MAYOR, CABINET SECRETARY
AND JUDGE, 4TH CIRCUIT COURT
OF APPEALS

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a faithful and cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana. It saddens me that patriarch and civil rights trailblazer, Honorable Moon Landrieu, passed away on September 5, 2022. While being a member of the Democratic Party and an American lawyer, Honorable Landrieu represented New Orleans' Twelfth Ward in the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1960 to 1966. He later served on the New Orleans City Council as an at-large member from 1966 to 1970; elected as the 56th Mayor of New Orleans from 1970 to

1978; United States Cabinet Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from 1979 to 1982 during Jimmy Carter's Administration; and judge of the Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeals from 1992 to 2000.

He was born, Maurice Edwin "Moon" Landrieu on July 23, 1930, a native of Uptown New Orleans to Joseph and Loretta Bechtel Landrieu with one older brother, Joseph Landrieu, Jr. He graduated from Jesuit High School and attended Loyola University New Orleans on a baseball scholarship, serving as a team pitcher. During his undergraduate years, Moon was inspired by the social justice teachings of the Jesuits, which exposed him to the cruelty of segregation and was elected student body president. Moon graduated in 1952 earning his Bachelor of Arts in business administration and went on to Loyola New Orleans' Law School to receive his Juris Doctor in 1954.

Upon completion of his schooling, Moon married Verna Satterlee and joined the United States Army in 1954 serving as a second lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Corps until 1957, after completing his army service, Moon returned home and opened a law practice while teaching accounting classes. After being heavily involved in organizations throughout the community, Moon decided to seek public office and won a seat in the Louisiana State Legislature in 1960 representing New Orleans' Twelfth Ward. Moon relied on his teachings and upbringing as he stood in strong opposition to the onslaught of Jim Crow legislation that was being introduced. Moon went on to serve in the New Orleans City Council in 1966 and continued to combat segregation by successfully outlawing segregation in public accommodations.

He then went on to be elected the 56th Mayor of the City of New Orleans, receiving support from 99 percent of the black voters. During his tenure in office, Moon upheld his campaign promise of honesty, integrity, and respect for all people by overseeing the desegregation of city government and public facilities while encouraging integration throughout New Orleans' private businesses and professional organizations. He intentionally and strategically appointed Black New Orleanians to leadership positions within city government and transformed the economy by investing in hospitality and tourism. Moon oversaw major investments in Jackson Square and the French Quarter, the development of the Louisiana Superdome, and revitalization of the New Orleans Central Business District. He learned from previous administrations and sought to protect and preserve housing in historic neighborhoods through the creation of the Historic District Landmarks Commission in 1976. Moon also served as president of the United States Conference of Mayors during his term.

Moon didn't stop there—he was appointed and served as the cabinet secretary of the United States Department of Housing and

Urban Development from 1979 to 1981 during the Carter administration. After returning home and running his private practice, Moon was elected to serve as a Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeals judge from 1992 until his retirement in 2000, completing 30 years of public service. Moon was inducted into the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame in 2004.

He is survived by his wife of 67 blessed years, Verna; nine remarkable children, Mary Landrieu, Mark Landrieu, Melanie Landrieu Cook, Michelle "Shelly" Landrieu, Mitch Landrieu, Madeleine Landrieu, Martin Landrieu, Melinda Landrieu Seiter, and Maurice Landrieu; and 37 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren, who affectionally called him "Pawpaw".

Madam Speaker, I will always cherish the sage advice Mayor Moon Landrieu gave me when I was first elected to the Louisiana State House of Representatives. I am certain that his wisdom, advice, and political endorsement has carried me to this day as a Member of Congress. We must honor the great leaders of our past. They have stood as a shining light during the darkest times in our nation's history. Therefore, I celebrate Moon's tenure as a leader in the great City of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, and United States of America.

HOMETOWN HERO—AVERY HILL

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero of the week, Avery Hill, an avid reader and young woman who has gone above and beyond to better our community.

Avery began volunteering with Exodus Ministries, a nonprofit designed to transform the lives of previously incarcerated mothers and their children. While volunteering at the Exodus House—a transitional house for the mothers and their children—she noticed the children's library shelves were bare. Inspired to share her passion for reading with underprivileged children, Avery took action.

