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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, our hope for the years to come, today, teach our lawmakers to do things Your way, embracing Your precepts and walking in Your path. Inspire them to trust You for safety. As they receive guidance from You and follow Your leading, replace anxiety with calm, confusion with clarity, and pessimism with hope.

Lord, guide our Senators to find workable solutions for the problems of our Nation and world.

You are our God, and the good things we have come from You.

We pray in Your marvelous Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 1 minute in morning business, please.

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

IOWA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, we all know that, without a doubt, 2020 has been a difficult year. But for me it was an important year to continue fighting for Iowans and listening to Iowans.

This year I completed my 40th year of my 99 county meetings that included

a Q&A in every one of those counties. This annual tradition keeps me in touch with the grassroots of Iowa and allows me to bring their ideas to the policymaking tables here in Washington, DC.

With all the twists and turns this year took, my county meetings were more beneficial than ever. I just want to mention a couple of these twists and turns.

The twist and turns involved the big devastating windstorm we called the "derecho" that went through central Iowa, destroying 800,000 acres of crops. Those twists and turns involved dealing with all the issues coming from COVID-19.

One thing I know for sure, Iowans are very resilient people. So I look forward to continuing these county meetings and the Q&A's involved with them at the beginning of the new year.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the Democratic leader and I worked into the evening alongside the Speaker of the House and the House Republican leader. We made major headway toward hammering out a targeted pandemic relief package that would be able to pass both Chambers with bipartisan majorities. We committed to con-

tinuing these urgent discussions until we have an agreement, and we agreed we will not leave town until we have made law.

The American people need more help. It is that simple. Further targeted relief is now months overdue. We need vaccine distribution money. We need to re-up the Paycheck Protection Program to save jobs. We need to continue to provide for laid-off Americans. Congressional leaders on both sides are going to keep working until we get this done.

TRIBUTE TO PAT ROBERTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now on a completely different matter, it is both my honor and unhappy duty to offer one more parting tribute to a distinguished Senator who will leave us at the end of the 116th Congress.

My good friend the senior Senator from Kansas, PAT ROBERTS, is preparing to close out the longest congressional tenure the Sunflower State has ever seen.

When PAT arrived in Washington as a freshman House Member, he was a young man among giants—Byrd, Stevens, Dole. But over the past four decades, the name "Roberts" has come to define its own iconic brand of heartland statesmanship.

PAT is the first to admit he didn't establish that name all on his own. He inherited it from another great Kansan. Charles Wesley Roberts was a marine, a journalist, and a leader in Republican politics.

So get ready to experience some déjà vu, because at age 16, our future colleague got to attend the 1952 convention that nominated Kansas's own General Eisenhower. That early taste of politics planted a seed.

PAT earned his own Marine Corps commission. In fact, he served with the first contingent to return to Iwo Jima, where his father had fought 15 years earlier.

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



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Then he decided to ply another family trade. Like generations of Roberts men, including an abolitionist newspaperman three generations back, he took up journalism.

Only then did PAT bring his talents here to Washington, to Senator Frank Carlson's office. He impressed, and by the next time his next boss, Keith Sebelius, announced his retirement, PAT was running out of excuses not to go on and run himself.

Campaigning in Kansas's "Big First" district required countless road trips across nearly half the State. But listening to neighbors, building relationships, and earning trust came naturally. PAT's district elected him no fewer than eight times, and the whole State sent him here to the Senate another four.

Before long, every small-time diner in Western Kansas was filled with people who saw PAT not just as an elected official but as a trusted friend. The way I hear it, you walk into a restaurant or a coffee shop with PAT, and you budget about 15 minutes of conversation before you even make it to your table. Many of those conversations revolve around one particular line of work. There is a reason why no less an authority than Bob Dole would later dub this man "Mr. Agriculture."

When Republicans retook the House majority in 1994, they knew who had to chair the Ag Committee. The rest is history for our colleague, for his State, and for farmers and growers all across America.

The 1996 farm bill that PAT shepherded included "Freedom to Farm," landmark legislation that set a new tone for the way American farmers would compete in a global market.

Now, today, we know that PAT would later become the only American ever to chair the Ag Committee in both the Senate and the House. But on this side of the dome, he tackled a few other assignments first.

PAT had already helped clean up some ethics messes in the House, and so his discretion and integrity landed him on the Senate Ethics Committee. In short order, he was chairing it.

Then came the Intelligence Committee gavel and, with it, more sensitive challenges. Our trusted marine had to conduct oversight and ask hard questions in the wake of September 11 and the Iraq invasion. He oversaw essential reports and helped shape reform.

But we couldn't keep the Kansan away from his top passion for long. So it wasn't long before Mr. Agriculture was chairing the committee with the most importance of all to his constituents back in Kansas.

Chairman ROBERTS has been a constant voice and a consistent champion for the men and women of this country who get their hands dirty, grow crops, raise livestock, and, as our colleague likes to say, "feed a troubled and hungry world."

Even in polarized times, the Ag Committee has largely remained a haven

for bipartisan work. That is partly the nature of an issue set where divisions tend to be more regional than ideological, but it is also because of the skilled, thoughtful, and genial consensus-builder we have had at the center of the dais.

Two years ago, because of the chairman, the farm bill conference report passed by an overwhelming margin of 87 to 13—87 votes for our farm bill. By my count, that was the eighth farm bill our colleague had a hand in. It turns out that experience actually matters, or, as our colleague likes to say, "it takes a long time to do big things"—"a long time to do big things."

That is true of multiyear farm bills. It is true of the advances PAT has pushed forward on geopolitical issues like food security. It is true of other important projects that our friend has taken under his wing, like the crusade to make certain that President Eisenhower receives the monument he deserved here in Washington. This pandemic may have changed the unveiling ceremonies this year, but it is only fitting that Ike persevered. That is thanks to a quarter century of work from PAT ROBERTS.

There is a reason the people of Kansas have rehired our colleague time after time, and it is not just for his entertaining wit, although I will have more on that subject in just a moment. It is because, when their Senator sees a way to strengthen his home State or his country, he keeps at it until he gets it done.

In short, PAT has spent decades making sure that it is not just places like Manhattan, NY, but also Manhattan, KS, that get the attention and support they deserve.

In fact, thanks to PAT, Manhattan, KS, is the home for our Nation's historic new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. He played the long game and spent years getting his State ready to make the pitch. This state-of-the-art research facility will come online at K-State, next to another important research facility that happens to be named Pat Roberts Hall.

He has looked out for Fort Riley and its essential missions. He has helped devastated communities like Greensburg rebuild after disaster. In every way imaginable, Kansas has had its champion.

PAT's voice has been a powerful presence in these halls. But in rare moments when he hasn't been getting results, the voice has, of course, been making us laugh. PAT is one of the best humored Senators in a long time—not funny, humorous.

It is not just PAT's quick wit or his punch lines themselves that take the cake. The best part is just the unpretentious fearlessness with which he will go after a good laugh in almost any situation.

It is a daunting task to try to convey PAT's winsome humor as a third party. It is a package deal. The words, the

voice, the expression all work together. But I will share just one example.

Several years back, PAT and I were both attending a formal dinner honoring Bob Dole and Howard Baker. PAT had been asked to offer some remarks in Bob's honor. Apparently, he decided a conventional toast would just simply not cut it; the fancy evening would need shaking up.

It so happened that PAT had recently attended Kennedy Center Honors that honored Neil Diamond. So when PAT took the podium at that dinner, with that famous tune "Sweet Caroline" stuck in his head, he wound up leading the audience in the world premiere sing-along of the new original song "Sweet Robert Dole . . . Bob, Bob, Bob." A little unusual, sure, but somehow it was the perfect contribution. It literally brought the house down.

So we have here a senior Senator from a State that expects greatness from its representatives. They gave America a young man from Abilene who led the fight against tyranny in Europe and became President. They gave us another son from Russell who fought in that fight, came home, became Senate majority leader, and ran for President.

But let's add one more name to that distinguished company. Historians certainly will. There is a third Kansas statesman from Holton who belongs on that list: Eisenhower, Dole, and ROBERTS.

In his own farewell speech, PAT quoted his first boss in Washington, Senator Carlson. He said:

There are no self-made men or women in public office. It is your friends and family who make you what you are.

Well, more than all the bills he has passed, above all the outcomes he willed into reality, PAT says his family is his "crowning achievement." So I must conclude by thanking PAT's "magnolia blossom," Franki, for her generosity in lending PAT to us all these years and everything she has done to make it possible. And the Senate thanks his three kids and their eight grandchildren for making do with less of our colleague's time than they deserve.

So PAT, we know we are going to laugh less without you. I am afraid we are not going to get as much done without you.

But you have made us better for knowing you, the Senate better for having you, and Kansas and your country so much better for your devoted service.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as we rapidly approach the end of the session, Senators are working in earnest to finish a bipartisan government funding bill as well as an emergency Federal relief package.

Over the past several weeks, the bipartisan Gang of 8 came together to provide a framework for an agreement on emergency COVID relief. That framework has been the basis of discussions between the four congressional leaders: Speaker PELOSI, Leader MCCARTHY, Leader MCCONNELL, and myself. Secretary Mnuchin has been in our talks as well, representing the President.

Yesterday we had two very long and very productive meetings. Our final discussion stretched late into the evening.

As we race the clock to reach a final accord before the end of the year, we are close to an agreement. It is not a done deal yet, but we are very close.

Now, for Democrats, this has always been about getting the American people the relief they need in the time of an acute national crisis, of an emergency to so many Americans. This has been about delivering a lifeline to Americans who were laid off, through no fault of their own, families struggling to pay the rent and put food on the table, small businesses hanging on for dear life.

This has been about saving our schools, our healthcare system, and delivering the resources to produce and distribute the vaccine that should finally, finally help our country turn the corner and defeat this evil disease.

We are on the precipice of achieving these goals. We Democrats would have liked to go considerably further, but this won't be the last time Congress speaks on COVID relief. Right now, we must address this emergency over the short term. But make no mistake, we will work in the future to provide additional relief as the country requires, but we need to provide a platform to build on. We need to address this emergency right now.

At the end of one of the most difficult years in recent American history, a vaccine has given us all a reason for hope. Let's give the country another reason. The finish line is in sight. Everyone wants to get this done. Let's push through the few final meters and deliver the outcome that the American people very much need.

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Katherine A. Crytzer, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

TECHNOLOGY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, yesterday afternoon, the Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet held our final hearing of the 116th Congress. The title of yesterday's hearing was "Betting on the Rest: Expanding American Entrepreneurship Outside Traditional Hubs," and it focused on examining where venture capital is being invested in this country and where it is not, with an eye to exploring ways to expand investment to other parts of the country.

Over the past 50 years, venture capital has come to play an essential role in advancing American entrepreneurship. Venture capitalists have provided key funding for startups that have gone on to become some of America's most profitable companies. Many of the technologies and services we rely on today would not be around if venture capitalists hadn't been willing to take a risk on innovation.

However, venture capital investment in the United States has traditionally been highly concentrated in certain areas of the country. In 2019, California-based companies received 50 percent of all venture-backed investment in the United States. Just three States—California, New York, and Massachusetts—accounted for almost 75 percent of all venture-backed investment in the country.

There are a lot of valid reasons for this investment concentration. However, this geographic imbalance also means that a majority of regions within the United States are often shut out from the kind of investment that creates jobs, revitalizes communities, and enables the pursuit of the American dream.

Without greater access to capital in underserved regions, the flow of talent,

wealth, and opportunity will continue to move to only a handful of coastal cities, and the full reach and diversity of American ingenuity will go unrealized. Fortunately, there are a lot of individuals in the private sector who are already working to address this issue and expand venture-backed investment to other areas of the United States, and we had the opportunity to hear from some of them yesterday. I was very grateful for their input. We were very pleased to have a South Dakota entrepreneur among our panelists.

I am committed to making sure that the Federal Government serves as a help, not a hindrance, to the expansion of venture capital investment. I took the reins of the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet at the start of the 116th Congress, and I am very proud of the work we have done over the past 2 years. We have had a very active Congress, holding eight hearings in Washington, DC, as well as a hearing in my home State of South Dakota. These hearings have explored everything from broadband investment in rural America to the way the social media companies filter information on their platforms.

I have introduced several bills over the past 2 years that have been informed by our work at the committee, including the PACT Act, the TRACED Act, the Telecommunications Skilled Workforce Act, and the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act.

A priority of mine over the past several years has been ensuring that America stays at the head of the next wave of internet technology, which is 5G. In addition to the tremendous technological benefits that will result from 5G, staying at the forefront of the 5G revolution will bring tremendous economic investment and create a lot of great American jobs.

I spent a lot of time working on this issue when I was chairman of the Commerce Committee, and heading up the Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet Subcommittee in this Congress has allowed me to continue to focus on 5G.

Last year, I introduced the STREAMLINE Small Cell Deployment Act along with the ranking member of the subcommittee, Senator SCHATZ. Our legislation would help expedite the deployment of the small cells that are a key part of 5G infrastructure.

This year, I introduced the Telecommunications Skilled Workforce Act to address another part of the 5G equation, and that is ensuring that we have the workforce in place to handle the demands of installing and maintaining 5G technology.

As a resident of a rural State, ensuring access to broadband internet in rural communities has long been a priority of mine. I introduced legislation this year to direct funds from radio spectrum auctions to expand rural broadband access. I am continuing my work to ensure that rural communities get access to 5G technology.

Now, 5G has the potential to offer tremendous benefits to rural communities, from expanded access to telehealth services to precision agriculture technologies, and I am committed to ensuring that rural communities are not left behind in the 5G revolution.

Pretty much every American has been forced to deal with annoying and illegal robocalls. These calls are a major nuisance, and too often, they are more than a nuisance. Every day, vulnerable Americans fall prey to even more sophisticated scammers and have money or their identities stolen.

I have worked on this issue for years, and in 2019 I introduced the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act, or the TRACED Act, along with Senator MARKEY. While this legislation won't stop every robocall, the TRACED Act provides tools to discourage illegal robocalls, protect consumers, and crack down on offenders. I am very proud that last December, the President signed our legislation into law.

More and more, Americans get news and information from social media sites, and particularly during this past election cycle, a lot of questions have arisen about the ways that social media platforms are filtering the information that we see. Internet platforms have actively cultivated the notion that they are merely providing the technology for people to communicate and to share their thoughts and ideas, but the reality is somewhat different. Sites like Facebook and Twitter make use of sophisticated content-moderation tools, algorithms, and recommendation engines to shape the content that we see on these platforms.

Now, content moderation can certainly improve the user experience. Most of us would prefer that YouTube recommend videos that match our interest. The problem is, the content moderation has been and largely continues to be a black box, with consumers having little or no idea how the information they see has been shaped by the sites they are visiting.

Last year, I chaired a subcommittee hearing on this issue, and the information we gathered helped inform two pieces of bipartisan legislation that I introduced this Congress—the Filter Bubble Transparency Act and the Platform Accountability and Consumer Transparency Act, or the PACT Act. Both of these bills would increase transparency around the content-moderation process so that users have a better sense of how the information presented to them is being filtered. The Filter Bubble Transparency Act and the PACT Act go a long way toward making social media and other sites more accountable to consumers, and I will continue to work to advance these legislative efforts here in the Senate.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to chair this subcommittee over the past Congress and for the opportunity it has given me to work on the important issues and the legislation

that I have mentioned. I want to thank the subcommittee's ranking member, Senator SCHATZ, for all the work he has done to make our committee so effective. I look forward to continuing to work with all my subcommittee colleagues to advance the 5G revolution, address the challenges presented by the internet age, and to make life better for the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The Senator from Oregon.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2828

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, in a moment, I am going to make a unanimous consent request on a piece of legislation on which my Eastern Oregon constituents have done an extraordinary job with respect to building a coalition that brings people together on a contentious issue. It deserves enormous credit, and I will describe their efforts here shortly.

I also want to thank, as we begin, Senator BARRASSO. Senator BARRASSO will be taking on a new role in January on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He and I have worked together often, and I have appreciated his talking with me on this matter as he begins to look to his new duties in January.

Mr. President, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy and Natural Resources Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2828, the Malheur Community Empowerment for the Owyhee Act, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I do appreciate the work the Senator from Oregon has done on this public lands bill. I know the amount of effort that has gone into this legislation is significant. Locally driven public lands bills take an incredible amount of time to get right.

This legislation has gone through intensive local stakeholder involvement, very similar to what we have done in Wyoming with the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative in my home State. The Wyoming Public Lands Initiative was spearheaded by our Wyoming County Commissioners Association. This initiative was started in order to resolve, through local negotiations, the status of so-called “temporary” wilderness study areas in Wyoming that have now, seemingly, become permanent.

I recognize and understand that public lands negotiations often result in

compromise. This give-and-take is a good thing, for it lets people closest to the issue have a significant voice. So I appreciate the efforts the stakeholders on the ground in Oregon have made to get this bill to where it is today. However, I believe additional work is still needed.

I would let my friend from Oregon know that I will work with him and any other Senators with public lands issues before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. We may not always agree on a given outcome, but I am committed to having those discussions with Members of this body.

For this reason, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I know my colleague does have other business that he has to get to, but before he attends to that, I just want to thank him for spending time with me already on this issue. I am going to outline the extraordinary effort that was made by my constituents.

I think we all know—and I am going to discuss it—that in the West, very often, citizens feel nobody is listening to them, that nobody cares about them. The Senator and I have talked about this. This is kind of a question of, How do you empower them with a framework that can help them but also serve as a model for the country?

So a big thanks to my colleague, and I am looking forward to working with him on this and other matters next year.

What Senator BARRASSO and I are discussing is the Malheur Community Empowerment for the Owyhee Act, known in our part of the county as the Malheur CEO Act. The bill has been in the works since late 2018. Back then, when a group of ranchers and business people who live in Malheur County, OR, came to see me, they came to talk about this incredible part of Oregon they call home. It is wide open country, and not many people live there, but those who do want to make sure they have a say in how it is going to be preserved and managed for the future.

When I say this bill has been in the works since 2018, that is not the whole story, because the fact is that the groundwork for this bill has been in the making for decades, and it is only recently that an incredible coalition of Oregonians from across the political spectrum has come together to make it possible for us to propose this legislation.

As I touched on with Senator BARRASSO, in rural areas of the West, like Malheur County, there is often a feeling that people from thousands of miles away, particularly in DC, think that they somehow know better than rural citizens about what is good for those rural communities. I guess I would sum it up as: In rural areas, there is the sense that somehow, often, elites just look down on them; that nobody is listening; that people in power

consider them kind of simple cowboys who care little about saving land, air, and water.

Now, I have townhall meetings in every county in Oregon. I had 970 of them until earlier this spring when we couldn't do them in person due to the pandemic. So we started doing them virtually. I know from all of those townhall meetings that constituents in Eastern Oregon are actually working every day to try to propose common-sense, practical policies to preserve special places for their kids and their grandkids. They know that they are working for all Americans because all Americans own public lands. Eastern Oregonians believe—and I think it is a very powerful point—that nobody cares more about protecting Oregon's natural treasures than those who live every day in those communities and are always thinking about what the future is for their kids and their grandkids.

I will repeat that.

Folks in rural Oregon know that the land is public land, that it belongs to all Americans, and they know that their communities' futures depend on keeping the lands healthy and usable. The ranchers of Malheur County want to be active participants in improving and keeping the ecological health of our public lands, and with this legislation that we are discussing today, they will have a real shot at doing just that.

The fact is that, in some parts of the West, there have been bad actors who have abused the land for their own gain and flouted the law in a dangerous way. For example, in 2016, a heavily armed group of extremists that was not from Oregon, led by members of the Bundy family, stormed the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and occupied it for weeks. There was a standoff that people all over the country saw, between them and Federal, State, and local law enforcement. There was one death. Further south, in Nevada, the Bundys have not only stolen millions of dollars' worth of grazing fees from the American people, they also basically pushed aside basic environmental standards laid out by the Taylor Grazing Act, leading to degraded landscapes.

Now, in Malheur County, just a few hours of wide open spaces east of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge that the extremists took over, our ranchers and our small business people, to their great credit, said: We are going to take a different path, a better path. In Malheur County, you don't have the Bundys breaking the law. Our Malheur County ranchers are committed to being better and doing better, but that doesn't mean they aren't skeptical of people coming in and changing the rules when it comes to public lands surrounding their communities.

So, in 2018, the Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition from Malheur County came to Washington to meet with me. Senator BARRASSO will be interested in this. This group of ranchers and small

business people came to me with a very improbable request for a Democratic U.S. Senator: Would I be willing to work with them to pass land management legislation that could serve as an alternative to a designation as a national monument?

I thought this would be the point my colleagues would be interested in: I asked one member of the group if they had come to me because they thought I might take leave of my senses and say yes to their request. When I asked them, the person who was looking at me said: Yes, that is what we thought, Ron.

Looming over the discussion was the history of this wonderful part of Eastern Oregon. I am not going to take my colleagues through a long discussion of the history of the Taylor Grazing Act, as it goes all the way back to 1932. So I will just start with the fact that in this area, Malheur County makes up most of the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management, which, of course, is part of the Department of the Interior. The Vale District was the poster child for "scientific grazing management" in the 1960s and early 1970s under the Taylor Grazing Act. Did it live up to its potential? I would say it didn't because its efforts really were not adequately funded, and it lacked the consistent monitoring or the adaptive management needed to make it work on the ground, and that raises the question: What results are really at issue?

The Taylor Grazing Act is about turning cattle out onto public lands and attempting to assure they don't destroy the land, but where is the act when it comes to fighting invasive weeds and actually improving soil health and responding to climate change and the effects of rangeland fires? In looking at what happened over the decades—the 1930s, the 1960s, the 1970s—this bill says we are going to answer those questions for 2020.

The Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition from Malheur County wanted to work together. I was glad that they came with their improbable request. I said we have got one chance here on our watch to bring people together, to come up with a sensible proposal. And when they indicated they wanted to work with me, I basically said: How could I refuse?

Knowing the violence that can erupt in the West when people become closed off, when people just refuse to talk, that is when you have a prescription for trouble. As long as we are talking, as long as we are coming together, as long as we are sitting with each other and maybe just having a coffee, a tuna fish sandwich, you have an opportunity to come up with solutions. That is why I agreed to this.

I agreed, in effect, to try to match the courage of these ranchers and business people in coming forward, and I said: If they are going to be willing to think through how to do this, I am going to join them.

Now, the other area I want to touch on is—I said at the get-go and I think this has implications for dealing with public lands in the West. I said that there has got to be three requirements to help us all protect the land and preserve the ranching way of life.

First, we would have to bring everybody to the table—environmentalists, ranchers, local folks, and we would have to bring some of the folks from the more metropolitan area as well. That is because, in effect, when I said that, they said: OK. You know your way around legislation. We will try to find common ground.

And there is common ground on the key question. In every nook and cranny of Oregon, there are people who care about our natural treasures in the Owyhee Canyonlands. Malheur County may keep its clock on Idaho time, but it is enormously loved all across our State. In my view, that alone ought to be a reason, after decades and decades of differences with respect to how to manage these treasures, that alone is a reason to work together.

The second rule of our discussions was all about we weren't going to litigate this with the press and outside groups every time somebody had a little question, any kind of a dispute. So, in effect, we had set it up so that other groups, environmental and ranchers, there was going to be a lot of opportunity for folks to have their say.

And the third rule was that there would be an understanding that we would respect our environmental laws. That was also very pivotal. So, in March of 2019, we got our group together in the conference room at the National Guard Armory in Ontario, OR, and those were the things that we wanted to start with that we thought gave us a chance to build this coalition that could lead to passing legislation to manage these treasures. So we got ranchers, environmentalists, local businesses, and we meet, essentially, every other Monday for months and months.

I also want to thank the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon State parks, fish and wildlife management agencies, local Tribe representatives, all of whom put in enormous amounts of time offering information, expertise, and good will. I met with local county officials, as well, relearning their thoughts with respect to roads and water infrastructure and their most important local economic needs. So that is what really led to this legislation.

Finally, what we said is that we have to make sure that people have an opportunity to also talk, sort of, a little bit offline. So after these sessions, we always found a way to make it to a gathering place somewhere where people could just have a soda, perhaps something a little bit stronger, and we could just take the time informally to talk about what we thought the future was for this incredible part of the world.

Now, in closing up, I want to mention that I think land designation discussions pit people against one another in the West if you do it the traditional sort of way. We needed some unity if we were going to come together on a bill. So that is why we wanted to make sure everybody had a shared understanding of how this would be addressed.

I particularly want at this time to commend Sarah Bittleman, who is sitting here with me, who, month after month after month, call after call after call, email after email after email, always tried to keep this on focus.

I also want to mention at this time our inspiration was the late Mary Gautreaux, who was in our office for over two decades. She was the spirit of this effort. She lived in Portland. Yet she was beloved—beloved—by the people of rural Oregon, the people of Malheur County. So with Sarah and Mary as the energy behind this, we really set out to build this coalition, which has gotten us to this point. It was a coalition driven on the fact that people would take the time to do this right.

When I brought it to the attention of Senator BARRASSO, who obviously will play a key role in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee next year, the first thing he wanted to hear about was the kind of groundwork that had been laid for local input, for local stakeholders. I described to him much of what we have been talking about.

So I introduced the Malheur CEO Act in November of 2019. It was part of a legislative hearing in 2020, and let me just very quickly describe a couple of elements of it. It works this way: It includes range land management enhancements, loop roads to focus tourist travel and build the local economy, and about a million acres of wilderness designation. It also moves around a million acres of land now being studied into multiple-use management.

The bill implements a few key strategies: a plan to let ranchers do range improvements, irrigation systems, removing water-sucking juniper, and replacing invasive weeds with native grasses and improve the ecological health of the range land.

So here are the pictures to my left. The first is a picture of rangeland being overrun by weeds. The second shows rangeland in a native, healthy condition.

Now, the bill also establishes a Malheur Community Empowerment for the Owyhee advisory group so on an ongoing basis it can advise BLM on land management. And the bill also provides substantial funding for the BLM so it can finish environmental soil surveys and carry out environmental policies associated with this bill and monitor the implementation of the bill.

The bill includes funding for the study and designation of three loop roads designed to improve the visitor experience, keep visitors out of trouble, and drive more traffic to the small

retail businesses, which I think we all understand desperately—desperately—need our attention.

I also want to thank at this point, while I am on floor, Senator GRASSLEY. He and I have led the bipartisan effort on the Finance Committee.

I see Senator MANCHIN here. He knows how strongly we feel about getting the small businesses the deductibility associated with these PPP loans.

I bring this up only by way of saying that we are grateful to Senator GRASSLEY for working with me. He is the chair of the Finance Committee. I am the ranking Democrat, but Senator MANCHIN and others deserve credit for helping us get that proposal moving, and we made it clear we have to get that in before we go home. Part of it is our concern for the small retail businesses that we saw in the Owyhee.

Finally, the bill provides for amenities at the Owyhee Reservoir with a marina. That is also good for the local economy. Recreation is a big economic engine in our part of the world.

And the last point I will just mention is the bill is a compromise. Everybody had to make some concessions.

There are folks who feel that the environmental groups got too much here. There are folks who feel the ranchers and the small business people got too much. But the fact is, all sides said: We have some core values and some core priorities. Let's see if we can address the core values and core priorities on both sides of this so that this spectacular portion of Eastern Oregon could be protected and preserved and we could respect and empower the people who call it home and work so hard to make a living there.

Finally, I ask unanimous consent to put into the RECORD the names of all the people who worked so hard on this effort—our Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition. They are ranchers; there are folks on various kinds of environmental organizations and groups; and they deserve incredible credit for being willing to put in the time and effort on something that seemed so improbable.

Finally, I want to thank my partner here in the Senate, Senator MERKLEY. He has been terrific as we worked on this. We both share a love of the land in Eastern Oregon.

Now it is up to the U.S. Senate to get this passed. It isn't going to happen today, unfortunately, but I want the Senate to know I am going to stay at it until this gets done. I think it will be of enormous benefit for rural Oregon. I think it will be of enormous benefit for our State, and I think it will be a model for how our country brings people together, particularly as it relates to issues where we have been polarized in the past.

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

The Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition members who sat through most of the meetings:

Steve Russell, chair/rancher
Andy Bentz, former sheriff and Cliff Bentz's brother
Linda Bentz, rancher and Cliff and Andy's sister-in-law
Elias Eiguren, rancher
Mark Mackenzie, rancher
Jaime Yturriondobeitia, rancher
Paulette Pyle, local consultant and former advocate

And members of the environmental community who also sat through all or most of the meetings that lead to S. 2828

Tim Davis, Friends of the Owyhee
Ryan Houston and Corie Harlan, Oregon Natural Desert Association

David Moryc, American Rivers
Nicole Cordan, Pew Charitable Trust
Liz Sullivan, Northwest Sports Fishermen
With special thanks to Brent Grasty and Don Gonzalez at the Bureau of Land Management without whose expertise many of our discussions would have been a lot shorter.

Mr. WYDEN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I would like permission to basically be able to complete my remarks.

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I want to start by thanking all of the Members—and I mean all of the Members—who have worked so diligently to produce this product.

This is the product we produced with the so-called Gang of 8, but it turned into a bigger gang than that because more and more people want to work in a bipartisan way in the Senate. I have said: It is alive and well; we just have to exercise it more.

We did that. We brought over the bicameral group, the Problem Solvers, and they were tremendously instrumental in being involved in this process. I am so pleased to have that bicameral work, bipartisan work. We need more of it, and we are going to basically demand more of it. But with this product right now, as the "four corners" are working, this is the template they have used.

Leader SCHUMER has said that this is what they have used because the legislative language has already been produced. There might be some tweaks to it, but there are so many people.

Let me tell you how it started. My dear friend Senator DURBIN is here. After the election, we called each other back and forth, a few of us, saying: Something has to be done. Nothing is moving. People are hurting.

We heard that all during the election, and they couldn't figure out why we hadn't done anything. I had no good explanation because, basically, the two leaders on both sides of the aisle were locked, and I said we didn't know how to break it. The only way we could break it is by doing something showing we could come together.

We did that. We did that in a way that—we had a dinner. Senator MARK WARNER from Virginia said: Let's have a dinner. Senator LISA MURKOWSKI said: Come to my house. So we go to

LISA MURKOWSKI's house, and there were eight of us. We had four R's and four D's, and we grew from there. On our side, there was Senator MARK WARNER, Senator DICK DURBIN, Senator JEAN SHAHEEN, myself. On the Republican side, there was Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, Senator SUSAN COLLINS, Senator BILL CASSIDY, and Senator MITT ROMNEY. From there, it grew. Then we brought the bipartisan group over—Congressman JOSH GOTTHEIMER and Congressman TOM REED and the Problem Solvers—and we kept growing from there, and we had more Senators coming in. So we got input from every quadrant we could possibly in order to do what we did, but it took quite a while.

The biggest hurdle we had was how much we could agree that we need as an emergency. Democrats were at 1.2, 1.3. The Republicans were at 5 or 6. We couldn't move off of that, and it took us a while to say: Let's look at emergencies and everything that basically is going to run out of time in December and be nullified. People are going to lose their lifelines.

We started putting all those figures together and came up with the \$900 billion figure. That is where 908 came from. I understand they are still at the 900, which we appreciate very much. I am hopeful that we can help break that deadlock and be a part of this, but there is so much more that has to be done, and there is so much more need out there that will need to be done. We must all come together behind President-Elect Joe Biden to make sure that we do it and look at the need of America, not the greed of America.

Trust me, if you are sending checks, everyone is in line, but if you are really getting to the people who are on the frontline, they need it.

I have people who have said and we have all said: We are not going to go home. We can't go home until we do something. Guess what. If we don't do anything, a lot of people won't have a home to go to this holiday season. They truly won't. They are being evicted. They are losing their lifeline. They are losing their shelter.

Food assistance—my goodness. Think about all the people in need. Have you ever seen the lines of people whom you have never seen before, who have never been to a food give-out or a food bank or a food line?

These are the things that we addressed, and we addressed them in the most compassionate way. That is our job.

I understand that our four corners are very close to a deal. I think it will be done. I know it will be done because we have to do it. Failure is not an option. So we are going to work very hard to continue to do that.

Let me tell you, we have unemployment assistance for people who lost their jobs, food assistance, shelter assistance. We have small business debt relief. We have student loan forbearance. We have so many other things,

and people are depending on us. We include \$300 a week. I am not sure what the final bill will be on the safety net realm there. We had \$13 billion for food assistance. We had SNAP benefits, helping people who are falling into that chasm of welfare who need help, and \$35 billion for healthcare providers. We had 20 percent set aside for the rural hospitals and rural clinics. We had \$16 billion for testing and tracing, and I understand they are increasing that, which is needed; \$12 billion for community development financial institutions; \$5 billion for emergency funding for substance abuse prevention and treatment and mental health services; \$82 billion for education, including \$20 billion for basically higher education; \$10 billion to support childcare; \$10 billion for broadband, including \$3 billion for education and distance learning; and \$45 billion in emergency funding for transportation. There are so many needs that we have out there.

We have a second bill too. I am understanding that was a little bit more controversial, but I can tell you one thing: There was no controversy on the first bill—\$748 billion; 100 percent Democrats and Republicans—all had input to make that happen.

Again, I say the staffs have worked a yeoman's job over day and night for the last month. They have done a terrific job.

Now for State and local, I really believe personally there is a need because I have seen the frontline workers and the amount of revenue we might lose for people not to have those services that are essential. They are depending on it. We might lose it because the States or the localities don't have the revenue. So we have to come back and address that. If we don't do it now, we have to do it as soon as President-Elect Joe Biden takes over, look at it again to try to help those in need, and we will do that.

So we have come together. We have come together. Also what we are saying is the money that the Governors and everyone has left over, they are going to be able to have extensions on how that is used, and we have some direction.

We want to make sure that the locals have some opportunities too. Some of the local communities and local municipalities or local counties did not get the revenue that they should have gotten in the first tranche of money, so we are hoping that is taken care of also.

So all these protections that we put in there, we are trying to help. We are trying to get a pathway forward to bring our economy back, to make sure we are able to. But this is the product that got it all going, and this is the group of people who made it happen, the bipartisan group who worked day and night, and I can't thank them more. I couldn't be more proud to be with a group whom I consider true Americans who stepped up to the plate and got something done when we didn't think it could be done.

But, again, I want to thank all of my colleagues, my Republican colleagues and friends and Democratic colleagues who worked so hard, and everybody who is going to benefit. I think it can be a merry Christmas. It can be a much happier Christmas for sure when we all go home and look at our constituents and say "We have done everything we can to get you through the most challenging time," which will be the first quarter of 2021, and this bill is an emergency bill that goes through April 1.

I would note—oh, we are ready to go. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postclosure time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Crytzer nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 48, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 268 Ex.]

YEAS—48

Alexander	Ernst	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Risch
Blackburn	Graham	Roberts
Blunt	Grassley	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Collins	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	Moran	Toomey
Cruz	Murkowski	Wicker
Daines	Paul	Young

NAYS—47

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Jones	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Udall
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NOT VOTING—5

Enzi	Harris	Perdue
Fischer	Loeffler	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid

upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the President's action.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 Joseph Dawson III, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

Mitch McConnell, James E. Risch, Mike Crapo, Roy Blunt, Shelley Moore Capito, Tom Cotton, John Cornyn, Chuck Grassley, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, Cory Gardner, Lindsey Graham, Todd Young, Marco Rubio, John Boozman, John Barrasso.

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 Joseph Dawson III, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, 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 call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 269 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Alexander	Grassley	Risch
Barrasso	Hawley	Roberts
Blackburn	Hoeven	Romney
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Boozman	Inhofe	Rubio
Braun	Johnson	Sasse
Burr	Jones	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Tester
Cramer	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Toomey
Daines	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Gardner	Portman	Young
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—39

Baldwin	Feinstein	Peters
Bennet	Gillibrand	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hassan	Sanders
Booker	Heinrich	Schatz
Brown	Hirono	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—5

Enzi	Harris	Perdue
Fischer	Loeffler	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 56, the nays are 39.

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 Joseph Dawson III, of South Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY). The Senator from Iowa.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 1762

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, much ink has been spilled the past few years over the threat of foreign influence in our politics. It is a topic I have spoken about many times on this floor. This issue has become highly politicized, but it requires bipartisan agreement to address.

It is increasingly clear that our adversaries will stop at nothing to influence political discourse in our country. We can all agree that there is a real need to improve our Nation's foreign influence laws. Fortunately, the Senate has a real opportunity today to finally do something about it.

In 1938, Congress passed the Foreign Agents Registration Act, referred to by the acronym "FARA." It did this in 1938 to expose Nazi propaganda and identify foreign attempts to influence policymakers and the American public. The bill was last updated in 1966. And it now requires those who lobby on behalf of foreign governments and interests to register their affiliations and activities with the Justice Department.

FARA reflects the fundamental principle that transparency brings accountability. Until recently, however, the law had been seldom used, and few on K Street paid much attention to the necessity of registering under this act if they were lobbying for a foreign country. Of course, that was not due to a lack of foreign influence efforts.

Given FARA's important transparency provisions, its lack of enforcement was shocking to me, and that is the problem that these several legislators sponsoring this legislation are trying to correct.

I first raised concerns about lackluster FARA enforcement in April 2015 when a former Clinton White House staffer and a lawyer for a Georgian political party failed to register as for-

eign agents. I also raised concerns about work for Ukrainians by Paul Manafort and the Podesta Group. I raised concerns when the firm behind the discredited Steele dossier failed to register for its lobbying work to repeal U.S. sanctions against Russia. I even subpoenaed Manafort to testify at a Judiciary Committee hearing on lax FARA enforcement. I praised Mueller for dusting off the law that had been ignored for so long.

I have conducted FARA oversight without regard to power, party, or privilege. Americans expect equal application of the law no matter which political party someone is affiliated with. I am an equal opportunity overseer. FARA ought to be better enforced and equally enforced. That is why my office worked thoroughly to expose holes in the existing FARA law and found ways to shore it up.

My bipartisan Foreign Agents Disclosure and Registration Enhancement Act is the product of years of oversight and policy work. The bill requires the Justice Department, for the first time, to craft a comprehensive FARA enforcement strategy and to release advisory opinions to promote transparency. It gives FARA investigators new tools, including civil investigative demand authority, to help identify violations.

The bill appropriately limits those in the Justice Department who can use this authority, and it provides essential due process protections. In fact, it is based on identical authorities in the False Claims Act, which I sponsored now 35 years ago, which for years has helped to root out waste, fraud, and abuse.

The bill also enhances penalties for FARA violations to deter future abuses. It requires foreign agents to immediately disclose their clients. That way, policymakers know the true sources and can make the most informed decisions.

Finally, it requires a review of the Lobbying Disclosure Act exemption to determine whether it has been abused to conceal foreign influence efforts.

Legitimate interests engaging in legitimate conduct shouldn't bear an unnecessary burden. That is why our bill strikes a real and right balance. But we must also ensure that FARA's exemptions haven't created loopholes for foreign governments to hide their true intentions.

I am pleased to have support from the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee and the chairman and vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee. We have bipartisan support on the Foreign Relations Committee, including from Senators SHAHEEN, RUBIO, MURPHY, and YOUNG, who have all worked to shine light on foreign influence, and we now have the signoff of the chairman of that committee, along with support from this administration. Groups like the Project on Government Oversight and another group that goes by the name of Issue One endorse the measure, saying

it “directly addresses structural weaknesses of FARA.”

This is a truly bipartisan bill with common ground where it is usually tough to find it. The Senate should send a clear signal today that it is serious about shining a light on foreign influence by passing this bill.

Before I make a UC request, I would like to ask one of the leaders in this area, Senator CORNYN, to make comments. Then I will make the UC request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, let me start by thanking Chairman GRASSLEY for his leadership on this. This has been a bipartisan endeavor, and we look forward to working with Senator MENENDEZ, the Senator from New Jersey, who says that he supports the spirit of what we are trying to do. I will let him speak for himself in describing it, but let me just tell you what brings me to this issue.

It is an experience we had in 2016 when we tried to pass the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act. This provided a carve-out in the doctrine of sovereign immunity that would allow Americans to sue foreign governments for financing terrorist attacks on American soil. If that sounds familiar, it is exactly what they believe happened on 9/11—that a foreign government financed a terrorist attack, taking the lives of their loved ones on 9/11.

When we tried to pass the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, I got called by a former colleague here in the Senate who happened to be representing the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They were doing everything they could to prevent the passage of the bill. I know they were working the phones, trying to get anybody else they could get to object to the ultimate unanimous passage of the bill and the overruling of President Obama's veto.

Next, we were met with not only lobbying but veterans who were enticed to come to Washington, DC, and stay at a local, pricey hotel to try to lobby Congress to make the argument that somehow this was hurtful to our veterans who had served in the military. It didn't make any sense to me then, and it doesn't make any sense to me now.

What I am suggesting is that our rivals around the world will use a number of creative ways to try to influence us by lobbying. That is why the Foreign Agents Registration Act that we are talking about here is so important.