During the onset of the COVID pandemic, Avery began organizing book drives. She spread the word around her community to leave any books, games, or elementary school supplies on their doorsteps, where she would then go door to door to pick them up.

After organizing all of the donations, Avery not only stocked the library's shelves with 600 new books, but revamped it by adding a mural, new curtains, 300 building blocks, and 50 games.

Avery's story should serve as an inspiration to all of us to not only give back to our com-

munity but leave it better than when we found it.

I wish Avery the best of luck as she heads off to college this fall and thank her for her dedication to helping our fellow North Texans.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF HOLLISTER

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the sesquicentennial anniversary of the founding of the city of Hollister, California. For the last 150 years, the city of Hollister has been shaped by the people who call it home. Hollister is a strong and vibrant community that serves as the San Benito County seat and is an integral part of the fabric of the Central Coast.

In 1868, the San Justo Homestead Association purchased the San Justo Ranch from Colonel William Welles Hollister, a major landholder for whom the town would be named. The Homestead Association divided the San Justo Ranch into plots to be auctioned to settlers and set the boundaries of what would then become the city of Hollister. On August 6, 1872, residents submitted a petition to the Monterey Courthouse for a town charter. Hollister held its first election for the city's Board of Trustees just eleven days later, on August 17, 1872.

Hollister is a strong and resilient community. On October 17, 1989, the Loma Prieta Earthquake left much of the downtown area in ruins and caused millions of dollars in damages. But Hollister took the disaster in stride and rebounded. The community of Hollister has more than doubled since the earthquake, and it boasts a vibrant downtown, including many civil society groups such as the San Benito County Historical Society and the Hollister Downtown Association.

Famed for its wineries, ranchlands, and the high-quality 75 different vegetable, vine, and orchard crops it produces, Hollister continues to be a regional center for agriculture. As it was when it was founded, Hollister's verdant fields, vineyards, and pastures augment the natural beauty of the Central Coast. The region is renowned for its breathtaking vistas, from Pinnacles National Park to Hollister's picturesque hills. These unparalleled views attract thousands of visitors every year who come to appreciate all the beauty that Hollister has to offer.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the city of Hollister for 150 exceptional years and in wishing Hollister continued success in the years to come.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4545–S4583

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4823–4843, and S. Res. 757–762. **Pages S4574–75**

Measures Reported:

S. 1116, to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–146)

S. 2793, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to establish an enhanced use lease pilot program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–147)

S. 3552, to provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–148)

Page S4574

Measures Passed:

Honoring Bill Russell: Senate agreed to S. Res. 759, honoring Boston Celtics legend Bill Russell, 11-time National Basketball Association champion, first Black head coach of the National Basketball Association, and civil rights activist. **Page S4582**

Patriot Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 760, expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”. **Page S4582**

Gold Star Families Remembrance Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 761, designating the week of September 18 through September 24, 2022, as “Gold Star Families Remembrance Week”. **Page S4582**

Honoring the Life of Queen Elizabeth II: Senate agreed to S. Res. 762, honoring the life and accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth II and expressing condolences to her family and the United Kingdom on her passing. **Page S4582**

D956

Appointments:

Commission on the National Defense Strategy: The Chair, on behalf of the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–81, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Commission on the National Defense Strategy: Alissa M. Starzak of the District of Columbia. **Page S4582**

Freeman Nomination: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Arianna J. Freeman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, post-cloture. **Pages S4547–51**

By 47 yeas to 50 nays (Vote No. 333), Senate failed to confirm the nomination. **Page S4551**

Senator Schumer entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which the nomination was not confirmed. **Page S4551**

Montecalvo Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit. **Pages S4551–66**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 334), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S4551**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, September 14, 2022; and that all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. **Page S4583**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Bruce I. Turner, of Colorado, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament.

E. Martin Estrada, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Central District of California for the term of four years.

Gregory J. Haanstad, of Wisconsin, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin for the term of four years.