We have even seen a recent report of a Chinese intelligence officer trying to influence a Member of the U.S. Congress. Fortunately, according to public reports, he got a defensive briefing, as you should under those circumstances, and was able to break off that relationship, according to published reports.

We know that the Communist Party of China is investing in things like the Confucius Institutes around our institutions of higher learning to try to in-

fluence the education of our next generation of leaders.

In other words, the Communist Party of China and other countries will stop at nothing to try to influence the policies that come out of this body and out of Congress and out of Washington, DC, and bend them in their favor.

So I am an enthusiastic supporter of what the Senator from Iowa is trying to do. I look forward to working for maybe even something better than what we are proposing right now, and I understand the Senator from New Jersey is committed to doing that.

This is a serious problem, and I will bet you there are a number of ways that foreign governments—not just China but other countries around the world—try to influence policies here in America, and we don't even know they are doing it. Reforming the Foreign Agents Registration Act and the Lobbying Disclosure Act is so important to make sure that people have to file for full transparency when representing a foreign government.

I appreciate the leadership of my friend, the Senator from Iowa, and I look forward to working with our colleagues across the aisle to try to get this done.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have two sentences before I ask unanimous consent.

I think by passing the bill, this will give the Senate an opportunity to send a clear signal that it is serious about shining a light on foreign influence. Opposing it, in fact, would only help our foreign adversaries continue to hide what they are really doing.

As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. 1762 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, let me thank Senator GRASSLEY for his work on this issue, and I agree with him that our current foreign regime is in need of updating. I look forward to working with him and Senator CORNYN and with Senators WHITEHOUSE and SHAHEEN, who both came to speak to me about this, as well as with Chairman RISCH and the cosponsors of this legislation, on engaging in a comprehensive effort to do just that.

FARA, the Foreign Agents Registration Act, is perhaps the most critical tool we have for shining a light on foreign influence efforts in the United States. Its aim is to ensure that the public knows the source of foreign-directed efforts that are intended to influence American public opinion, policy, and laws.

I agree with the Senator that the past few years have demonstrated that

changes are sorely needed to FARA, but they also demonstrate that the statute may need more than a few tweaks.

And before we have determined exactly what the most needed reforms are, it seems shortsighted to provide additional enforcement tools before we have figured out what that regime should look like.

Indeed, adopting ad hoc changes rather than looking at more comprehensive reform could actually create more problems down the road. Many have noted that FARA's definitions and requirements are broad and sow confusion over exactly when and under what circumstances an individual must register and report covered activities. There is no denying the nature of lobbying, influence efforts, and communication methods have dramatically changed since FARA was enacted in 1938 or even revised in 1966.

We live in a dramatically more interconnected and complex world today. Foreign influence efforts and disinformation have made their way into the top echelons of U.S. Government and this very body. It seems only prudent that we step back and examine whether there are blind spots in the current FARA regime.

There are a number of bills pending in both the House and the Senate that propose reforms to FARA. Some propose a new unit altogether for reviewing and enforcing FARA violations. Others propose additional disclosure and registration requirements, significant changes to the current FARA exemptions, or more electronic reporting. Yet none of those have been given thorough or, indeed, any consideration by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the committee of jurisdiction.

There are also a number of concerns about the current FARA regime, as well as how it has been applied, that deserve consideration. Some nonprofit organizations, for example, have raised serious concerns about how FARA could be applied to them and are seeking additional changes to this bill to ensure it is not weaponized.

And as other countries, such as Russia and Hungary, adopt their own versions of FARA laws and look to use them to crack down on civil society groups and nonprofits, we should be especially concerned about the signal that any potential weaponizing of FARA sends.

The past few years have shown how critical it is that we not adopt a patchwork approach but that we get it right.

The disturbing rise of foreign influence campaigns that use a variety of measures to mask who is the ultimate source or beneficiary should serve as an alarm bell for all of us. So before this body passes any tweaks or new tools and adds to the current patchwork of FARA regulations and exemptions, I think we should take a step back and take a comprehensive look, and we have not done that.

So, respectfully, these changes should not pass this body without careful consideration by the committee of jurisdiction. A committee markup is the appropriate vehicle for considering such changes to assess the ramifications of the changes in this bill and to see if other changes are warranted.

I stand ready and willing to work with Chairman RISCH, Senator GRASSLEY, and other colleagues to make any needed changes to FARA, but because of all of these concerns that I have, I would object today to passing this bill out of the Senate without first giving the committee the opportunity to consider it and other potential reforms.

I urge my colleagues to give us the opportunity to work through this together and ensure the Foreign Assets Registration Act is fit for the 21st century. And because of that, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Of course I am disappointed, but I know that Senator MENENDEZ is a serious legislator, and if what we have to do to do something in this area is work into the next Congress on this issue, I look forward to continuing to work for it.

The reason I am kind of disappointed is the fact that we had two Democratic bills and two Republican bills. I introduced my first bill in 2017, and it took a lot of work to put together the bill that I asked unanimous consent on, to work out the differences with several different approaches, and I thought that we had taken everything into consideration, particularly bringing together people from the Intelligence Committee and the Judiciary Committee that had interest in this legislation as well.

Maybe another reason I am disappointed out of that hard work that so many people put into this is the fact that on the part of particularly our Democratic colleagues, we have heard so much over the years, lecturing about foreign influence, and that is why I thought it would be easy to move forward today, and I am sorry it is not, but I look forward to January and starting over again and working with Senator MENENDEZ to get this job done. Hopefully, it will not take 3 years more to get something done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I look forward to working with the Senator from New Jersey and the Senator from Iowa. As I said, this is a very serious problem for the U.S. Government, and, thus, for the American people.

One of our greatest assets is also one of our greatest vulnerabilities. We are an open society. Our adversaries are not, and, thus, they use things like the internet for information warfare, whereas we see it as a valuable tool to do business, to stay in touch with our families, and to communicate with one another. Our adversaries are deter-

mined, and they are relentless, so I hope that just this little colloquy today will help alert more of our colleagues about the importance of our working together to address this. I look forward to being part of that process.

Nothing happens very quickly around this place. Sometimes you have to work on things for years to get them done.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. President, speaking of working hard to solve problems, my hope is that we are closing in on our ability to pass the next COVID-19 relief bill. As the Presiding Officer knows, we have been at this for a while.

It has been since March that we passed the CARES Act, and we have tried a number of times to try to pass additional relief for our small businesses and individuals, provide more resources to our frontline healthcare workers—make sure that they have the PPE, the testing and that the vaccine that is now here can be deployed in a way that as many Americans who can get the vaccine as possible will do so.

Again, we know that the intervening election has been a problem because some people saw benefits to not solving the problem, and that would somehow gain them advantage at the ballot box. And still, today, there are still disagreements over a handful of controversial provisions, but as we enter the final days of the 116th Congress, it is now time to break that stalemate.

There is no doubt in my mind that every Member of this body has a little different vision about what the next relief package should look like, but as the old saying goes, we shouldn't let the perfect be the enemy of the good. The search for compromise—which is really part of our job description here—on some of the most controversial measures has left us emptyhanded, and it is time to set aside those pieces that we can't agree on and make progress on the ones we can.

First and foremost is funding for vaccine distribution that I alluded to a moment ago. Last week, the FDA approved the first COVID-19 vaccine, and the process of vaccinating our frontline healthcare workers is already underway. And there is a good chance that by this time next week, millions of doses of a second approved vaccine will be en route to hospitals across the country.

There is no question that the race to develop an effective COVID vaccine has been a success. It has really been nothing short of a miracle. Now it is critical we take additional actions to ensure the race to distribute the vaccine is successful as well.

We have been waiting and planning for a vaccine all year, but the funding Congress provided in the CARES Act to help execute the nationwide distribution project has run dry. While the cost of the vaccine itself is already covered, there are a host of other expenses that come with vaccinating tens of mil-

lions—maybe hundreds of millions—of people.

States are dipping into their other sources of funding to ensure they have the capabilities to carry out this widespread effort, but it takes specialized equipment from ultralow temperature freezers to store the vaccine, to masks and gloves and other PPE to protect those administering it, and it is easy to see that the costs add up quickly.

So the time for politicking and campaigning is over. Now is the time for us to solve this problem and ensure that this vaccine distribution program goes off without a hitch. This is the silver bullet we have been praying for and hoping for, and it would be shameful if our partisan dysfunction in Congress stood in the way of the success of Operation Warp Speed.

Second, we must support the men and women whose livelihoods have been upended by the pandemic. We all know that. We have done a lot, but we need to do more.

We didn't know in March how long this virus would last, how many lockdowns would ensue.

In April, as businesses closed doors to stop the spread of the virus, our nationwide unemployment rate skyrocketed to 14.7 percent. Tens of millions of Americans simply had no way to earn a paycheck, cover their bills, or even put food on their table. Many relied on the bolstered unemployment insurance benefits provided through the CARES Act, which helped cover bills and expenses until they were able to resume their jobs.

Fortunately, our economic engine did not remain stalled for long. That is not only due to what we have done here but what the Federal Reserve has done. And over the past several months, the unemployment rate has gradually ticked down and reached 6.7 percent in November.

I have no doubt that we will continue to rebuild our economy and put more people back to work who are eager to get back to work. But the reality is, it is going to take a while.

There are still workers with no way to earn a paycheck, and unless we take action, they are sure to face an even more dire economic strain in the days ahead. The day after Christmas—the day after Christmas—two key programs from the CARES Act expire, which will leave millions of Americans without the jobless benefits that they and their families need to survive. It would be a shame, it would be embarrassing and, frankly, just flat negligent on our part if we did not intervene to make sure that we establish a continuum of support for these folks who, through no fault of their own, find themselves without work.

These are the same people who, again, through no fault of their own, had the rug pulled out from under them earlier this year, and we can't leave them hanging. We have to help.

Third, we need to continue supporting our small businesses. Congress

invested \$670 billion in the Paycheck Protection Program. Every time I say a number like that—or \$3 trillion—I still have to pinch myself that we are spending the money. We need to spend this money in order to meet this pandemic, but the Paycheck Protection Program, in particular, has been a lifeline for America's small business owners, especially in my State.

Texas received more than \$41 billion through more than 417,000 individual PPP loans. This has given our businesses the resources they need to stay afloat and stay connected to their employees until things can return to whatever the next normal is.

But we know the process is happening much faster for some businesses than others. It is interesting: A number of businesses, I would say, are flourishing during the pandemic—it is really, really interesting—while others are just flat on their backs or nonexistent.

Many small businesses that have already received PPP loans are still operating at a significant loss. They are unable to bring in enough revenue to keep their businesses and employees above water, and they need more assistance. Again, that is because of a lack of demand or because of restrictions governments have placed on people in the interest of public health—some of them seemingly pretty arbitrary. I won't go down that path here. But these folks need help.

Currently, those businesses aren't eligible for a second draw of the PPP, and unless we want Main Streets across the country to turn into ghost towns, that needs to change. We need to reopen the PPP with additional funding for the hardest hit businesses to receive a second loan. This is the most effective way of keeping Americans connected with their employers and more small businesses on track for a strong postpandemic recovery.

There are a number of other businesses—small businesses—that didn't qualify for the PPP which need our assistance, too. Things like small, independent music venues are the best example of a critical Main Street industry that is dying under the current COVID restrictions.

That is why I worked with our friend from Minnesota, Senator KLOBUCHAR, to introduce the Save Our Stages Act, which will keep independent venues across America from closing their doors for good. This wouldn't just apply to live music venues in Austin, TX. This would apply to symphonies and, potentially, Broadway. This would apply across the board.

I am proud to say that 56 of our colleagues have cosponsored the Save Our Stages Act, making it one of the most widely supported stimulus proposals before the Senate.

Again, I know the Presiding Officer has had his shoulder to the grindstone on this topic for a long time now. We still have a lot of work to do, but we don't have much time.

Beyond these three goals, there is a lot more I would like to see in the re-

lief bill, and I guarantee all 535 Members of Congress would like to see more for other things in the relief bill. But the fact of the matter is, we have been unable to reach an agreement on a bill that includes the most controversial priorities, and it is time to take action where we can act and where we do have consensus and come back next year and try to do more and try to do better.

Each of these areas I just mentioned—support for vaccines, our workers, and small businesses—have that sort of strong bipartisan support. So I think all 100 of us—whether Republicans, Independents, or Democrats—should be able to line up behind a bill that supports these goals. Over the last several days, we have seen more bipartisan communication and cooperation than we saw in months—in the months leading up to this point, certainly since March. And I hope we are able to reach an agreement and pass another relief bill before gaveling out. As a matter of fact, I heard the majority leader say we are not leaving until we do, and I agree with that.

The American people have repeatedly called on Congress to provide support for those hit hardest by this pandemic, and we simply cannot and will not let them down.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUNT). The Senator from Arkansas.

DEBORAH SAMPSON ACT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a significant legislative victory the Senate delivered for women veterans that will eliminate barriers to care and services that many women face when accessing the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The VA estimates that women make up approximately 10 percent of our Nation's veteran population. That number is expected to increase to more than 16 percent within the next 25 years. As a result, the number of women veterans receiving healthcare from the VA has more than tripled since 2000.

The changing face of our military requires us to reexamine how we can best serve these veterans. The VA has been slow to modernize its delivery of healthcare and benefits to support their needs. Women veterans are more likely to face homelessness, unemployment, and go without needed medical healthcare. They are reluctant to turn to the VA for help. More than 50 percent of women veterans believe they are not entitled to or eligible for VA care. We must do more to fulfill our promise.

We need to create a culture at the VA that welcomes women veterans and makes them feel like they belong. It is long overdue, and we need to update the belief that when a woman seeks care at the VA, it is because her husband is the veteran. So often, it is not uncommon for a veteran employee to pass a woman in line and ask, you know, is her husband around.

Arkansans have shared with me suggestions for improvement that include:

expanding care options women can access at the VA to reduce the need for referrals to community care, increasing trained medical professionals who specialize in women's health issues, and enhancing privacy in exam rooms. These are reasonable steps that the VA can implement to ensure equitable access to services.

The good news is, we are one step closer to making these upgrades a reality, thanks to Senate passage of the Deborah Sampson Act. The Veterans' Affairs ranking committee member, JON TESTER, and I introduced this legislation, fittingly, named after a Revolutionary War veteran who disguised herself as a man to help defeat the British. In her spirit, we must do more to address the gender disparities at the VA.

We used the recommendations we heard from veterans in Arkansas, Montana, and all across the country to develop our legislation to eliminate the barriers to care. The Deborah Sampson Act creates a dedicated Office of Women's Health at the VA, expands the reintegration and readjustment group, counseling retreats for women veterans and their families, and improves call center services.

It increases the number of gender-specific providers and coordinators in VA facilities, trains clinicians, and retrofits VA facilities to bolster privacy and improve the environment. It provides access to legal services for women veterans and expands childcare for veterans receiving healthcare at the VA.

These are just a few of the improvements this bill requires the VA to implement so we can better serve the needs of women veterans.

I appreciate the leadership of Senator TESTER and the support of veterans service organizations and encourage Members of Congress to support this legislation. I applaud the Senate for advancing the legislation and urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to quickly approve this bill so we can ensure women who serve in uniform receive the care and services that they so earned.

Also, as always, I want to thank the staffs of myself and Senator TESTER who worked so hard in this regard, and, simply, this would not have become law without their tremendous efforts.

So, with that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BRAUN). The Senator from Wyoming.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask our Democratic colleagues to join us Republicans in providing immediate relief—relief in the fight against coronavirus and economic relief for the people of this country.

Americans don't ask much of their government, but they are asking us for something right now. No. 1, they are asking to help control the spread of the coronavirus, and, No. 2, they are asking to help with an economic recovery.

America and Americans shouldn't have to choose between staying open and staying healthy. We need both, and Congress needs to provide a path beyond the pandemic.

A path forward, as the Presiding Officer knows, is something Republicans have been proposing now for a long time. We have done it, first, with the CARES Act, and we need to do it right now with additional coronavirus and economic relief legislation.

Our bill is practical. It supports our neighborhoods—men and women working on Main Street in our small towns and communities all across the country. We also need to provide unemployment help for those who, for no reason of their own, happen to find themselves out of work as a result of the pandemic. We need to get the vaccine to as many Americans as we can as quickly and safely as we can, especially during this holiday season, when we are really looking at a medical miracle.

Now, what we have seen from the other side is gridlock—no path forward on the economy, no path forward on coronavirus. We have seen them play politics with the pandemic. House and Senate Republicans have tried now 40 times—40 different times—to get something accepted that can be sent to provide that relief for the American public. The Democrats, each and every time, blocked it. The gridlock must end today.

Mr. President, I would like to spend just a moment on this historic vaccine discovery. It is, to me as a doctor, comparable to insulin, comparable to the vaccine for polio, and comparable to penicillin as an antibiotic. It is going to be that dramatic in terms of the change in the world.

As we gather on the floor today, planes, trucks, UPS, and Federal Express are all taking vaccines across the country to many, many locations—over 636 this first week. So it is not just a scientific triumph. It is also a logistical triumph.

Every newspaper in the country yesterday, I believe, had a picture of somebody receiving the vaccine, receiving the shot in that local community. It is a remarkable time for our Nation. As Christmas packages are being delivered, so is this great hope for people receiving the vaccine.

All told, this week, there were 3 million doses distributed to people around the country, in 636 sites. In my State alone, Wyoming, there are 5 different locations where the vaccine has arrived and over 5,000 people being vaccinated this week. By the end of the year, there will be 15,000. I am sure in the Presiding Officer's State of Indiana, there are more locations than that, more people being vaccinated. The frontline workers are getting it first, and that is the way we need to do it.

As part of the CARES Act—the Presiding Officer and I voted for it—\$10 billion went to help develop the vaccine and money spent to distribute the vaccine. But we need to do more. About

\$6 billion is additionally needed to help in a full distribution of the vaccine.

Well, I am ready to vote for that. I want to make sure we have that money so the vaccine, which has been amazing in terms of the speed of development, can also be deployed similarly to what was done.

This vaccine was done in an unprecedented scale—the number of people who are going to be vaccinated, the success, the timeline. A safe, effective, and powerful vaccine is truly astonishing. Never has a vaccine been developed or distributed faster.

It truly is this Senate, under the CARES Act, and this administration, under Operation Warp Speed, which stood this operation up and made it successful. So we are seeing the real effects as people are getting the shot.

When you think about it in the big picture—and you know this, Mr. President, from your background in business and contributing in your community—this is what we talk about when we talk about American ingenuity. It is why people around the world look to America for answers, because when things that are critical occur, it is America that finds the solutions, as we have done right now with this vaccine.

We have come together, public as well as private, over the last 8 months—the FDA—to approve a vaccine. It is interesting: Who should get it first—the doctors, the nurses? I know firefighters are getting it here in the District of Columbia. Firefighters have been getting it at home in Wyoming, and people like the healthcare providers, and then, of course, those who are most vulnerable, people who are in our nursing homes right now and in assisted living facilities, people who are most vulnerable. That is who ought to get it first.

I know when the time comes for me, I am going to get it. My wife is going to get it. We will be saying yes because I believe it is safe, I believe it is effective, and I believe it is the solution that gets us through this. It gets us through the disease, and it gets the economy back on track.

I talked to one of the doctors who runs the intensive care unit at Wyoming Medical Center. The healthcare personnel are exhausted. They have been working double shifts. If one gets sick, others have to pick up the workload, as more and more people show up in the hospitals and the emergency rooms with coronavirus. This is very welcome relief.

I talked to a physician who works in the emergency room. She is going to be vaccinated on Friday. So this is what we need.

It is so interesting. The pundits talk about the dark winters of the coronavirus surge, but for the healthcare providers in our home communities, they have to keep the doors open every day and keep the lights on and take care of these patients, one after another after another.

Once the first one came—and the wave hit different parts of the country

at different times—once the first patient came, they continued to come, and they are still coming today. That is why this vaccine is such a welcome relief and why, for the healthcare providers who have done such remarkable work, we can say this is their finest hour. They have kept us going, kept patients, offered of themselves, and now the vaccines have arrived.

We need to do more in this body. We have healthcare workers leading by example. We have folks in assisted living. Close to half of all the people who lost their lives because of coronavirus were residents of assisted living. But of those millions of healthcare workers, we need to make sure that the vaccines continue to flow to them and to all of society and to all people in this country.

It is by doing that, that we will put this disease behind us. We will be back to our strong, robust, and growing economy. Our kids will be back full time in school. The universities will be returning to the robust future that we know is ahead of them.

It is because of the work of this body, months ago, with the CARES Act.

But our work is not done. As we approach the Christmas holidays, there is more work to be done. I turn to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and say: Please, join us this holiday season to make sure that the American people, who don't ask for much, are able to continue to keep their lives on track, get back on track, and move forward into the year 2021 with a vaccine available to everyone and for a much better new year.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me say a few words on the coronavirus relief package that is now being negotiated. In my view, this bill of roughly \$900 billion has a number of enormously important provisions in it which will do a great deal of service and help for the American people.

We are talking about funding for vaccine distribution, which is a no-brainer. We have got to get that vaccine out to every State in this country if we are going to finally put an end to this horrific pandemic. We are talking about, in this bill, in this proposal, increased funding for education, healthcare, childcare, nutrition, housing, transportation, and many other very important areas.

I agree with all of that, but the problem is that, while this proposal addresses some of the major crises facing our country and the families of our country, there is simply not enough money in the proposal to deal with the unprecedented crises that we now face.

It is no secret to anybody that right now, at this moment in America, we face the worst set of crises that this country has seen for perhaps a hundred years. The pandemic is surging throughout America. More and more

people are being diagnosed with the virus. More and more people are ending up in hospital. More and more people are dying.

But it is not just a public health crisis that we are addressing; we are dealing with a terrible, terrible economic meltdown, where many, many millions of people have lost their jobs; they have lost their healthcare. People are working, in many cases, for fewer hours. Rather than 40 hours a week, they are working 30 hours a week—less income coming in.

So this bill has a lot in it that is good, but given the enormity of the crises that we face, it simply does not go anywhere far enough.

As the Presiding Officer may well remember, in May, in response to the crisis, the Democratic House passed a Heroes bill calling for \$3.4 trillion in new money to address the kind of crises that we are facing. And while that bill did not have everything that I wanted in it, it was a serious, serious step forward in addressing the multitude of crises facing our country. It was a \$3.4 trillion bill, passed in the House in May.

In July, the House came back and said: Well, we are not going to spend \$3.4 trillion; we are going to reduce it to \$2.2 trillion, and they passed what was called a Heroes 2 bill, which called for \$2.2 trillion in new money. Again, it did not go as far as I would want but was a very serious effort.

Among other things in that bill as well as the first Heroes bill, there was a provision to extend unemployment benefits for another 4 months and provide a \$600 supplementary check. And there were provisions in it to provide a \$1,200 direct payment to adults and \$500 to their children. That was the Heroes 2 bill for \$2.2 trillion.

Just a few months ago, the Trump administration, represented by Secretary of the Treasury Mnuchin, proposed a \$1.8 trillion bill—\$1.8 trillion.

Today, the bill that is being negotiated calls for all of \$348 billion in new money. This is a \$900 billion bill, but most of the funding is carried over from the CARES Act—\$348 billion in new money. In other words, this is roughly 10 percent of what Democrats in the House passed in the first Heroes bill.

Now, I was a mayor for 8 years. I know a little bit about negotiating. I, frankly, don't know how you negotiate from \$3.4 trillion down to \$348 billion. You got 10 percent of what you originally started with.

This is not just numbers. What this is about is whether, in this moment of unprecedented crisis, when families are struggling to feed their children, when a half a million people are sleeping out on the street, when in the midst of this awful pandemic over 90 million Americans are uninsured or underinsured and can't go to the doctor in the midst of a pandemic, when they are sick, at a time when many, many millions of families are worried about getting

evicted from their apartments or their homes because they no longer have the income to pay their rent or pay their mortgage—that is the crisis that we are in right now. And, unfortunately, this proposal does not address that crisis to the degree that it should.

Now, that is the bad news. My hope—very sincere hope—is that when the Biden administration comes into office in late January, their very first priority will be to address the deficiencies and the inadequacies in this bill.

The American people today, the working class of this country today, are struggling in a way that we have not seen since the Great Depression of the 1930s. People are desperate. I will never forget, in my State, in my community, in my neighborhood, a few months ago—Burlington, VT—they shut down—the State shut down a highway, and hundreds and hundreds of automobiles lined up, one behind each other, in order to get emergency food distributed by Vermont National Guard—in my community.

That is going on all over this country, where States are in worse shape than the State of Vermont. People who have never, ever gone to an emergency food shelter are now lining up for emergency food packages in the United States of America, in the richest country in the history of the world, at a time, by the way, when a number of billionaires are doing phenomenally well.

So this bill, in my view, does not go anywhere near far enough in terms of addressing our crises, and I hope that as soon as the Biden administration comes into office, they will address those deficiencies.

Now, the good news—there is some good news, and I am happy, as we enter the holiday season, to say something that I think the American people are wanting to hear. And that is, when you ask the American people—and the pollsters do that. They say to the American people that we are in the midst of this terrible crisis; what do you think should happen?

Overwhelmingly, some 80 percent of the American people—overwhelmingly, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, they say that, in the midst of this emergency, we need the U.S. Government to respond to our pain because we don't want to get evicted; we don't want our kids to go hungry; we don't want to be saddled with incredible debt. The government has got to do something.

Eighty percent of the American people—Democrats, Republicans, Independents—understand that.

Then, when you ask them, “What is the most important thing that can be done?”—there is a long list of things—what they say is the most important thing that can be done is, in this moment, help my family out. Get me some money so I can pay my bills, so I don't get evicted, so I can feed my kids, so I can go to the doctor when I get sick. Get me a direct payment.

As you know, the CARES Act provided \$1,200 for every working-class adult in this country; that is, for an individual earning less than \$75,000 a year; for a couple, \$150,000; plus \$500 for their kids. That means, for a family of four—husband, wife, and two kids—that is \$3,400.

Now, you don't get rich with that, but when you get a check for \$3,400 for a family of four, it means that maybe you can pay your bills; maybe you can breathe a little bit easier; maybe, come Christmastime, you might actually be able to buy your kids a few gifts; maybe the fear of eviction is lessened just a little bit.

That is what we did in the CARES Act, and that is what I wanted in this bill. Now, a week ago, 10 days ago nobody here was talking about the need for direct payments, help for working families, despite the fact that that is the issue, the program that the American people most wanted. There are a lot of other important things that we are dealing with. That is what the American people wanted: Help us out. Let us make a decision. Get us some money in this time of need.

I am happy to say, working with people like Senator HAWLEY of Missouri; working with the Progressive Caucus in the House of Representatives; working with Senators GILLIBRAND, WARREN, MERKLEY, MARKEY, and WYDEN; working with PRAMILA JAYAPAL and many others in the House, ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ, RASHIDA TLAIB, ILHAN OMAR, RO KHANNA, and many others who have stood up in the House and said “We have to have direct payments,” I am happy to say that, as of now—and we are going to fight for more because this process is not over—the proposal, as I understand it, provides for a direct payment of \$600 for every working-class adult and \$600 for their kids. That means for a family of four, that would be \$2,400. That is half of what I wanted, but it is a step forward. I am going to do my best to make sure that we come as close to that \$1,200 as we possibly can.

Millions of our people today are living in desperation. Half of our workers are living paycheck to paycheck, while one out of four American workers today is either unemployed or making a starvation wage of less than \$20,000 a year. During the holiday season, over one-third of Americans expect to lose income—one-third—and are having a difficult time paying for basic household expenses. In America today, hunger is at its highest level in decades. More than half a million Americans are homeless, and over 30 million of our people are on the brink of eviction. By January 1, 12 million Americans will owe an average of \$5,800 in back rent.

As bad as this crisis is for the whole population, from coast to coast, it is worse for the African-American and Latino and Native American communities. During this pandemic, nearly 60 percent of Latino families and 55 percent of African-American families and

many, many, many Native American families have either experienced a job loss or a pay cut.

All across this country, working families are standing up and saying: You know what, we have served in the military. We are doing our best to raise our kids in this unprecedented moment in history. We need help.

I want to thank not only my friends in the Congressional Progressive Caucus in the House of Representatives—JAYAPAL, TLAIB, OMAR, OCASIO-CORTEZ, RO KHANNA, and many, many others—I also want to thank the millions of Americans who have stood up and demanded that the government respond to the needs of working families.

I want to thank the over 60 groups representing millions of working families, progressives, the elderly and young people, including Public Citizen, the Sunrise Movement, Social Security Works, Presente, and People's Action, for pushing a progressive agenda forward and for demanding that this government respond to the needs of our people.

So here we are, as this proposal continues to be negotiated. As I said earlier, it is my hope that not only do we make sure that unemployment benefits are extended for another 16 weeks at \$300 per week, it is my hope that we can see some light here and get to the \$1,200 direct payment that adults in this country desperately need. I am going to do my best in the coming days to make sure that happens. I hope the American people will join with me and get on the phones and call up their Members of the House and Members of the Senate and say that in this unprecedented moment in American history, government has to respond to the needs of working families.

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

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

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote take place now.

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

All postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Dawson nomination?

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator

from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 270 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Alexander	Grassley	Risch
Barrasso	Hawley	Roberts
Blackburn	Hoeven	Romney
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Boozman	Inhofe	Rubio
Braun	Johnson	Sasse
Burr	Jones	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Tester
Cramer	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Toomey
Daines	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Gardner	Portman	Young
Graham	Reed	

NAYS—39

Baldwin	Feinstein	Peters
Bennet	Gillibrand	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hassan	Sanders
Booker	Heinrich	Schatz
Brown	Hirono	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Wyden

NOT VOTING—5

Enzi	Harris	Perdue
Fischer	Loeffler	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 Charles Edward Atchley, Jr., of

Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

Mitch McConnell, James E. Risch, Mike Crapo, Roy Blunt, Shelley Moore Capito, Tom Cotton, John Cornyn, Chuck Grassley, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, Cory Gardner, Lindsey Graham, Todd Young, Marco Rubio, John Boozman, John Barrasso.

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 Charles Edward Atchley, Jr., of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 271 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Alexander	Graham	Risch
Barrasso	Grassley	Roberts
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Hoeven	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Jones	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kelly	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sinema
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Tester
Cramer	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Toomey
Daines	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Gardner	Portman	Young

NAYS—41

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Reed
Bennet	Hassan	Rosen
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Sanders
Booker	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Wyden
Feinstein	Peters	

NOT VOTING—5

Enzi	Harris	Perdue
Fischer	Loeffler	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Charles Edward Atchley, Jr., of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The Senator from New Jersey.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 4711

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I come to the floor today and will soon ask unanimous consent for the passage of the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2020. This legislation is about standing up for the independence of our Federal judiciary and the safety of all of those who serve it.

Many of you already know the terrible tragedy that recently struck Federal District Judge Esther Salas and her family in New Jersey. This summer, an unhinged and violent individual showed up at Judge Salas's home, impersonating a package delivery driver. When her 20-year-old son Daniel Anderl answered the door, the assailant opened fire, taking the life of her only child and seriously wounding her husband Mark Anderl.

Unfortunately, this tragedy is not the first attack on a Federal judge. There was the 1979 murder of Judge John Wood in San Antonio, TX; the 1988 murder of Judge Richard Daronco in Pelham, NY; the 1989 murder of Judge Robert Vance in Mountain Brook, AL; the 2005 murder of the husband and mother of Judge Joan Lefkowitz in Illinois.

And there have been other attacks as well. In June, 2013, Chief Judge Timothy Corrigan was targeted by a gunman who purchased the address of his Florida home on the internet for a mere \$1.95—\$1.95. The gunshot missed his ear by less than 2 inches.

Just last month, a judge's address was circulated on social media, urging people to gather outside his home while the judge was hearing a high-profile case.

According to the U.S. Marshals Service, threats against Federal judges rose by 500 percent between fiscal years 2015 and 2019. This trend should worry all of us who care about our Constitution. An independent judiciary in which judges can render decisions without fear of retribution and violence is essential to the integrity of our democracy.

Indeed, the idea that any judge at any level of government could be intimidated undermines the very concept of the rule of law. We expect all Americans to have respect for the rule of law, even when they disagree with the outcome of a case or a particular ruling. Unfortunately, that is not always the case.

Some individuals delude themselves into believing that violence is the answer. We may not be able to eliminate hatred from someone's heart, but what we can do is make sure that the men and women who serve on our Federal bench do not make for such easy targets. That is why, after Daniel's murder, I made a personal commitment to Judge Salas. I told her that I would develop legislation, along with my colleague Senator BOOKER, to better protect the men and women who sit on our Federal judiciary, to ensure their inde-

pendence in the face of increased personal threats on judges, and to help prevent this unthinkable tragedy—unthinkable tragedy—from ever happening again to anyone else.

The Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2020 is a bipartisan, bicameral, and commonsense plan to safeguard the personal information of Federal judges and their families. And I want to thank my colleague Senator BOOKER, who has been there every step of the way, a member of the Judiciary, and Chairman GRAHAM—Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM—for leading this effort with me.

Our legislation makes it unlawful for data brokers to knowingly sell, trade, license, purchase, or otherwise provide personally identifiable information of a Federal judge or their family.

Since its introduction, we have worked with several stakeholders, including the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Marshals Office, the American Civil Liberties Union, among others. Together, we carefully updated legislative language in order to uphold the First Amendment right of the press to report on matters of public concern and balance that right with our urgent need to better protect the safety of Federal judges and their families.

Federal judges and their families will continue to be able to seek relief through the courts for the knowing and willful publication of their personal information, and the party responsible for the violation will have to pay the cost and reasonable attorney's fees.

The bill enjoys widespread support among judicial and attorney organizations, including the National Association of Attorneys General, the National Judicial Conference, the Federal Judges Association, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American Bar Association, the National Hispanic Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and several others.

America's Federal judges must be able to render rulings without fearing for their lives or the lives of their loved ones. We must better protect Federal judges' personal information from those who would seek to do them harm. That is exactly what the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2020 will do. This legislation will not bring Judge Salas's son back. But we must ensure, as Judge Salas said, that his death not be in vain.

As she recently wrote in the New York Times, "Daniel's death is speaking to us, but will we listen? For the sake of my brothers and sisters on the bench, Congress must act now. Every day that goes by without action leaves our federal judges, our justice system and our very democracy in danger."

We must protect the independence of our courts, the safety of our judges, and prevent this sort of tragedy from ever happening again. This is a commonsense bill. It will save lives, and I urge my colleagues to approve it without delay.

Before I ask for consent, I want to turn to my distinguished colleague, the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. CORY BOOKER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I come to the floor today in support of my senior Senator's unanimous consent request to pass the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act.

As Senator MENENDEZ pointed out, this is a bipartisan piece of legislation. It is bicameral. It will take important steps to safeguard the personally identifiable information of Federal judges and their family members from individuals who wish to do them harm.

As Senator MENENDEZ said, it is named after Daniel Anderl, the son of Judge Esther Salas and Mark Anderl, who was senselessly murdered in July of this year by a hate-filled gunman. The gunman was able to access personal information, as Senator MENENDEZ said, by going to Judge Salas's information, getting it—including where she lived, the routes she took to work, and even her place of worship and her home address. As a result, Judge Salas and her husband have gone through something that no parent ever, ever should have to go through.

No person who takes on the responsibility of serving as a Federal judge should ever have to live in fear that they or their family could be targeted by someone wishing to do them harm, who is able to easily access their personal information. Passing this bill today in memory and in honor of Daniel Anderl will mark a commitment of this body to safeguarding the privacy and security of our Federal judges and their families so that we can make sure we are doing everything in our power to prevent this from happening to another family.

Our bill, as Senator MENENDEZ said, has broad support. It has been endorsed by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Federal Judges Association, the Federal Magistrate Judges Association, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Federal Bar Association, the National Association of Attorneys General, and others—people from all backgrounds, people from both parties, Independents. We have a unanimous chorus of support of people who believe that this is justice and will help keep judges safe.

James C. Duff, the Administrative Director of the U.S. Courts, said in his statement of support of this bill: "It is crucial in our system of justice that judges can decide cases without fear for their safety and that of their family." He is absolutely right.

I echo Senator MENENDEZ's request to pass the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 4711 and the Senate

proceed to its immediate consideration; further that the Menendez substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, reserving the right to object, I agree that members of the judicial branch need better protection. In fact, I have been active in this issue for the last couple of years, and each time this has come forward, at the end of the year, with very little time to do the normal process, I have advocated that an amendment be added that would include protection of Members of Congress. I really think that it is important that we protect addresses for our judges, but it is also important that we do this for our elected officials.

In recent years, what has happened has taught us that the legislative branch needs better protection as well. That was clear in 2011, when Congresswoman Gabby Giffords was tragically shot while doing the most important part of the job—meeting with constituents.

Words cannot express how happy and inspiring it was to see Congresswoman Giffords here in the Chamber as her husband, Senator KELLY, was recently sworn in as a Member of the body. But words also cannot express the pain felt by the family of the people who were killed and wounded that day. That should have been a wakeup call to better protect Members of Congress and, in doing so, better protect the people around them.

But just a few years later, a shooter nearly killed Congressman STEVE SCALISE during baseball practice for the annual charity baseball game. I was there, and I said at the time that our lives were saved by the Capitol Hill police. Had they not been there, things might have gone much worse.

But the Capitol Hill police are not stationed at our homes where our families live while we serve in Washington. Extending the provision of this bill to the Members of Congress would better protect all of us—our families, our neighbors, and our constituents.

It is a very minor request that I am asking. It is an amendment that would not change anything or lessen anything about the bill. It is a very reasonable request, and I don't understand exactly why we can't make this bill better by applying it to both judges and Members of Congress.

My substitute amendment, which I will offer for unanimous consent, will make simple changes to the legislation. It would extend the same protections it would offer to the judicial branch to the legislative branch.

Second, the laudable goal of this legislation is to protect personally identi-

fiable information from being sold and posted online by data brokers. Allowing at-risk individuals to file private action against data brokers for declaratory and injunctive relief, plus reasonable attorney's fees, will achieve that goal.

I ask the Senator to modify his request to, instead, include my substitute amendment at the desk, and that my substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator so modify his request?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Reserving the right to object to the modification, I appreciate the Senator's concern to expand the universe of people covered by this bill, including Members of Congress. While that is a laudable goal, I personally think it would be more appropriate to legislate that in another bill.

This bill is for the Federal judiciary because of the special threats they face and the importance of ensuring their independence in terms of being able to make judgments based on the law and the facts, not upon some fear that lurks outside of their home or outside of their chambers.

I also understand that the amendment would strip out—and if I am wrong, I would be happy to be corrected—would strip out the ability to seek redressing the court as it relates to the provision that we provide for judges. Without a threat of some damages, there is little incentive for a data broker to remove the personal identifiable information of a judge and his or her family. This is not about frivolous suits. This is about protecting the Federal judiciary.

In addition to that, we had made several good-faith efforts before we got to this point to address the concerns of my colleagues across the aisle. We actually had the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts engage in conversations directly with our colleagues.

My colleagues had concerns about a new grant program to States. Well, we changed that language to a report. Senator LEE was part of those concerns. To better understand the proper Federal role, we changed it to a report.

They don't want to deal with some of the questions that we had for the U.S. marshals. Again, this is about protecting the Federal judiciary. Guess what branch protects the Federal judiciary. The U.S. marshals. We changed that.

It never seems to be enough. It never seems to be enough. It is unfortunate that the Federal judiciary will pay the price of this recalcitrance, but I cannot, at this time, agree to the modification. Therefore, I object to it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the original request?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Reserving the right to object, I would like to offer across the

aisle that we are willing to compromise with the Senator from New Jersey. We are willing to work with him on getting the bill passed. The only thing that we would like to do is to have it include Congress, as well.

The other points you had mentioned that you object to, as far as changing, I would be willing to discuss. I think there would be a middle ground.

I think this could be passed. When we pass something unanimously, there has to be a little give and take. No one gets their way. I am not saying that you can't have it. I am for your bill in general.

I think it ought to be expanded to Congress. We had at least two people shot. Gabby Giffords was shot. We had STEVE SCALISE shot. We had other threats. Congress is threatened and families are frightened.

I don't know about you, but, routinely, the sheriff and police have to come to our house for threats to my house. I am not alone. This happens to other people. There is no reason why we should do this only for one branch of government. They put the satellite picture of my House on the nightly news, basically pointing out where every crazy person in the world can go to find my house.

We do need to do something. This isn't a new request. I requested this a year ago when a very similar bill came up a year ago for special protections for the judiciary. I said, once again: Good idea, we should apply it to Congress.

We go forward a whole year, and now we are doing the same thing again, and nobody seems to be listening.

I will tell you that I am willing to compromise on this and willing to work with you to pass it, but I think we should extend it. It is not that hard. If we extend it to Congress and flip it back, then, I think it would pass unanimously in the House, as well. But I object to this version.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I just say to my colleague that I certainly am concerned about his safety and security and, for that fact, the safety and security of all of our colleagues. I appreciate his concern and understand it and look forward to working with him on that.