2 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral. **Page S4566**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S4545**

Executive Communications: **Pages S4568–74**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4575–77**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S4577–82

Additional Statements: **Page S4567**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4582**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4582**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—334) **Page S4551**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:20 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S4582–83.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Lieutenant General Bradley C. Saltzman, USSF, to be general and Chief of Space Operations, Department of Defense, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NEW CONSUMER FINANCIAL PRODUCTS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine new consumer financial products and the impacts to workers, including S. 2508, to amend the Truth in Lending Act to extend the consumer credit protections provided to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents under title 10, United States Code, to all consumers, after receiving testimony from Rachel Gittleman, Consumer Federation of America, and Penny Lee, Financial Technology Association, both of Washington, D.C.; Todd Zywicki, George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, Arlington, Virginia; and David H. Seligman, Towards Justice, Denver, Colorado.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Karla Ann Gilbride, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

TWITTER WHISTLEBLOWER

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine data security at risk, focusing on testimony from a Twitter whistleblower, after receiving testimony from Peiter Zatko, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 8800–8816; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 105; and H. Res. 1340–1346 were introduced. **Pages H7783–84**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7784–86**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 884, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–458);

H.R. 1066, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the cost share for fire manage-

ment assistance, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–459);

H.R. 5315, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish in the Department of Transportation a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and training grant program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–460);

H.R. 5774, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that unmet needs after a major disaster are met, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–461);

H.R. 1468, to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–462);

H.R. 8260, to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117-463);

H. Res. 1339, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 302) to impose limits on excepting competitive service positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2988) to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify and enhance protections for Federal Government whistleblowers, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8326) to amend title 13, United States Code, to improve the operations of the Bureau of the Census, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117-464); and

H.R. 6878, to address the health needs of incarcerated women related to pregnancy and childbirth, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117-465, Part 1). **Pages H7782-83**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7745**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2:31 p.m. **Page H7747**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act: S. 3103, to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title; **Pages H7747-49**

Extending by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund S. 4785, to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 415 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 421; **Pages H7749-50, H7777-78**

Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant Act: H.R. 5315, amended, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish in the Department of Transportation a drone infrastructure inspection grant program and a drone education and training grant program, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 308 yeas to 110 nays, Roll No. 422; **Pages H7750-52, H7778**

Wildfire Recovery Act: H.R. 1066, amended, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and

Emergency Assistance Act to provide flexibility with the cost share for fire management assistance, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 328 yeas to 88 nays, Roll No. 423; **Pages H7756-57, H7779**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Main Street, in Vergas, Minnesota, as the "Jon Glawe Post Office": H.R. 5952, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Main Street, in Vergas, Minnesota, as the "Jon Glawe Post Office"; and **Pages H7772-73**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building": H.R. 5650, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building". **Page H7773**

Recess: The House recessed at 4:53 p.m. and reconvened at 6:35 p.m. **Page H7774**

Oath of Office—Nineteenth Congressional District of New York: Representative-elect Patrick Ryan presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Todd D. Valentine and Ms. Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Directors, New York State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held August 23, 2022, the Honorable Patrick Ryan was elected Representative to Congress for the Nineteenth Congressional District, State of New York. **Page H7775**

Oath of Office—Twenty-Third Congressional District of New York: Representative-elect Joseph Sempolinski presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Todd D. Valentine and Ms. Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Directors, New York State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held August 23, 2022, the Honorable Joseph Sempolinski was elected Representative to Congress for the Twenty-Third Congressional District, State of New York. **Pages H7774-75**

Oath of Office—At Large Congressional District of Alaska: Representative-elect Mary S. Peltola presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a scanned copy of a letter received from Ms. Gail Fenumiai,

Director, Alaska Division of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held August 16, 2022, the Honorable Mary S. Peltola was elected Representative to Congress for the At Large Congressional District, State of Alaska. **Pages H7774–75**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Alaska, and the gentlemen from New York, the whole number of the House is 433. **Page H7777**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. **Page H7779**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 1340, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Pages H7779–80**

Expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II: The House agreed to H. Res. 1341, expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. **Page H7780**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

National Aviation Preparedness Plan Act: H.R. 884, amended, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks; **Pages H7752–53**

Expediting Disaster Recovery Act: H.R. 5774, amended, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure that unmet needs after a major disaster are met; **Pages H7753–55**

Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act: H.R. 1468, amended, to amend title 40, United States Code, to eliminate the leasing authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission; **Pages H7755–56**

Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce Act: S. 2293, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; **Pages H7757–58**

Planning for Animal Wellness Act: S. 4205, to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to establish a working group relating to best practices and Federal guidance for animals in emergencies and disasters; **Pages H7758–59**

Bulb Replacement Improving Government with High-efficiency Technology Act: S. 442, to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to procure the most life-cycle cost effective and energy efficient lighting products and to issue guidance on the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of those products; **Pages H7759–60**

Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022: H.R. 7939, amended, to make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations; **Pages H7760–67**

Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2022: H.R. 7846, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2022, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans; **Pages H7767–68**

Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022: H.R. 7735, amended, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the appraisal requirements for certain loans guaranteed by the Department of Veterans Affairs; **Pages H7768–69**

Wounded Warrior Access Act: H.R. 5916, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for the electronic request of certain records; **Pages H7769–70**

Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act of 2022: H.R. 8260, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to shorten the timeframe for designation of benefits under Department of Veterans Affairs life insurance programs, to improve the treatment of undisbursed life insurance benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and **Pages H7770–72**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building": H.R. 5865, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building". **Pages H7773–74**

Senate Referral: S. Con. Res. 44 was held at the desk. **Page H7745**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7745.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7777–78, H7778, and H7779.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 7:52 p.m., pursuant to House Resolution 1341, as a further mark of respect to the memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Committee Meetings

PREVENTING A PATRONAGE SYSTEM ACT OF 2021; WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021; ENSURING A FAIR AND ACCURATE CENSUS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 302, the “Preventing a Patronage System Act of 2021”; H.R. 2988, the “Whistleblower Protection Improvement Act of 2021”; and H.R. 8326, the “Ensuring a Fair and Accurate Census Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a rule that provides for consideration of H.R. 302, the “Preventing a Patronage System Act of 2021”, and H.R. 2988, the “Whistleblower Protection Improvement Act of 2021”, and H.R. 8326, the “Ensuring a Fair and Accurate Census Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 302, the “Preventing a Patronage System Act of 2021”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only the further amendment to H.R. 302 printed in part A of the Rules Committee report. The amendment may be offered only by the Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment printed in part A of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2988, the “Whistleblower Protection Improvement Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Reform now printed in the bill, as modi-

fied by the amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in Part C of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 4 of the resolution. Each amendment printed in the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part C of the report or amendments en bloc described in section 4 of the resolution. Section 4 provides that the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or her designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in Part C of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that at the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The question of such further amendments’ adoption shall be put to the House en gros and without division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 2988, the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or her designee. The Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 8326, the “Ensuring a Fair and Accurate Census Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–64, modified by the amendment printed in part D of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The

rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in Part E of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 8 of the resolution. Each amendment printed in the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part E of the report or amendments en bloc described in section 8 of the resolution. Section 8 provides that the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or her designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in Part E of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that at the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The question of such further amendments' adoption shall be put to the House en gros and without division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that during consideration of H.R. 8326, the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or her designee. The Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill. The rule provides that at any time through the legislative day of September 16, 2022, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative day of September 13, September 14, September 15, or September 16, on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed. The Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion, and the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated. The rule waives the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the