I will say that the other elements that Senator LEE had incorporated into his amendment just renders the security—whether for a Member of Congress or for the judiciary—useless, in which case, I don't want to give false security to anybody that they are being protected if, in fact, they don't have the wherewithal to do so.

I look forward to that opportunity.

I promised Judge Salas that her son's death will not be in vain. We may not have achieved this tonight with Senator BOOKER, but we are going to make this happen, hopefully, sooner rather than later. But we will make this happen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, last week, I came to this floor on two separate occasions with Senator SANDERS to talk about the need for direct assistance to working families in my State—in the State of Missouri—and all across this country. I said that I was willing to use every tool at my disposal to make sure that this body acted to give direct assistance to working people in need as part of COVID relief. I said then, and I say it again today, that working people should be first in line for COVID relief, not last. They should be the first consideration, not some afterthought.

I am pleased to report that we were told today, as negotiations are ongoing about a COVID relief bill, that direct assistance to working people and working families is in the bill, that working people will be getting assistance.

I want to say once again here on this floor, as that package continues to take shape, how important it is that working families be able to count on some relief and how important it is for this body to prioritize working people over government, over big businesses, over government programs, and to give assistance directly to the people themselves.

Look, people know how to spend their money and what is best for their own families. The quickest way to help people in need is to give them direct assistance and let them make the choices for their own families, for their own kids, not to have to wait in line for some program, not to have to talk to some bureaucrat but to be able to make their own choices direct, with assistance that comes direct to them. That is going to be in this bill, I understand.

I am sure as heck going to continue to fight to see that it is in the bill and that any relief that is passed by the Senate prioritizes working people with direct relief.

Some have questioned whether this is really necessary. Some have said: Well, it is not an emergency, and this bill is only for emergencies, and direct assistance isn't an emergency.

To that I say: Is it not an emergency that working people are having to line up for food—literally, line up for food—in this country, in this day and age, because they don't have enough money to go purchase nutrition for their own children?

Just think about what is happening in my own State.

Let me tell you about Monark Baptist Church in Neosho, MO, down in Southwest Missouri. They had a food distribution program. They have done this for years, by the way, but as COVID intensified this past year, they stood up their efforts. Neighbors came together and donated. They got all the food that they could. They went out there in Neosho, MO—not a huge town.

Monark Baptist Church went out and started distributing food.

Do you know they distributed food to hundreds of families for hours. When they had run out of the food, there were over 50 cars—not individuals, cars. Fifty cars were still in line, as far as the eye could see, having driven miles and miles around from neighboring counties to come for the help.

These are working people. These are not folks who want some handout. These are working people. These are proud people. These are people who don't want government to do stuff for them. They want to be able to get back up on their own feet and provide for themselves.

Government shut down their businesses and took away their jobs this past year and put them in this position of, in some cases, outright desperation.

Let me tell you about a gal from Kansas City, 22 years old. Her first name is Mars. I won't share her last name just for her own privacy. You know, she has talked to me and told me about her plight. She moved to Kansas City earlier this year, right around the time the pandemic started. She got an apartment. She was getting set up and getting going. Then, the pandemic hit. Then, the shutdown hit. Then, she lost her job. Then, she lost her plumbing. The water wouldn't work. She complained to the landlord. They wouldn't do anything. The ceiling collapsed. The landlord wouldn't do anything. Then she didn't have enough money to make rent, and, the other day, she woke up with a 10-day eviction notice out on her front door.

These are people who need help, not because they don't know how to work but because they do know how to work and the government has put them in the position that they are facing today. This pandemic has put them in the position they are facing today. What they want is the ability to get back up on their own two feet and to provide for themselves by the work of their own hands. That is what direct assistance to working families will do.

So to those who say it is not an emergency, I urge you to open your eyes and to look around at the people who are hurting, who are struggling, who are desperate for help.

I have heard that it is said: Well, it is not stimulative. What a word—direct assistance isn't stimulative, as if the American people are knobs and dials to be twisted and turned around to get a desired outcome, as if the economy is something to be micromanaged in Washington, DC.

I am not interested in stimulus. I am interested in helping working people survive. I am not interested in micromanaging this economy. I am interested in getting working people back up on their feet so they can manage their own lives. That is what this is about. That is why the need is so great. That is what we are trying to accomplish.

We have a chance to do this, to get this done, to get accomplished here

something that we can be proud of before Christmas, to send a message to the American people that they matter, to send a message to working people in my State and in every State in this Country that they matter and that we are here fighting for them; that we look forward to the day when they are back at work, ready to work, able to support themselves and their families, and that we are on the path to getting there.

That is the message that we can send. That is the message that we must send. I will not leave this body until it is accomplished.

I promise you this. If I have anything to say about it, we will not be leaving here before Christmas until direct assistance is on the way to the working people of this Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

TRIBUTE TO TOM UDALL

Mr. REED. Madam President, I want to take some time to thank and commend my colleagues who are departing the Senate. All of these Members have devoted themselves to serving the Nation and serving their States. We are all better off for their service.

Let me begin with my friend and colleague TOM UDALL. TOM inherited a family tradition of fighting for the American West and its citizens. His time in the Senate only added to the Udall legacy.

TOM has been one of our Chamber's leaders on conservation and the environment. He championed the creation of monuments and worked to block the Trump administration's harmful environmental policies. And, this year, he helped secure permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which was pioneered by TOM's father, Stewart Udall.

TOM's commitment to the health of our Nation's environment has always been evident, and I was proud to hand off my role as the Democratic leader of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee to TOM in 2015. During his tenure, funding for the Interior appropriations bill grew by 25 percent, and more than 100 anti-environmental riders were blocked. These victories would have been impossible without TOM's ability to connect with his fellow Members and get things done. They are also a testament to TOM's deep knowledge of America's lands and resources.

Of course, TOM's successes go beyond his environmental work. TOM has worked tirelessly to ensure our Nation's Native Americans receive the respect and support they are entitled to. He salvaged and ultimately passed bipartisan legislation updating the Toxic Substances Control Act for the first time since 1976, which was a big victory for public health. I was also pleased to work with TOM to pass legislation in 2016 to help reduce and prevent suicide among adolescents and young adults.

Finally, I am especially grateful for TOM's efforts to increase resources for

the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. These Federal agencies are part of Rhode Island's late and great Senator Claiborne Pell's lasting legacy. They lift our spirits, tell our stories, and strengthen our sense of community. TOM's work in advancing these agencies has enriched our country and helped bring so many people together.

Thankfully, TOM has said that, while he is leaving the Senate, he is not retiring from public service. I know New Mexico and our country are better off for that. I wish TOM and his family the best as they go forward.

TRIBUTE TO DOUG JONES

Madam President, let me turn now to my dear friend DOUG JONES. I have had the privilege to serve alongside DOUG JONES both on the Armed Services Committee and the Banking Committee during his time in the Senate.

DOUG has had a long and successful career helping those who need it most and doing what is right even if the price is. Yet I was still struck, time and again, by his dedication to the welfare of our servicemembers and veterans and their families—something I witnessed firsthand when we traveled together to visit servicemembers in Iraq and Afghanistan last year, and nowhere was DOUG's commitment to these Americans more apparent than in last year's National Defense Authorization Act.

DOUG was greatly troubled that thousands of Gold Star families were being unfairly shortchanged by certain laws related to survivor benefits. So, DOUG, like he has throughout his professional life, went to work to right an injustice. He introduced the bipartisan Military Widow's Tax Elimination Act and was the Democratic lead on the Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act. I was proud to help DOUG enact these bills, which allow military widows and widowers and their children to receive the full survivor benefits they are entitled to, as part of the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act. DOUG's work on these issues has directly improved the lives of tens of thousands of Gold Star families who have given so much to our country.

Naturally, DOUG worked hard again this year to shape the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, and he shaped it for the better. The legislation includes a provision written by DOUG requiring a GAO audit of continuing efforts to ensure that racial and gender disparities in the military justice system are properly addressed and eliminated. He was also instrumental during the markup of the fiscal year 2021 NDAA when the committee voted to remove the names of Confederate soldiers from our military installations, and in the wake of the deadly shooting at Naval Air Station Pensacola, DOUG met with the family of a slain Navy ensign, Kaleb Watson, and subsequently fought for two specific provisions in the fiscal year 2021 NDAA

to require military installations to plan or conduct live emergency response training events to help prevent such tragic shootings in the future.

DOUG also continued his career-long fight for civil rights while in the Senate. He enacted the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act, which requires the review and release of unsolved civil rights case records to help deliver justice for the victims' families, and he has been a passionate defender of voting rights for all Americans.

DOUG has never been afraid to take a difficult vote or to speak out for what is right. We will miss DOUG's persistence and conscientiousness in the Senate. I salute him and wish him well in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LAMAR ALEXANDER

Madam President, with respect to Chairman LAMAR ALEXANDER, bipartisanship and compromise are synonymous, and they have also always been central to the success of this institution. No one has been more of a contributing factor to the successes we have had than LAMAR ALEXANDER, and he has embodied these principles during his time in the Senate.

I first had the privilege of working with him on the Joint Economic Committee and the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, which he now chairs, and we have spent many years serving together on the Appropriations Committee.

LAMAR is focused more on getting things done than on making headlines. He worked across the aisle to pass landmark laws, including the Every Student Succeeds Act, the 21st Century Cures Act, and the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act. He and I also worked together to enact laws that reduce infant deaths and make children's medications safer. These laws have improved the lives of countless Americans. They are a testament to LAMAR's work ethic and the influence he has in the Senate.

LAMAR has also not shied away from tackling contentious issues. I have always appreciated his willingness to take lonely positions, particularly with respect to his thoughtful work on matters such as immigration and government shutdowns.

I wish him well in the future. He has left an extraordinary legacy and example for all of us.

TRIBUTE TO PAT ROBERTS

Madam President, PAT ROBERTS has had a distinguished career in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. His work has touched on many issues, but he has been particularly dedicated to preserving the strength of our national defense and ensuring the well-being of our servicemembers.

PAT's concern for the defense of our Nation is longstanding. He began his public service as a young man in the U.S. Marine Corps, and he has displayed the steadfast resolve emblematic of marines throughout his time in Congress.

I observed this commitment firsthand during our years serving and traveling together as part of the Senate Armed Services Committee. PAT successfully pushed for the creation of a more modern refueling and transport tanker for our Air Force. He helped secure improvements at Fort Leavenworth and created the first Senate caucus exclusively dedicated to supporting the U.S. Marine Corps.

As Chairman of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, PAT ably led the effort to build a memorial to President Dwight D. Eisenhower in Washington, DC, and I am delighted that, after years of PAT's hard work and leadership—and I observed this firsthand during my few years as a member of the Commission—the memorial was officially opened and dedicated in September. That, too, will be a lasting tribute to PAT ROBERTS' work.

Beyond his defense work, PAT was greatly concerned with the well-being of our farmers. He is the only Member to have authored and enacted farm bills in both the House and the Senate. We also worked closely together to pass legislation upgrading our Nation's trauma centers to ensure that severely injured patients receive the best possible care.

PAT was always quick with quips and brought levity to this body. I thank him for his spirit and his lifelong service.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL B. ENZI

Madam President, MIKE ENZI has long served the people of Wyoming with distinction. MIKE and I spent many years working together on the Banking Committee and on the HELP Committee, which he chaired during some of my service on that committee. I have always appreciated his decency and thoughtfulness.

He spent his time in the Senate advancing his "80-20" approach to legislating. He sought to focus on the 80 percent of issues, where both sides could come to an agreement, rather than on the 20 percent of issues where he felt an agreement was unreachable. He worked quietly behind the scenes to get things done, and he got things done.

MIKE is one of the few U.S. Senators with an accounting background, and he and I worked closely together to bring greater awareness to financial literacy issues, as well as to create the Senate Financial Literacy Caucus to help Americans develop and maintain healthy financial habits.

I am also especially grateful for MIKE's support for legislation I led in 2010 updating museum and library services to better meet the needs of Americans. As the then-ranking member of the HELP Committee, MIKE played a pivotal role in securing the law's passage.

Our work together was of great importance, and I will miss his thoughtfulness and determination. I wish MIKE well in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CORY GARDNER

Madam President, I also want to recognize CORY GARDNER. While we never served on the same committee, I had the pleasure of working with him on a number of issues.

We were able to come together with a group of our colleagues and pass a law designating 9-8-8 as a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline. The designation will make it easier for people to access this critically important lifeline when they really need it. I thank CORY for his partnership and leadership on this issue.

CORY also worked diligently to secure the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act last summer. This law permanently funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund and addresses a maintenance backlog on Federal parks and public lands. The Great American Outdoors Act is a real victory for the environment and conservation.

I thank CORY for his service and wish him the best as he leaves the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA MCSALLY

Madam President, I also want to thank MARTHA MCSALLY for her service in this Chamber. MARTHA is a veteran of the Air Force and has always been a fighter. In fact, when you say "veteran of the Air Force," you are really understating her role in the Air Force. She fought to become the first American woman to fly a fighter jet in combat. She fought to become the first American woman to command a fighter squadron in combat, and she continued fighting while a Member of the U.S. Senate.

Indeed, MARTHA was a steadfast champion for the well-being of our servicemembers, military families, and veterans during her time on the Armed Services Committee. She worked to include language in the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act improving the effectiveness of sexual assault investigations in the military and strengthening support for victims.

MARTHA also played a key role in helping enact over 30 provisions in the fiscal year 2020 NDAA to address the systemic crisis of privatized housing and help remedy the mistreatment of military families, and she teamed with Senators TESTER and SULLIVAN to pass legislation enhancing the tools the Department of Veterans Affairs uses to meet the mental health needs of veterans. These accomplishments are only a few examples of the important work MARTHA did here, but they illustrate her wholehearted commitment to bettering the lives of those who do so much for our country.

I attribute all of this great success and achievement—first woman fighter pilot, first woman to lead a squadron in combat, and more—to a simple reason. MARTHA was born and raised in Warwick, RI, right next to my hometown of Cranston, RI. MARTHA's close relative was the mayor of Cranston. My dad worked as a custodian in the school system. He respected, admired,

and was a friend of Jim Taft. MARTHA's father was also one of the most respected lawyers in Rhode Island, someone who was a tenacious and bright lawyer. That tradition is carried on by her brother Mark, whom I had the privilege and pleasure to know while I was practicing law in Rhode Island.

It is a wonderful family, and she has brought great distinction to not only the Senate, to not only the State of Arizona, but also to the State of Rhode Island. I wish her the very best going forward.

TRIBUTE TO KAMALA HARRIS

Madam President, finally, while KAMALA HARRIS is not leaving the Senate entirely, I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank her as she moves to her new role as Vice President of the United States and, according to the Constitution, as President of this body.

KAMALA is relentlessly determined to help and support the most vulnerable Americans. She has helped lead the charge to protect Dreamers, expand healthcare coverage, and reform our criminal justice system. KAMALA dedicated her Senate tenure to policies that make America a more equitable country and ensure equal opportunities and rights for communities of color.

KAMALA is also a former prosecutor, and she brought a prosecutor's incisiveness and grit with her to this body.

She led the case against many of the Trump administration's most harmful policies and nominees, and I know she will bring that tenacity to the Office of Vice President of the United States.

I also know that she will help guide and heal our Nation as we continue to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

I wish her well as she begins her new role, and I look forward to working with her and President-Elect Biden to meet the many challenges before us.

To all of my colleagues who are departing the Senate, I give you my greatest respect and admiration for your service to your States, to the Senate, and to the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, that the postcloture time on the Atchley nomination expire at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, December 17; further, if the nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

TRIBUTE TO LINDA BEHNKEN

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is getting toward the end of the week here. We still have got a lot of work to do in the U.S. Senate, particularly on a relief package and end-of-the-year appropriations. So we are working hard on that.

But I also want to take the opportunity, given it is the end of the week, to do what I consider one of my favorite activities of the entire week each week in the Senate, and that is talking about someone in my State who is making a difference, helping out our communities and making Alaska one of the best States—the best State, in my view—in the country. This is the individual we call the Alaskan of the Week.

So I want to do an acknowledgment to some of our Hill reporters who have taken an interest in the "Alaskan of the Week" each week. I think sometimes because they recognize it is finishing up the week. We are not yet done yet, though. We have a lot of work to do. But I also appreciate them reporting on it because it is just good to see stories about people who are doing good work for their State and their community.

What we try to do with this series, which we have been doing now for a number of years, is to talk about people who don't always get the recognition that they deserve, people who are making a big difference. You know, Alaska, like really every other State in the country, is experiencing serious challenges right now as a result of COVID-19, but I am confident, just like the rest of the country, we will get through this more resilient than ever.

We have a saying. I certainly love this saying: Tough times don't last, but tough people do. Americans, Alaskans, North Dakotans are tough, and we are going to get through this.

I would like to introduce our Alaskan of the Week, Linda Behnken, from the gorgeous city of Sitka, AK, in Southeast Alaska. The "Paris of the Pacific," it is called, Sitka. A fun fact about Sitka, it is the largest city in the United States by land area, encompassing over 4,800 square miles, including water. That is big. The population is fairly big for our State. It is beautiful. If you haven't been to Sitka, you have got to go. It is gorgeous.

Now, Linda—boy, talk about Linda. Linda is innovative, caring, and she has a deep and abiding commitment to our great State, her community, and to the profession that she has devoted her life to, one that is revered and so important in Alaska, and that is commercial fishing.

For more than 30 years now, Linda has been on a boat catching fish out of Alaska's waters. It is the best seafood, mind you, in the world. No doubt about that one—wild Alaskan seafood. Not only is she a successful fisherman, which is, of course, a full-time job, she has also worked to ensure that Alaska continues to have sustainable fisheries.

We are what I call the superpower of seafood. Over 60 percent of all fish caught in the United States is harvested in Alaska's waters—6-0. That is huge. But we need to make sure we have oceans that are clean and sustainable and that the profession is safe and small fishermen can thrive and the young fishermen can enter the profession. That is what Linda has been focused on for her entire career in Alaska.

So for this work and so much more, including a huge role in helping needy families, particularly during this pandemic, Linda was recently awarded the prestigious Heinz Award for the Environment, named after the late U.S. Senator John Heinz. It is a very prestigious award.

Here is the thing. Linda didn't even apply for it. She didn't seek it. She was sought out and I believe shocked when she found out she received this very prestigious award that comes with a \$250,000 cash prize. Now, that is a big deal. I will say more about that cash prize in a minute.

Let me tell you a bit about Linda's story and how she came to be such a passionate steward of our fisheries, of our sea, and of our ocean. Born and raised in Connecticut, Linda headed to Alaska in 1982 during a summer break from college. She wanted to make some money. She heard that one of the ways she could do it was to fish in the great State of Alaska.

She took a ferry from Bellingham, WA, to Sitka, and she immediately fell in love with this gorgeous—and I mean gorgeous—community the minute she got off the boat. It took her about a month pounding the docks to find a deckhand job. There weren't a lot of women in this business then. She did eventually find not just a job but a wonderful community.

"The fishing community," she said, "is full of independent and resourceful people who are really there for each other" in their times of need. She also described how, when the fishing was done or when it was bad weather, people would gather around the docks. Some would light up the grill. Some would bring pie, a loaf of bread. Instruments would come out. Stories were told. Kids played. Linda said: "I found a sense of community that I really hadn't [found]" anywhere else.

So she loved it. She went back to the lower 48 to finish her undergraduate degree, but Alaska was always with her. She knew that she had found a home and a mission to help create more sustainable fisheries in the great State of Alaska.

To that end, she enrolled in a master's degree program in resource development at Yale and then came back to Alaska.

"What I saw going on in the ocean drove me to . . . graduate school." During that time, in the 1980s, she said that the way the fishing was managed wasn't working well for the smaller fishermen, nor was there much of an emphasis back then on sustainability.

When she came back to Alaska, she began to fish again, eventually buying her own small commercial fishing boat, which she now fishes with her husband and two sons who have themselves been fishing since a very, very young age.

I have always said that the Alaskan fisherman is the quintessential small business man and small business woman. It is often family businesses. They take huge risks. They create a great product. They work hard as can be. They are the quintessential small business men and women in America, and Linda proves the point.

She became the executive director of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, which is an alliance of small-boat commercial fishermen committed to sustainable and safe fisheries.

Let me talk about safety on our waters in Alaska. Fishing, particularly in Alaska's waters, is one of the most dangerous jobs out there. Linda has had many harrowing stories—caught out fishing in the frigid waters for hours in the center of storms, man overboard, challenges, wind whisking away equipment. But all in all, it is much safer now than it used to be when Linda first started to fish. Then, when a certain fishery opened, everyone rushed out at once to get as much fish as possible regardless of the conditions. That has changed. Now fishing is a safer—but still dangerous—business in my great State.