House with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of September 30, 2022, relating to a measure making or continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. Testimony was heard from Chairman Carolyn B. Maloney of New York and Representative Comer.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Coast Guard Authorization Act", 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Shailen P. Bhatt, of Michigan, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 4428, to support the security of Taiwan and its right of self-determination, S. 4653, to provide for certain authorities of the Department of State, and the nominations of Rolfe Michael Schiffer, of New York, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Nathaniel Fick, of Maine, to be Ambassador at Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy, Department of State, Patrick Leahy, of Vermont, and James E. Risch, of Idaho, both to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Seventy-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and other pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine stopping the spread of monkeypox, focusing on the Federal response, 10 a.m., SH-216.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine social media's impact on homeland security, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety, to hold hearings to examine flatlining care, focusing on why immigrants are crucial to bolstering our health care workforce, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law, to hold hearings to examine protecting Americans' private information from hostile foreign powers, 4 p.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Soil Health Practices and Programs that Support Regenerative Agriculture”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Education and Labor, Full Committee, hearing entitled “In Solidarity: Removing Barriers to Organizing”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 3173, the “Improving Seniors’ Timely Access to Care Act of 2021”; H.R. 3655, the “Vaccine Injury Compensation Modernization Act of 2021”; H.R. 5141, the “Maximizing Outcomes through Better Investments in Lifesaving Equipment for Health Care Act”; H.R. 8163, the “Improving Trauma Systems and Emergency Care Act”; and H.R. 6737, the “Flint Registry Reauthorization Act”, 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “When Banks Leave: the Impacts of De-Risking on the Caribbean and Strategies for Ensuring Financial Access”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation, hearing entitled “Strengthening U.S. Engagement in Central Asia”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 8446, the “Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022”; H.R. 2374, the “Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act”; H. Res. 1240, requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of State, to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of all documents in their possession referring or relating to certain aspects of the United States withdrawal from Afghanistan; H. Res. 1266, requesting the President to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to any initiative or negotiations regarding Iran’s nuclear program; legislation on reaffirming the importance of diplomacy and development in United States-African Union relations, promoting strategic partnerships and shared objectives between the United States and the African Union, and expressing strong support for the successful implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement; H.R. 4213, the “YSEALI Act”; H.R. 8681, the “John Lewis Civil Rights Fellowship Act”; H.R. 8153, the “Indo-Pacific Engagement Act”; legislation on the AFFECT Human Rights in Venezuela Act; and H.R. 6846, the “CORRUPT” Act, 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1236, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the Disinformation Governance Board; H. Res. 1328, requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Homeland Security, to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of all documents in their possession referring or relating to certain aspects of border policies of the United States; H.R. 3756, the “Department of Homeland Security Climate Change Research Act”; H.R. 8610, the “Health Security and Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Act”; and legislation on the DHS Joint

Task Force Reauthorization Act of 2022, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1238, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the October 4, 2021 memorandum issued by the Attorney General entitled “Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff”; H. Res. 1239, of inquiry directing the Attorney General to provide certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the October 4, 2021 memorandum issued by the Attorney General entitled “Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff”; H. Res. 1241, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to immigration enforcement and border security; H. Res. 1249, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the impact of illegal immigration on federal or tribal lands; H. Res. 1250, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the impact of illegal immigration on Federal or Tribal lands; H. Res. 1257, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide certain documents in the Secretary’s possession to the House of Representatives relating to the establishment of an Emergency Intake Site in Erie, Pennsylvania, at the Pennsylvania International Academy, to house the influx of unaccompanied migrant children; and H. Res. 1325, of inquiry requesting the President and directing Attorney General Merrick B. Garland to transmit, respectively, a copy of the affidavit to the House of Representatives related to the raid on the former President, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “The Role of Public Relations Firms in Preventing Action on Climate Change”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 8108, the “Advancing Tribal Parity on Public Land Act”; H.R. 8109, the “Tribal Cultural Areas Protection Act”; and H.R. 8719, the “Great Bend of the Gila Conservation Act”, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth and Webex.

Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing on H.R. 6032, the “Katimiîn and Aamekyáaraam Sacred Lands Act”; H.R. 6964, to authorize leases of up to 99 years for lands held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; H.R. 7581, the “Yurok Lands Act of 2022”; H.R. 8115, the “Recreation and Public Purposes Tribal Parity Act”; H.R. 8286, to take certain Federal land in the State of Washington into trust for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, and for other purposes; H.R. 8380, the “Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Shab-eh-nay Band Reservation Settlement

Act of 2022”; and H.R. 8387, the “Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act”, 1 p.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “Free Speech Under Attack (Part III): the Legal Assault on Environmental Activists and the First Amendment”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural, and Rural Business Development, hearing entitled “Right to Repair and What it Means for Entrepreneurs”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Cargo Preference: Compliance with and Enforcement of Maritime’s Buy American Laws”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Future of U.S.-Taiwan Trade”, 11 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Congressional Modernization: A Roadmap for the Future”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Sarah A. L. Merriam, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Additional roll call votes are possible.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, September 14

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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