Linda was also involved in limiting bigger commercial vessels from operating in the waters of Southeast Alaska and worked for more stringent environmental regulations on the cruise ship industry.

Among other things related to fisheries, she served 9 years on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and is a founding member of the Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust, which promotes Alaska seafood, helps younger men and women enter the field, and helps feed the hungry from the bounty of the sea—all of which contributed to her winning the Heinz Award.

This pandemic that we are experiencing has negatively impacted so many lives, but it has also brought out some of the best in us in Alaska and in America, people across the country, reaching out to their neighbors, volunteering their time to do as much as they can.

This includes Linda. When she read early on in the pandemic that a grocery store in her area stopped accepting checks, she got to work. Working with her groups, the Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust and the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, they began delivering food—fish—to people's doors, locally caught and processed seafood to those who were in need.

So far—get this—with their partners, they have provided over 400,000 pounds of delicious Alaska seafood. They brought in 400,000 pounds—wow—to children's programs, food pantries, women's shelters, Tribal organizations,

and military organizations. You get the picture. She is working hard. They have done amazing work. And I want to thank her and so many who worked with her for this great effort.

Something else that Linda did, a decision she made for her community. Earlier, I spoke about that cash prize that came with the Heinz Award—\$250,000. She took \$100,000 of that money, which was her prize money, and donated it back to the organization that she helped found, the Alaska Sustainable Fisheries Trust, to work on sustainable fisheries, combating climate change, and to help young fishermen enter the profession so we have sustainable fisheries going forward.

I am sure Linda probably heard the good news: Our legislation, my legislation, the Save Our Seas 2.0 legislation to clean up our oceans passed the Senate recently and is on its way to the President's desk for his signature. More good news.

As she said: "We won't have jobs if we don't take care of our fisheries." Keep them sustainable "and get young people into the profession." People like Linda—committed, organized, generous of spirit, hard-working, in love with what she does in her State and her community—will get us through this pandemic. These are the people in Alaska, in America. And it is people like her that will also ensure that Alaska remains the superpower of seafood, not just for America but for the world.

So, Linda, for all that you do, for all that you are going to continue to do, thank you, thank you, thank you. Great work, and congratulations on being our Alaskan of the Week.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

WESTERN SAHARA AND ABRAHAM ACCORDS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, 6 days ago, on the 10th, I came down to the floor after having discovered something that happened. I think it really was not intentional the way it happened, but I would like to share that with you and share the frustration that I have.

There is a situation that is taking place and has taken place for 30-some years in Western Sahara. This is an area where after a colonial period, the different colonies in there were attached to other countries. In the case of Western Sahara, that actually had been attached to Spain. It was called Spanish Sahara at that time. This was way back in pre-1966. One of the many good things that President Trump has done is that he has put together this program called the Abraham accords, and that is bringing the Arab population and the Jewish population in the Middle East together. This is something that Presidents have tried to do for a long period of time—both Democrat and Republican, not successful. And this has become successful because the thing that was announced just 6 days ago was that Morocco was going to salvage a relationship with Israel.

I don't know how many or what kind of detail went into that, but, inadvertently, I think, they agreed to something that Morocco has been trying to do for a long period of time, and that is, to have the United States recognize that they have rights to the land that is known as Western Sahara.

Now, as for Western Sahara, back after the colonial days, they started getting their independence in various parts of that world. They had been attached to Spain at that time. Well, anyway, what the President did—and I say I think this was inadvertently done—was to give Morocco claims to the land that rightly belongs to the Western Saharans.

Now, I think that he could have secured the agreement with Morocco without giving away and reversing 45 years of our longstanding foreign policy.

Now, I have to confess that when I came down to the floor last week, I was feeling shocked and deeply saddened by the announcement. The news about the United States recognizing Morocco's claim over Western Sahara took me by surprise because I had been involved in that issue for a long period of time. And we have had a policy in the United States since pre-1966 that we firmly supported the rights of the Saharans—the Western Sahara people—to their own land that was taken unfairly from them.

Now, this came as a surprise to me, and I came down to the floor. That was 6 days ago. And I want to tell you what has happened since that time, just to refresh the memory of those individuals.

There are a lot of people out there who are concerned about this.

Remember what happened historically and kind of a chronology of what happened in Western Sahara. First of all, in 1966, the United Nations General Assembly resolution agreed that a resolution of self-determination should be held, and that is, to allow the United Nations endorsing the idea that a resolution of self-determination be made for the population of Western Sahara. That was 1966, and we are in full agreement with that here in the United States.

Then, because of the fact that Morocco was trying to claim some ownership of the land that belonged to the people of Western Sahara, in 1975 the International Court of Justice denied Morocco the right to territory of Western Sahara. Now, this was the International Court of Justice. That is supposed to be a final thing.

And Morocco then invaded Western Sahara. Now, keep in mind that you have Morocco—a very, very wealthy country with all kinds of resources—taking on a group of people who had been sent out of their homes, out and living in the bush. I have been there several times. The conditions are just not livable conditions. And then, of course, they were invaded by Morocco as a result of the International Court of Justice decision.

Then, in 1991, the U.N. ceasefire mission began to provide a referendum of self-determination. So that is the United Nations coming in again and saying that they need to have the right of self-determination. That is something that was restated over and over again. Well, that was a ceasefire in 1991 that was supposed to stop all kinds of brutality and the bad things that were going on in that part of the world.

I became very close, many years ago, with James Baker. James Baker, back during the Bush 1 administration, was Secretary of State, and he was Secretary of Treasury, and he took this on, back during the first Bush administration, as a personal thing. He went and became familiar with this and tried to put together a special envoy to Western Sahara and worked at it for a long period of time. James Baker is still around and still committed.

I remember when I called James Baker—this was several years ago—and I said: I have been watching what you did—what you tried to do—in Western Sahara to free these people up, and I just want you to know that I have been there, I have seen it, and I agree with you, and I want to get your advice as to how we can best make this happen. All we want is a referendum of self-determination so people can decide for themselves what they want their land to be a part of.

So James Baker responded to me, and he said: That was one of the very few failures that we had during that administration.

He said: I was Secretary of State, and I worked hard on it and did everything I could, and I feel sorry. I wish you the best of luck.

Well, then, in 2004, the United States and Morocco signed a free-trade agreement. This is interesting because we signed the free-trade agreement with Morocco, and the agreement explicitly—explicitly—excluded Western Sahara because Morocco does not have sovereignty over it. So they agreed. They signed the same thing that we signed saying that that land did not belong to Morocco, and it was specifically agreed that it be excluded. That was the United States and Morocco way back in 2004.

So you have, in 1966, the United Nations making that declaration. In 1975, the International Court of Justice denied the right of the territory to Morocco; 1991, the ceasefire; 1997, then again, in 2004, the United States and Morocco signing a free-trade agreement—which all of this was agreed to.

So this isn't news for me. I have been involved in this issue for decades, as well, and I have visited the refugee camps in that area. About 10 years ago, I met with Aminatou Haidar. It was someone who would become well recognized and some of the abuses that had been taking place for a long time. She was here in Washington and came to my office. She is from that area, and she was here to accept an award from the Robert F. Kennedy Center for

Human Rights for her work on behalf of her people in Western Sahara. I remember her so well.

She had been arrested by Morocco for demonstrating peacefully in Western Sahara. She was in prison for 4 years. She was blindfolded the entire time for 4 years, and she was tortured and treated terribly, and she lost her eyesight as a result of that. And all that was for peacefully protesting on behalf of her homeland.

But it didn't stop her work. She kept fighting for her people, even facing arrest again. Additionally, 15 years ago, I did something that is kind of unusual here in Washington. People don't realize this—that Members of the House and the Senate don't always testify before the other body. And 15 years ago, they were having a hearing in the House on international affairs, and I asked if I could be a witness. So I went there and testified, and I gave the history that is similar to what I just stated—the history of what has been going on there—and why the referendum for self-determination was so necessary.

But I also called out a hidden part of this, and that is the lobbyists. You know, it seems like every time someone has a cause that is unjust, they go and hire all the lobbyists in Washington. We are having that right now with an organization in another subject area. But at that time, that was 2005, and at that time, the following lobbyists had been hired by Morocco: the Livingston Group, Tew Cardenas, Edelman public relations, Miller & Chevalier, Gabriel and company, Robert Holley, and Whiton Case. Those are seven lobbyists that were hired by Morocco.

And now, that hasn't changed. Today, right now, they are represented by JPC Strategies, Third Circle, and Neale Creek, and average over \$1 million each year.

So all these lobbyists in Washington have been hired by Morocco. And whom do the Western Saharans have to lift up their voices? They have no one—no one at all.

So, given my personal history, you can forgive me for being shocked and deeply saddened at having their future so harshly stolen from them after they spent three generations waiting for the promise of a referendum for self-determination.

I have to say this. I am quite sure that our President was not even aware of that. He is doing the right thing in terms of the accords that we are doing in that part of the world, bringing the Arabs and the Jews together. It is a good thing. But this is an issue that should never have come up or been a part of it, and I am quite sure that he was not aware of this.

So now, seeing the reactions around the world, it is clear that there is kind of a silver lining. I look at this as an opportunity. It is an issue that people are worn out on. We tried and tried and tried everything we could think of. And just from my coming to the floor 6

days ago, all these things have happened since that time. People have a new hope.

And remember, the conflict in Western Sahara is what we used to call a frozen, forgotten conflict. That has a finality to it. There is something about a "frozen conflict," you know—that nothing more is going to happen. They called it a frozen conflict and made it easy for the rest of the world to let the status quo continue, leaving the Western Saharan people in limbo, waiting for a referendum that had been promised way back in 1966.

The forgotten conflict allowed Morocco to continue encroaching and getting away with human rights abuses like the one I just described—torturing that young lady for 4 years, causing her to go blind. So those were the unintended consequences of this arrangement that was made with Morocco.

So it has never been so clear to the international community. I have never seen the international community so united. Everybody is on our side on this thing—the side that we have had and will return to for some 30 years. The African Union said—this is just since the last 6 days: "The position of the African Union remains unchanged, in conformity with relevant AU"—that is the African Union—"and United Nations resolutions."

On the United Nations: "The United Nations said Thursday its position was 'unchanged' on the disputed Western Sahara region after the United States recognized Morocco's sovereignty there."

That is the United Nations coming back again.

In a news article, the European Union indicated last Thursday that "the status of Western Sahara has not been determined and must be negotiated in a process led by the United Nations, after the President of the United States, Donald Trump, has recognized the Moroccan sovereignty."

So the European Union is in full agreement with what we are about to try to do again.

The United Kingdom said: "Our position on the status of Western Sahara remains unchanged."

It didn't change them a bit what we did here in the United States.

Algeria. Algeria is right next door. I meant to bring a map down here to familiarize everyone with the area that we are talking about. Algeria said: "The conflict of Western Sahara is a question of decolonization which can only be resolved through the application of the international law and the well-established charter of the United Nations and the African Union in this matter, which provides for the authentic exercise by the Sahrawi people of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence."

That is Algeria. And, by the way, every one of the 52 nations in Africa is in full agreement with what we are talking about right now.

And James Baker hasn't gone away. This is way back in the first Bush ad-

ministration. He was Secretary of State. This is his statement just the other day—yesterday, it was. He said:

While I strongly support the Abraham Accords, the proper way to implement them was the way it was done with the UAE, Bahrain and Sudan, and not by cynically trading off the self-determination rights of the people of Western Sahara. I agree with Senator JAMES INHOFE—

That is me—

when he characterized this development as "shocking and deeply disappointing." It would appear that the United States of America, which was founded first and foremost on the principle of self-determination, has walked away from that principle regarding the people of Western Sahara. This is very regrettable.

That is James Baker.

Even more, these are other opinions. These are opinion pieces. This came out, and I just read them this morning.

David Keene—we all remember David Keene. He was with the Washington Times. He was with the American Conservative Union and with the NRA. His quote was this:

The United States has sometimes quite properly, given our interests, stayed out of controversies like this, but one is hard pressed to find another situation in which we have virtually announced that justice doesn't matter and that those like the Western Saharans who have sought their rights peacefully rather than [by way] . . . [of] terrorism and . . . [guns] are fools.

John Bolton, in Foreign Policy, said:

[T]he Polisario is at a crucial juncture. It would be fully justified if it chooses to return to the battlefield, but much depends on the positions of Algeria, Mauritania and others—and what resources are available.

Now, that gets back to the question of resources. We have unlimited resources by the very wealthy nation—one of the wealthiest nations in the world, Morocco.

Stephen Zunes—I got to know him a long time ago. He is a scholar with the University of San Francisco. He specializes in this area. This is his quote just in the last 2 days:

Morocco's claim on Western Sahara is rejected by the United Nations, the World Court, the African Union and a broad consensus of international legal scholars that consider the region a non-self-governing territory that must be allowed an act of self-determination. This is why no country had formally recognized Morocco's takeover—until now.

This is still Stephen Zunes. He said: "Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and other reputable human rights groups have documented widespread suppression of peaceful, pro-independence activists by Moroccan occupation forces, including torture, beatings, detention without trial and extrajudicial killings.

Still quoting the scholar, Stephen Zunes: "Since the Polisario"—Polisario, of course, are those fighting for their freedom and for their recolonization. "Since the Polisario proclaimed the establishment of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic in 1976, 84 countries have recognized Western Sahara as an independent state."

Everybody agrees with this. It is one of the few things in foreign policy where there is no opposition. They all agree with that self-determination for the Western Sahara people.

I am so saddened by the betrayal toward the people of Western Sahara for unilaterally recognizing Morocco's claim. Yet I am seeing the unexpected results from the proclamation.

If highlighting the injustice of these people pushes the rest of the world to finally get them the referendum they deserve, it may be worth it, and that is what I am seeing right now. I remember so well—it has now been some three or four generations of Western Saharans and the little kids you see in the camps, in the refugee camps, living under conditions that we can't even imagine in this country, but they are happy little kids. They carry around a sign. I don't have the pronunciation in their language, but it says: "We will fight till we get back our homes." These are little kids. They all know—the fourth generation of those who have been abandoned.

So I remember—and I called, and I found out—what was the year? Was it 2007? Yes, in 2007, Mark Powers and I—he has been with me on a lot of things in Africa that we have been interested in. He and I met with all of the elected leaders of the Western Saharans in a room that is out in the desert. We actually heard all their stories. They are all Muslims out there, and we all prayed together. We prayed to the Lord for mercy in this case. And I think that maybe it is closer than we thought it was.

That is what is happening right now. It is something that—we have to move back to our original position that we have held since 1966 in supporting people—the right for a referendum of self-determination.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

JOHNNY ISAKSON AND DAVID P. ROE, M.D. VETERANS HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, tonight I am pleased to speak as the chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the work we have accomplished with our colleagues in the House to deliver today meaningful benefits and reforms for our Nation's veterans and to recognize the decades of service of two of our departing colleagues who are dedicated to the well-being of our veterans.

Today the House passed the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020. This legislation is the culmination of more than 2 years

of bipartisan work, with input from all of our veteran service organizations, dozens of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, our partners at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the leadership of the former Senate and House VA Committee chairmen, Senator Isakson and Congressman ROE.

Among its many provisions, this legislation invests in the education and employment of veterans to make certain they have the tools necessary to achieve success after service through expanded opportunities to use their earned benefits for longer periods of time and more opportunities for job training.

This bill will also give the VA the tools necessary to serve veterans at risk of homelessness in a more meaningful way during the pandemic and require the VA to provide greater oversight and support to our State veterans' homes.

It also includes provisions from the Deborah Sampson Act, a landmark bill that makes clear women who serve their country in the Armed Forces must have a VA that is as effective for them as it is for the men who also have served.

As I mentioned, this bill is named after two public servants. Johnny Isakson was my predecessor as chairman, and I have worked hard to follow his example of bipartisanship in working with our VA Committee ranking member, Senator JON TESTER. Legislation like this bill is the result of many months of work by members of our staff, stemming from a desire from both sides of the aisle to better serve our Nation's veterans. The important relationships that exist between Senators, our House colleagues, and our staff members result in a bipartisan solution like the one that passed the House today and that passed the Senate just a few days before.

I would also like to thank Dr. PHIL ROE. I served with him in the House of Representatives. He is the current House Veterans' Affairs Committee ranking member and its former chairman. I thank him for his partnership and his friendship as we worked together to serve veterans, since we both served on that committee in the House together.

The VA is making positive, measurable changes to better serve our veterans, and Congressman ROE and Senator Isakson deserve credit not only for being a big part of that change but also for being an example for the rest of us as to how we can work across the aisle and across the Capitol to improve the lives of our country's veterans and all of our fellow citizens.

I would also like to recognize Congressman ROE's counterpart, House VA Committee Chairman TAKANO, for seeing this bill to completion in the House of Representatives today.

I would like to thank my counterpart in the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, Ranking Member JON TESTER, the Senator from Montana, for his hard

work this past year in helping to lead our committee's efforts to do the right thing for our Nation's veterans. This bill is a testament to his dedication to serving our veterans and to his staff's tireless work on veterans' behalf.

One more thank-you certainly rests with our SVAC members for providing so many legislative solutions to issues that we have heard from the VA, from our VSOs and from veterans in each of our home States. I know that making certain our veterans continue to receive care and benefits was foremost in their minds during this pandemic, and I would like to thank Senators BOOZMAN, CASSIDY, ROUNDS, TILLIS, SULLIVAN, BLACKBURN, CRAMER, LOEFFLER, and each of our Democratic colleagues on the committee for their contribution to this landmark legislation.

Our veteran service organizations often speak for veterans who cannot speak for themselves, and they help Members of this body understand the issues and concerns that veterans may be facing across the country in addition to our own home States. I thank all of the VSOs that have worked on this bill, for many years in many cases, meeting with me and with our committee staff, explaining issues and working closely with us to make certain we find the right solutions for our Nation's veterans. I hope each VSO—veteran service organization—and its members will benefit from this legislation following the President's signature. I hope they will benefit for decades to come.

Finally, I want to thank our team at the Senate VA Committee for everything they have put into this legislation.

Thank you to Senator TESTER's staff for all of your thoughtful work drafting the language to help address real issues that impact real veterans.

Thank you to my VA staff, who have put in the work conducting oversight and responding to casework so we can understand the needs of veterans in Kansas and across the country and make meaningful, lasting changes so they may experience the American dream that they once fought so hard to secure for each of us.

Thank you to Chelsey Ladd, Victoria Lee, Scott Nulty, Kevin Ryan, Thomas Wilson, Michele Payne, Barry Walker, Pauline Schmitt, Thomas Coleman, Asher Allman, Jake Vance, Mark Crowley, Brian Newbold, Lindsay Dearing, Emily Blair, Kelsey Baron, Tiffanii Woolfolk, and David Shearman.

Finally, I want to recognize my staff director, Caroline Canfield, who is ending her service with my office and with the Senate at the end of this month. She has served as a tremendous asset. She is a tremendous asset and a force multiplier as my military legislative assistant, as my lead appropriations staffer, and now as my VA Committee staff director.

Our Nation's veterans and our military members are better off because of

the work she has done throughout her career and because of her tenacious "never take no for an answer" approach to doing all things right.

Caroline, you will be missed, but you are always part of the team. You deserve our gratitude for what you have accomplished on behalf of our Nation's military men and women and on behalf of our veterans.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 867 and 868.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The bill clerk read the nominations of Anna Maria Ruzinski, of Wisconsin, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Wisconsin for the term of four years; and Gregory Scott Tabor, of Arkansas, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Ruzinski and Tabor nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged and the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: PN2398 and PN2063.

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

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The bill clerk read the nominations of Irving Bailey, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States International Development Finance Corporation for a term of three years (New Position); and Deven J. Parekh, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States International Development Finance Corporation for a term of three years (New Position).

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

The question is, will the Senate advise and consent to the Bailey and Parekh nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO JAN BARAN

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I want to extend congratulations and best wishes to a friend, a skilled attorney in the areas of campaign finance and election law, and a devoted defender of the First Amendment.

After more than 35 years, Jan Witold Baran is retiring from the law firm Wiley Rein LLP at the end of the month. Throughout his distinguished career, Jan has successfully represented thousands of clients, including me. He has put his brilliance to work defending all Americans' rights to participate in our democracy and express themselves through voluntary contributions to the candidates of their choice, so that a few elite gatekeepers cannot control the public discourse in our country.

When you consider Jan's background, it is no surprise he is committed to preserving freedom. Jan was born in postwar Europe to a Flemish mother and Polish Catholic father. Before Jan was born, his father had survived 2½ years in concentration camps including Auschwitz, before he was liberated by American troops at Dachau. Jan's father was incarcerated because during his tenure as mayor of a small town in Poland, he refused to turn in his rifle to the Gestapo. Clearly a stubborn dedication to freedom under law is in Jan's bloodline.

Next year will mark the 70th anniversary of the Baran family's immigration to America. I am sure his parents would be extremely proud of what their son has accomplished. A decorated scholar from Vanderbilt Law School; general counsel for the National Republican Congressional Committee; a trailblazing attorney at the FEC; general counsel to the 1988 campaign of President George H. W. Bush; counsel to the Republican National Committee.

President Bush appointed him to the Commission on Federal Ethics Law Reform and as Ambassador and Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the World Administrative Radio Conference.

Jan Baran has been an integral part of legal teams that have defended Americans' political speech rights before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was part of my team when I challenged the constitutionality of the campaign finance law known as McCain-Feingold. From *McConnell v. FEC* to *Citizens United* and beyond, Jan was in the middle of these important battles. Through these episodes and many more, I personally have witnessed and appreciated Jan's candor, sharp legal mind, and strategic thinking.

Washington can be a transient place, but Mr. Baran has stayed in the fray for more than 40 years and given his best every day to uphold free speech and defend the Republic. I am not sure if the people of that small town in Poland know that the son of their wartime mayor's son built such a distinguished career in just one generation. His talent, perseverance, and commitment to his country are a credit to where Jan came from and the life he has led along the way. I extend my warm wishes to him and his wife Kathryn, their four children, sons-in-law, and grandchildren.

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to call attention to the rapidly burgeoning Islamist insurgency in northern Mozambique, which is dragging that country into ever-increasing violence and chaos. In the past decade, Mozambique has taken steps to resolve a decades-long civil war and while peace remains elusive, with longstanding support from the United States, there has been progress. This progress, when coupled with the 2010 discovery of enormous natural gas reserves in the remote northern province of Cabo Delgado, could have changed the development course of the country. But a new conflict has emerged in Mozambique that threatens all of the potential gains for the citizens of the province and the entire country.

The origins of this extremist insurgency share traits with many others globally: a marginalized community's grievance against corrupt and distant rulers, fueled and brutally exploited by radical Islamist ideologues, has allowed extremism to take root and gain traction, while the innocent majority of the local population bears the cost. The extremists have proclaimed allegiance to ISIS and have rapidly developed increasingly sophisticated military capabilities; Mozambique's poorly trained security forces have proven unable to vanquish the group. It is an insurgency on the advance. It has seized seizing entire towns and now controls considerable territory.

The insurgents, who have attracted foreign fighters and recently launched

attacks into neighboring Tanzania, have used horrific acts of terror—including systematic use of arson, murder, often including beheadings, and kidnapping—to force compliance with their aims. Their acts have effectively displaced more than 500,000 people in Cabo Delgado, creating a severe humanitarian crisis. In 1 week in November alone, more than 10,000 people fled to the port city of Pemba, many in rickety, unsafe boats. A significant of these internally displaced persons now languish in crowded, unsanitary conditions.

What can be done to solve this crisis? And what should be the role of the United States, which today appears to be retreating from Africa? This year has perhaps taught us more than any in recent memory that stability and security around the world can directly impact the stability and security of the United States. We have a sustained interest in helping to support innocent, suffering people and promoting stability.

The security aspect of the threat requires a security solution. However, the Mozambican security forces have demonstrated that they cannot effectively respond to this threat without assistance. It is clear that they lack proper training and equipment, and a substantial body of reporting has established that elements of these forces have frequently committed serious human rights abuses, as well as engaged in petty corruption targeting the local impoverished population. The Mozambican Government must take steps to ensure that state security forces are not only effective, but that they also engage in such a manner that earns the trust of the population they are charged with protecting.

The good news is that the international community has begun to respond. The U.S.'s counterterrorism coordinator recently visited Maputo to offer our assistance to the government. European countries have also pledged to assist with building Mozambique's security capacities. Any such counterterrorism support must include rigorous human rights training, as well as improvements in civil-military relations and effective intelligence-gathering. The government should also be pressed to reduce its reliance on local militias, who have even less training and accountability than government troops.

The humanitarian crisis also demands immediate action. Of the half million people who have been displaced, 41 percent are children. The provinces of northern Mozambique that host most of these newly displaced people are among the poorest in one of the world's least-developed countries and have little capacity to assist those affected by the crisis. In total, more than 1.3 million people in northern Mozambique are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance and protection, according to the U.N. The international community must step up and fully fund

the modest request of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, which has said that it requires \$254 million to provide humanitarian assistance through 2021.

Counterterrorism training and humanitarian assistance alone, however, are not enough to defeat ISIS in Mozambique. They are only tools to respond to the immediate crisis. To effectively address the root causes of the conflict—the social and economic inequalities that have allowed extremism to take hold and flourish—the Mozambican Government and international partners must assist in reaching the country's increasingly-alienated northern communities. The government must engage with its northern citizens and deliver what the majority of the population wants and expects: better governance and critical social services. The international community can help by collaborating and coordinating their engagement with the government on a package of development aid that helps to address poor governance, increases transparency and fights corruption, effectively delivers health and education services, and fosters job opportunities and local entrepreneurship. Mozambique and its international partners also must scale up programs aimed at countering extremist ideology and promoting defections from the insurgency.

Donors must also hold the government's feet to the fire on its obligation to invest in its own citizenry, including by insisting that the government develop its natural resources—notably the gas reserves in Cabo Delgado—in an equitable, transparent, manner that results in that a significant portion of prospective natural gas revenues being invested in the provinces that host Mozambique's gas resources.

As the conflict grows in scope and intensity, the United States will need to further develop a coordinated, inter-agency strategy, one which uses all the levers of American power—diplomatic, development, and defense—to address Cabo Delgado's military, humanitarian, and development crisis and to work with regional partners on to both inform and implement such a strategy.

The situation in Mozambique is dire, and unfortunately it has not attracted an appropriate level of attention from policymakers. It is tragic to see a country that seemed to be on the cusp of transformation dragged back into conflict. The situation is not hopeless. The United States and its partners can together effectively help Mozambique defeat this insurgency and support the Mozambican people's aspirations for a more hopeful future, but the situation is urgent. We must act now.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR BENNIE G. ADKINS (RET.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, it is with sadness and humility that I ask this body to pause for a moment to remember and honor a great American and a

citizen of my home State, CSM Bennie G. Adkins, who died of complications related to the COVID-19 virus on April 17, 2020. He was laid to rest with full military honors this morning after a funeral service in the chapel at Arlington National Cemetery.

Command Sergeant Major Adkins, known to friends and family as "Bennie," received the Medal of Honor at a White House ceremony on September 15, 2014, for acts of heroism during the Vietnam war. Although Bennie was recommended for the Medal of Honor at the time, he was instead given the next highest award, the Distinguished Service Cross. In 2002, the Army began reviewing Distinguished Service Cross awards for possible upgrades, and finally, 48 years later, President Obama bestowed a well-deserved Medal of Honor upon Bennie Adkins.

As we know, the Medal of Honor is the Nation's highest medal for valor in combat. According to a statute passed in 1918, the President is authorized to present this award to "each person who, while an officer or enlisted man of the Army, shall hereafter, in action involving actual conflict with an enemy, distinguish himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty." Other legislation authorizes the award within the other military departments as well.

In the history of this country, the Medal of Honor has been awarded to 3,507 individuals. Fewer than 70 of those recipients are still alive today.

I point this out because I believe that when these heroes leave Active Duty and come home to live among us in our communities, their very presence in our midst lifts us all up. They inspire and embolden countless other acts of courage and sacrifice, both great and small, many of which we have seen in the recent weeks and months our Nation and our world have been battling the very virus that took Bennie Adkins' life.

So it is with gratitude and a deep sense of loss that we remember this extraordinary man.

The facts of the events that led to Bennie Adkins' recognition bear mention. However, as President Obama said when presenting Bennie with the Medal, "I have to be honest, in a battle and daring escape that lasted four days, Bennie performed so many acts of bravery we actually don't have time to talk about all of them." I will, therefore, attempt to summarize, combining information from the citation that accompanied the award, media accounts of the events, and quotes from Bennie's memoir.

When Camp A Shau was attacked by a large Viet Cong force early on March 9, 1966, then-Sergeant First Class Adkins rushed through intense hostile fire to man a mortar position. Although wounded himself by incoming fire, Bennie briefly relinquished his mortar to a comrade and ran through

exploding mortar rounds in order to drag several wounded Americans to safety. During the battle, Bennie later recalled, bullets hit and killed one man he was carrying on his back. At another point, Adkins, a former baseball catcher, caught a North Vietnamese hand grenade in midair and flung it back at the enemy.

Over the course of 4 days, Bennie repeatedly exposed himself to hostile fire while rescuing and helping evacuate his fellow soldiers, retrieving additional munitions, and repelling repeated waves of attacking enemy soldiers. Bennie suffered 18 wounds—including to an eye and his torso—but managed to kill an estimated 135 to 175 enemy troops.

Because of his efforts to carry a wounded soldier to an extraction point rather than leave him behind, Bennie and his group were unable to reach the last evacuation helicopter. Running extremely low on ammunition, he returned to the mortar pit, gathered additional ammunition, and ran through intense fire back to the communications bunker. After being ordered to evacuate the camp, Adkins and the remaining small group destroyed all signal equipment and classified documents, then fought their way out of the camp and into the jungle, where they evaded the pursuing North Vietnamese Army for 2 days.

Their escape was aided by the sawed-off shotgun Bennie carried as a sidearm and by the unexpected intervention of an Indonesian tiger. Trapped in the jungle, the group's radio damaged in the battle, Adkins managed to rig his shotgun as an antenna, enabling him to communicate their location to friendly forces. As the group endured a second night in the jungle waiting for help to arrive, the tiger, which had been hunting nearby, frightened off the enemy, giving Adkins and the others an opportunity to create a makeshift landing pad for a rescue helicopter the next morning.

The Medal of Honor citation concludes, "Sergeant First Class Adkins' extraordinary heroism in close combat against a numerically superior hostile force was in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army."

Extraordinary indeed.

Remarkable as those details are, the facts of Bennie's postservice life are equally worthy of note.

Bennie and his wife Mary were married for more than 60 years—until she passed away in 2019. They don't give medals for that, but I know from observing my own parents' 60-plus years together that, no matter who the couple are, that kind of dedication, loyalty, and commitment are special.

After 20 years of service in the Army, Bennie retired and went back to school. He earned three degrees from Troy University—a bachelor's in finance and two master's degrees—and opened his own accounting firm in Auburn. Then, Bennie began deploying his

charisma, his wit, his way with people, and his resources to help others pursue their goals through education.

For several years, Bennie taught night classes at Alabama's Southern Union Junior College and Auburn University, as well as GED classes at the local jail. Later, he established The Bennie Adkins Foundation, which to date has provided about 50 educational scholarships to noncommissioned Special Forces officers.

Bennie's dedication to the service of his country and to his fellow Americans never waned. For many years he traveled extensively, in what he described as his fourth career, "trying to instill patriotism in our young people." And according to President Obama in 2014, "the first thing you need to know is when Bennie and I met in the Oval Office, he asked if he could sign back up. His lovely wife was not amused."

I know that for Bennie's family and his community, this is a loss impossible to describe or to measure. My wife Louise joins me in sending our sincerest condolences to Bennie's daughter Mary Ann Adkins Blake (David), to his sons Michael Adkins (Christine), and Keith Adkins (Jaime), and to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

To paraphrase his Medal of Honor citation, Bennie Adkins' extraordinary life reflects great credit upon himself, his family, and his country. May he rest in peace, and may God bless the United States of America.

REMEMBERING GENERAL CHARLES ELWOOD "CHUCK" YEAGER

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an American hero and one of West Virginia's native sons who was larger than life and an inspiration for generations of Americans—General Charles Elwood "Chuck" Yeager. Chuck bravely served our Nation as a pilot for more than 30 years in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and Vietnam. When he became the first pilot to break the sound barrier he challenged each of us to test the limits of what is possible. I am grateful to have known this legendary West Virginian and to call him my dear friend.

Chuck truly embodied what it means to be from the Mountain State. Born in 1923 in rural Lincoln County, Chuck grew up the way many of us do in West Virginia—hunting and fishing and learning early to be respectful of nature and our fellow man. Like his father, A. Hal Yeager, who was a gaswell driller, Chuck showed an aptitude for mechanics, and by the time he was a teenager, he was able to assemble a car engine on his own. His work ethic and natural talent would serve him well throughout the rest of his remarkable life.

In 1941, Chuck enlisted in the Army Air Forces right out of high school and trained as a mechanic before heading to flight school. In 1944, he experienced

a harrowing encounter when his plane was shot down over German-occupied France. He and another American travelled on foot through mountainous terrain and snow toward neutral Spain. As they stopped to rest, the Nazis opened fire, wounding the man traveling with Chuck. Chuck carried him into Spain, where they met British forces. Despite the treacherous journey he had just endured, to everyone's astonishment, Chuck was determined to fly again. He climbed his way through the ranks, pursuing a return to combat duty, which was eventually granted. For his service, Chuck received the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Air Medal. He also received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, from President Ronald Reagan in 1985. There are so few Veterans left from the World War II era, and it is our responsibility and our privilege to recognize the service of these noble heroes.

In 1957, Chuck became an air squadron commander and then commander of the Aerospace Research Pilot School at Edwards in 1961. He also commanded a fighter wing and flew combat missions during the Vietnam war. He retired as an Air Force brigadier general in 1975, and in an honorary gesture, he was promoted to the rank of major general in 2005.

We all of course know the story of the day Chuck became the first pilot to break the sound barrier. On October 14, 1947, Chuck flew an orange Bell X-1 aircraft at nearly 700 mph and made history. Flying F-15 planes, he broke the sound barrier again on the 50th and 55th anniversaries of his pioneering flight, and he was a passenger on an F-15 plane in another breaking of the sound barrier to commemorate the 65th anniversary.

I knew Chuck very well and he was a dear friend to me and Gayle. As Governor, I was fortunate to host Chuck at least once a year for the One Shot Deer Hunt, which gives proceeds to helping the hungry. He told me so many incredible stories of his service, including all the intricate details of his legendary flight. I recall him telling me that the only reason he got to fly the Bell X-1 that day was because the previous pilot they asked wanted too much money. They offered Chuck an extra 60 dollars a month, and he jumped at the chance. Not only is the story true about Chuck pushing through with a broken rib, but he wasn't even supposed to break the sound barrier that day. He thought if he didn't go for it that first day, he wouldn't get another chance. Chuck truly had nerves of steel.

Long after his record-breaking flight, Chuck remained in our hearts as a symbol of patriotism and bravery. His life is full of tales of his bravery, his stoicism in the face of danger, and his determination to perform his duty no matter the cost.

The legacy Chuck leaves is such an important part of our heritage as West Virginians. Our little State has mined the coal that forged the steel that built the tanks and ships that keep our country the strongest in the world. It is an honor to remember Chuck as part of our military service heritage and our way of life that sinks deep into the roots of West Virginia's rich culture. I encourage all Americans to learn what they can about this legendary West Virginian.

Gayle and I are praying for Chuck's wife Victoria, daughters, Susan and Sharon, son, Don, and all who loved and admired him.

RECOGNIZING OREGON'S FIRST FEMALE EAGLE SCOUTS

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am proud to be able to recognize Oregon's first female Eagle Scouts, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America, or BSA. Evelyn Becker, Juliana Cimral, and Anya Kramer have demonstrated remarkable leadership, skill, and perseverance to earn this important distinction and have done it through an unprecedented pandemic.

For more than 100 years, the Eagle Scout rank has represented a tremendous accomplishment that is recognized in Oregon and across the country. To earn Scouting's highest honor, a Scout must demonstrate mastery of numerous skills and obtain a merit badge for each one, earn a position of responsibility within their troop, and complete a service project that will directly benefit their community. Until recently, girls and young women were not allowed to join BSA, but that finally changed for the better in February of 2019. Evelyn, Juliana, and Anya, Oregon's first three female Eagle Scouts, received their rank in October and will join others in receiving their official Eagle title in February 2021.

We can see examples of their skills and dedication to improving their community in the Eagle service projects they tackled. Juliana, a senior at Jesuit High School, employed her knowledge of and interest in bees and the importance these pollinators play in the food supply chain to build 25 bee houses that have increased the pollination and production of nearby gardens. Evelyn, a sophomore at Scappoose High School, built a fence to separate her local school from a busy highway and a bioswale to prevent children from falling into the water and to help improve the safety of her community. Anya, a freshman at Western Oregon University, spent months building a partnership between the West Linn Food Pantry and Period.org so that women in need would have access to feminine hygiene products, an often overlooked essential.

It has been exciting to see the BSA finally welcoming the other half of the population into their ranks. Each of these three women watched their brothers succeed in Boy Scouts while

growing up. When finally given the chance, they continued that family tradition of achievement. I am excited to see what new heights these outstanding Eagle Scouts and community leaders will reach. Many more will come after them, and our communities will be better for it.

Oregonians always take pride in serving our State and this great country, and these three Eagle Scouts are a great example of that. Today I say congratulations to the first women from Oregon to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish them many more years of success.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CARMINE CANN, SR.

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, it is a great privilege of mine to rise and honor a pillar of strength in my home State of West Virginia, Carmine Cann, Sr., as we celebrate his 90th birthday on July 27, 2020.

Carmine has been like family to me for much of my life, and if there is anything to know about Carmine, it is that family is everything. It is one of the countless things I have always admired most about him, in addition to his unwavering devotion to our home State and his unparalleled knowledge of business and the law. Throughout my own life and career, I have always kept Carmine in the back of my mind—remembering to stay strong for my State and my family.

A native of Clarksburg, Carmine practiced law with his father upon graduating from West Virginia University College of Law. In 1954, their firm merged with another and became Young, Morgan and Cann, where he practiced until joining Flaherty's Clarksburg office in 2017.

Carmine served in the West Virginia Legislature for 8 years as a member of the House of Delegates. Throughout government circles, he was widely known for his keen political awareness. The Charleston Gazette dubbed him "Mighty Mouse" for his accomplishments in and behind the scenes. After choosing not to run for reelection, Carmine served the West Virginia Coal Association and West Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association as a governmental relations consultant for over 25 years.

Some of his awards and honors include St. Mary's Irish Legend in 2011, Italian American Man of the Year by the West Virginia Italian Heritage Festival in 2005, and recipient of the Distinguished West Virginian Award in 1995.

Among his many roles in the community, Carmine is also well known as a founding member of the Italian Heritage Festival's Board of Directors. The Italian Heritage Festival is such a special event for me and for people not only in West Virginia but for people from across the country. The Italian

immigrants who came to this country didn't know where they were going, couldn't speak the language, and were unfamiliar with Appalachian culture. All they knew is that they had to work hard and were determined to provide a good life for their families. That is what the Festival represents, and those are the ideals that Carmine upheld. His lovely wife Florence, their 7 children, 25 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and their entire family, 73 people altogether, have all been active in this beloved festival. After Florence's passing, Carmine endowed the Florence Chico Cann Children's Creative Arts Program as well as the Children's Chorus. Carmine is committed to the beautiful North Central region of our State, and I know I join countless West Virginians in thanking him for his service to his community for so many years.

Carmine will tell you that much of his success is rooted in faith, and he is forever thankful for the blessings that his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has provided. He is never one to accept acclaim very well, instead deferring all praise and thanks to the Almighty. He is a shining beacon of his faith, family, community, and State.

Carmine's expertise has been sought-after by Senators, Congressmen, Governors, budding community leaders, and his friends and family. He has never been one to shy away from a friendly debate with those who have opposing views. Carmine has the greatest respect for all opinions—people from all walks of life. He is first and foremost an outstanding person, a gentleman in the old sense, and a true broker of compromise in a world so in need of that leadership and trust.

Carmine, despite that we aren't able to have a birthday party in your honor this year, I know this will still be a memorable occasion for you to reflect on your many accomplishments and experiences, while you enjoy the well wishes from your loved ones. You have provided so much happiness and wisdom to the lives of those around you, myself included. It is my wish that the memory of this special day remains with you just as your guidance and influence will remain in all the lives you have touched. I know that Florence, a true angel, is smiling down on you. Gayle and I are thinking fondly about you on this special day, and we sincerely appreciate your many years of loyal friendship.●

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR PHILIP R. CANTRELL

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, it is an honor to rise today to recognize the unwavering service of a true West Virginian, CSM Phillip R. Cantrell, as he retires from Active military service and transitions to a new chapter of public service. Phillip Cantrell is simply the best of the best. He is humble, competent, compassionate, and a warrior scholar. He has served in the

toughest of environments, leading generations of men and women while having an immeasurable and positive influence on them. I know this because I was fortunate to have Phillip on my staff for a year as a congressional fellow and am fortunate to call him my friend.

Command Sergeant Major Cantrell is retiring from his final assignment, where he served as the senior enlisted leader of the West Virginia National Guard, a duty that he assumed in 2018 where he advised the Adjutant General on all matters pertaining to the nearly 6,400 enlisted soldiers and airmen of the West Virginia National Guard. Before this assignment with the West Virginia National Guard, Phillip served in the toughest and most elite Active Army units, in combat and in peace. Phillip is the Soldier's Soldier, having trained a generation of leaders as a drill sergeant, led infantry units in combat as a first sergeant and command sergeant major, and paid reverence to our Nation's veterans as the command sergeant major of the Old Guard.

Growing up in Logan County, Phillip enlisted in the Active Army Infantry in May of 1988 as soon as he graduated high school. He attending infantryman training at Fort Benning, GA, and would add many qualifications along the way, including Master Jumpmaster, Air Assault, Combat Infantry, and Drill Sergeant Badges. He married his wife Sherry in June 1989, and they have been together through numerous deployments, traveling the world together to serve their country and State.

Anyone who has served in the military knows that the noncommissioned officer is the backbone of the Army. Throughout his career, Phillip has done the heavy lifting and served at every level of noncommissioned officer leadership, to include team and squad leaders, platoon sergeant, first sergeant, operations sergeant major and battalion and brigade command sergeant major.

Command Sergeant Major Cantrell served in the 82nd Airborne Division from 1988 to 1996, participating in Operation Just Cause and Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm before being reassigned to Fort Leonard Wood to serve as a drill sergeant. Upon his completion of drill sergeant duty, he returned to the 82nd Airborne Division and Fort Bragg, where he was deployed on a peacekeeping mission to Kosovo with the 3/504th Infantry Regiment.

In 2005, while first sergeant of D Company, 2/505th Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Command Sergeant Major Cantrell was deployed in support of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts and subsequently deployed two companies to Iraq in 2006 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was deployed to Iraq in one of the most dangerous locations during 2006–2007, the time period known as the surge, when troop deployments were unexpectedly extended from 12 months to 15 months.

My State director served on the ground with him in Iraq during this time and attests to his solid leadership, having seen him operate during the most challenging, life-and-death conditions. She called him "the best in a unit of the bests," which is a testament to his leadership in the most difficult of conditions.

After his combat deployments to Iraq, he was promoted to sergeant major in 2008 and after completion of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy was assigned as the 8th Army Operations and Protection Sergeant Major in Yongsan, Korea.

Command Sergeant Major Cantrell was then competitively selected to serve as the battalion command sergeant major of 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Myer and in 2012 was hand-selected as the brigade command sergeant major of the 3rd Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard." This hallowed unit is America's oldest Active Duty infantry unit where only the best are selected to serve. The Old Guard is the official ceremonial unit of the Army, providing a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and performing countless commemorations at Arlington National Cemetery, amongst other missions. Phillip's service at The Old Guard is of the highest caliber and reflects great credit upon his patriotism and abilities.

After serving as the most senior enlisted member of The Old Guard, Phillip was again competitively selected as an Army congressional fellow, an honor awarded to very few highly competitive servicemembers. That is where I really got the chance to know Phillip and see him in action when he served as a member of my staff for a year.

I have come to know Command Sergeant Major Cantrell well throughout the years as a valuable part of my team as an Army congressional fellow and can attest to his strength of character and profound leadership. It is a privilege to recognize him for his service to our State and Nation.

Following the year in my office, he was a congressional legislative liaison in the Army Senate Liaison Division, traveling around the world with congressional delegations.

Command Sergeant Major Cantrell holds a master's degree in legislative affairs from George Washington University and a bachelor's in human resource management from American Military University.

Because of Phillip's career and his unique leadership talents, it is my greatest honor to recognize his service. When visitors come to West Virginia, I jump at the chance to tell them we have fought in more wars, shed more blood, and lost more lives for the cause of freedom than most any State. We have always done the heavy lifting and never complained. We have mined the coal and forged the steel that built the guns, ships, and factories that have protected and continue to protect our country to this day.

I am so deeply proud of what West Virginians have accomplished and what they will continue to accomplish to protect the freedoms we hold dear. Command Sergeant Major Cantrell is a part of this legacy of excellence and an inspiration to all who will follow in his footsteps. I want to wish Phillip, his wife Sherry who has been with him every step of the way, along with his family and many friends, a heartfelt congratulations and warm wishes for future health and happiness.●

REMEMBERING MARK ALLEN GOUZD

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President I rise today to honor the life of a proud West Virginian and a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, my cousin, Mark Allen Gouzd.

Put simply, Mark embodied what it means to be a West Virginian, and the legacy he has left is such an important part of our heritage. There is no greater accomplishment than being in a position to give back to your community, and his work in mine safety and rescue truly benefited our home State in a profound way that undoubtedly saved countless lives.

After graduating from Mannington High School and later Fairmont State College, Mark began his career in land surveying and eventually began working with Federal Number 2 Mines. As an instructor for the Mine Rescue Program, Mark diligently prepared miners for the rigors of working underground. The teams he trained always went on to perform well in local, State, and even national competitions. For the last few years, Mark worked as an extension agent for West Virginia University as the manager of mine rescue and emergency response training at WVU's Doll's Run facility. He also served as the WVU Collegiate Mine Rescue Team trainer.

Having experienced a coal mining tragedy within our own family, Mark's work was especially admirable and came from a place of caring deeply for the people who keep our lights on, as well as their families. West Virginia suffered an immeasurable loss when 78 brave coal miners were killed in the Farmington No. 9 mine disaster 52 years ago. My dear uncle John Gouzd, one of my neighbors, and several high school classmates were in the mine that day. For days, we all sat around the company store waiting for updates about the fate of our loved ones. I will never forget the look on my mother's face when she heard the news that her younger brother had died in the explosion. Our community and the entire State came together to mourn the lives we lost. For Mark and me, that disaster fueled our passion for promoting changes that would help keep our miners safe and also ensure their families were taken care of.

I always consider myself fortunate to have grown up around such strong, inspiring people. Marion County and our

home State as a whole is just special that way. I always respected and admired Mark for the strong, passionate leader he was. As a lifelong member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Mannington, Mark served as a lector, Eucharistic minister, and choir member. The importance of faith and family was at the forefront of everything he set out to do, and it carried him through any hardships he faced.

He loved to work with his hands and found solace in gardening and working on his farm, and I know I join our entire family in remembering Mark as the hard-working, generous soul he was. His legacy lives on through our many loving memories of him as well as through the brave coal miners who learned from his lifesaving training.

What is most important is that he lived a full life, surrounded by his loved ones. Gayle and I extend our condolences to his beloved wife of nearly 36 years, Lora; their sons, Zachary and his wife Kelly, and Jeremy and his wife Allie; and his grandson Oliver; as well as his parents Joe and Carole; his sisters, Christina and her husband Jack, and Cynthia and her husband Steve; his brother-in-law Remy Petrucci; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Leonard and Judy Myers; in addition to his numerous nieces and nephews. Again, we extend our most sincere condolences from our family to theirs for our shared loss of this remarkable person. The unwavering love he had for our family, friends, and our home State will live on forever in the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing him.●

REMEMBERING CASSIE JOHNSON

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of one of West Virginia's finest. Patrolwoman Cassie Johnson of the Charleston Police Department represented the very best of who we are as a statewide community, and she was taken from us far too soon on December 3, 2020, at the age of 28. Cassie was the daughter of an ironworker; she shared her mother's steely resolve and iron constitution.

Being a police officer in the city she loved and grew up in was a dream come true for Cassie. She was sworn in by Mayor Amy Goodwin in January of 2019 and had previously worked as a city humane officer. Cassie was born and raised in our State's capital. She could have gone anywhere, and she chose to stay and protect and serve the community that made her who she was.

She was truly a beautiful person in every way. Growing up, Cassie was an athlete and particularly loved softball. She would one day find that the Little League field she played on as a child was on her beat, and so she watched over it with great care so the current generation of children could play in safety. One of the first things she did when she was assigned to the field was to clean up the drug paraphernalia to make it a safe place for kids. Because

of her efforts, children and their families have been able to enjoy the field as a clean, safe, fun place to play.

Cassie was an animal lover and dedicated her life to rescuing pets who had been cast aside, even taking an animal behavior class in Tennessee so she could better understand the language of dogs. Cassie's beloved dog, Emma, was a chocolate lab who passed away just a few months ago. Cassie grieved deeply for Emma because she had a special connection with her. Years ago, when Cassie was in high school, Emma had nine chocolate lab pups—in Cassie's bedroom. Her mom tells the story of taking the runt of the litter with her to pick Cassie up at school. When they got home, there were chocolate lab pups everywhere. That was just one of the many adventures Cassie had with Emma. No doubt, they are reunited again.

Cassie was a music lover, most likely because her mother sang her to sleep as a child. She was surrounded by instruments and music throughout her life. She loved to make the world beautiful, and that is also why she enjoyed decorating for the holidays. The weekend before she passed, she decorated her mother's house for Christmas, alongside her dear sister, Chelsea. One of the last actions she took the day of her passing was to wipe the snow from those holiday decorations because she always looked out for her mother any way she could.

Most importantly, Cassie was a genuinely good person and lived her whole life with West Virginia values. She worked hard and bought her own home at the age of 25. She was beloved in the community and in her profession, as evidenced in the tremendous outpouring of grief, support, and fellowship that followed her tragic passing. Her mother describes her as respectful and well-mannered throughout her whole life. Cassie will be deeply missed not only because of who she was but because we are all so keenly aware of and sorrowful for what might have been.

No one can ever take away what Cassie represented to the Charleston community and the entire Mountain State. Every one of our female leaders in West Virginia is the epitome of strength and advancement in their fields and serve as inspiring role models for the next generation, and that is due in great part to the women who broke ground in generations past. Because of their accomplishments, more young women like Cassie have, and will, blaze their own trails and continue to make our State and entire Nation proud. I have such tremendous respect for our police officers and all of our first responders. Cassie's compassion, courage, and selflessness will live on through the memories of those who knew and loved her, as well as through the countless lives she touched and inspired every day. She leaves us having made a profound impact in the community she loved as well as in the lives of those around her.

I had the tremendous and humbling honor of visiting with Cassie's family at her bedside in her final hours. It is clear to me that Cassie came from strong roots and that her life was filled with joy and love. She was a beloved daughter, sister, and a loyal friend, who adored her three dogs and all animals. True to her character, Cassie was an organ donor, and her final act of selflessness has given someone else a chance at life.

The Charleston Police Department has retired Cassie's unit number, 146. I know I join the entire Mountain State in mourning our shared loss of this bright, generous, vibrant spirit. Gayle and I extend our deepest condolences to Cassie's mother Sheryl, her sister Chelsea, her brother Terry, and all her family and friends, her colleagues with the Charleston Police Department, as well as the city of Charleston, and will forever keep them in our prayers.●

REMEMBERING DR. RICHARD HOWARD

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a proud West Virginian, noble veteran, a beloved son, brother, uncle, godfather, great-uncle, and a dear friend to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. It is a privilege to recognize the life and legacy of a very dear friend to myself and Gayle, Dr. Richard Howard, for his many years of dedicated service to the city of Charleston and beyond.

Born and raised in Charleston, WV, Richard attended West Virginia University, where he achieved many distinctions as a member of the National Blue Key, Helvetia, Sphinx and president of the freshman class in 1960. He received early acceptance into the West Virginia University School of Dentistry, earning his doctor of dental surgery degree in 1967. Put simply, when Richard put his mind to something, there was no stopping him from doing it at 100 percent.

That mentality worked in his favor as he joined the U.S. Air Force as a captain, stationed during the Vietnam era at Dover Air Force Base. Following his honorable discharge, Richard returned to Charleston to start his long-tenured career in dentistry. After a year as a partner with a local dental office, Richard set up his own practice as Howard Family Dentistry, later known as a joint venture with his brother as Howard and Howard Family Dentistry.

There is a lot to be said of someone who bravely serves our Nation, then returns home to continue giving back to the community that made them who they are. When visitors come to West Virginia, I jump at the chance to tell them we have fought in more wars, shed more blood, and lost more lives for the cause of freedom than most any State. We have always done the heavy lifting and never complained. We have mined the coal and forged the steel that built the guns, ships, and factories

that have protected and continue to protect our country to this day. I am so deeply proud of what West Virginians have accomplished and what they will continue to accomplish to protect the freedoms we hold dear. That is Richard's legacy, and his courage, loyalty, and humility will never be forgotten.

Richard was deeply involved in the community through the Kanawha Valley Dental Association, the West Virginia Dental Association, the American Dental Association, and the Academy of General Dentists, the International College of Dentists, and was founder and twice-serving president of the Virginia Street Dental Study Club. He was a member of the Beni Kedem Shrine, the Legion of Honor, Shrine Jesters, a 32 degree Mason, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Charleston Symphony, the Charleston Community Music Association, and the West Virginia University Woodburn Circle of Honor. Richard was a major supporter of his church, St. George Orthodox Cathedral, of which he was knight in the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch.

Richard had such a zest for life and was a true renaissance man in every sense of the word. Each challenge he took on, he conquered, and he did so with unparalleled generosity, humility, and leadership. When his father passed away, Richard truly stepped up as the family patriarch. He adored his siblings and his entire family, always willing to offer advice. He would be honest with you if you were wrong, but his judgment was always fair. His bright smile and vibrant personality made any occasion even more special. His accomplishments are endless and he was an inspiration to all. He is dearly missed.

Put simply, Richard represented the very best of West Virginia, which is saying quite a lot. In the Mountain State, if you are hungry you will be fed. If you are lost, someone will not only give you directions but will offer to drive you to your destination. That is just who we are, and that is who Richard was. We have lost a shining star in our home State's capital, but his impact on the lives of his patients and his passion for this special community will last forever. It was an honor to have known him and to call him my friend.

What is most important is that Richard lived a full and accomplished life, surrounded by dear friends and family. It is my hope that his loved ones are able to find peace, strength, and support in one another. I extend my condolences to his brother Dr. Edward E. Howard; sisters Jolene Howard, Janet M. Howard, Margaret Howard Teeter (Andrew), and Sabrina Howard Stump (James); nephew, Dr. Matthew D. Stump; and nieces Dr. Jacqueline H. Stump, Elizabeth Stevens Bloch (Tom), and great nephew Thomas M. Bloch III. Gayle and I, from our family to yours, extend to you our most sincere condolences for our shared loss of this wonderful person. The unwavering love

Richard had for his family, friends, community, our home State, and our great Nation will live on forever in the hearts of all who knew him.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JAMES A. HOYER

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, it is an honor to rise today to recognize the legacy of MG James A. Hoyer of the West Virginia National Guard, a man whom I have worked with for decades and a man whom I am fortunate to call my friend.

General Hoyer assumed the duties as The Adjutant General, West Virginia Joint Forces Headquarters-West Virginia in 2011, providing command guidance and vision to the West Virginia Army and Air National Guard of more than 6,500 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen.

Upon obtaining his undergraduate degree from the University of Charleston, he was commissioned in 1983 through a joint Reserve Officer Training Corps program with West Virginia State University. General Hoyer's military career began in the West Virginia National Guard as a Cavalry Officer. He attended the Special Forces Officer Qualification course and spent more than 14 years with the 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group. General Hoyer led the development of the West Virginia National Guard Counterdrug Task Force and the Joint Interagency Training and Education Center and its Center for National Response—a national level operational and training capability for critical infrastructure protection and consequence response. General Hoyer's most recent assignment was Director, Joint Staff, of the West Virginia Joint Force Headquarters.

General Hoyer continued his education throughout his career, including West Virginia Graduate College in 1987, United States Army War College in 2004, and obtained his Federal/Department of Defense Identify Management Certificate from the Naval Post Graduate School in 2009.

Among his many awards, decorations and achievements, General Hoyer has earned the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star), Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and M Device), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, West Virginia Commendation Medal, West Virginia Emergency Service Ribbon, West Virginia State Service Ribbon, West Virginia Service Ribbon, West Virginia Counterdrug Ribbon, West Virginia

Distinguished Unit Award, Special Forces Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Thailand Parachute Badge.

I have seen firsthand how the Guard protects the citizens of West Virginia when we are in our most desperate hour of need and how the Guard protects our country when called upon to serve at the command and control of the President of the United States. As Governor, my most honored title was that of Commander-in-Chief of the Guard. I worked closely with Jim Hoyer and the Guard and did everything I could to increase capabilities for personnel, equipment, and facilities.

As U.S. Senator, I have the honor of serving on the Senate Armed Services Committee, as well as the Appropriations Committee, the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and as ranking member on the Senate Energy Committee. I continue to work hand-in-hand with Jim Hoyer to promote good policy for the Guard, the Department of Defense, and all of our Nation's heroes.

Throughout my time as Governor and as Senator, I have relied on the National Guard not only to do their mission but to provide solid advice so that I could form the best policies. I have truly counted on Jim Hoyer's sound guidance and military expertise every step of the way. Whether it was forming the Congressional Veterans Jobs Caucus, writing amendments on the Defense bill, preventing war in Syria, providing death gratuity benefits for families of the fallen during a government shutdown, or bringing more military assets like the C-130J to West Virginia, Jim Hoyer has been with me every step of the way.

The West Virginia National Guard fulfills its mission of "Delivering Freedom with Courage" every single day. I am so very proud of the Guard for serving our State and our Nation so courageously in times of need, and I am grateful for their unwavering service and selfless efforts to protect our homeland. This success is due in large part to the Guard's outstanding leadership, and I am grateful to General Hoyer for serving as a part of this legacy of excellence.

When visitors come to West Virginia, I jump at the chance to tell them we have fought in more wars, shed more blood, and lost more lives for the cause of freedom than most any State. We have always done the heavy lifting and never complained. We have mined the coal and forged the steel that built the guns, ships, and factories that have protected and continue to protect our country to this day. I am so deeply proud of what West Virginians have accomplished and what they will continue to accomplish to protect the freedoms we hold dear.

While General Hoyer is retiring and everyone is sure to miss his strong leadership, his dedication and commitment to excellence will leave a lasting legacy with the countless lives he has

touched. Again, I congratulate General Hoyer for his remarkable years of service and his outstanding dedication to protecting our great Nation. I am honored to wish good health and much happiness to him, his wife Amy, his sons Jacob and Drew, and his wonderful extended family in the days and years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO JEREMY WAYNE HARRELL

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, today I recognize the tremendous dedication of Jeremy Wayne Harrell, of Louisville, KY, the founder of an all-volunteer organization called the Veterans Club. Already nationally celebrated for its Equine Therapy Program and for efforts to create a recovery center for homeless veterans, this unique Kentucky nonprofit has made veteran isolation its singular focus during the coronavirus pandemic. A veteran himself, Mr. Harrell recognizes that social isolation created by the pandemic can amplify the sense of loneliness already experienced by many veterans as they transition into civilian life following multiple deployments. Mr. Harrell was recently honored by Metro Louisville government with its Distinguished Veteran and Citizen Award and by Humana as the winner of its Boots on the Ground Campaign Award. I am proud to represent veterans like Jeremy Harrell in the U.S. Senate and in particular to recognize him today for his steadfast commitment to our veterans and their families. The great work of the Veterans Club is an inspiration to us all to find and connect with those in our communities who struggle with a sense of isolation.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE AND CORRUPTION THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13818 OF DECEMBER 20, 2017—PM 62

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90

days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* its declaration, the President publishes in and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13818 of December 20, 2017, is to continue in effect beyond December 20, 2020.

The prevalence and severity of human rights abuse and corruption that have their source, in whole or in substantial part, outside the United States, continue to threaten the stability of international political and economic systems. Human rights abuse and corruption undermine the values that form an essential foundation of stable, secure, and functioning societies; have devastating impacts on individuals; weaken democratic institutions; degrade the rule of law; perpetuate violent conflicts; facilitate the activities of dangerous persons; undermine economic markets; and continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13818 with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 16, 2020.

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-6130. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Regulations and Legislation, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fair Housing Act Design and Construction Requirements; Adoption of Additional Safe Harbors" (RIN2529-AA99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6131. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment" (FRL No. 10018-13-OECA) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6132. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous and Solid Waste Management System: Disposal of CCR; A Holistic Approach to Closure Part B: Alternate Demonstration for Unlined Surface Impoundments; Correction" (FRL No. 10017-88-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6133. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter" (FRL No. 10018-11-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6134. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Withdrawal of Certain Federal Water Quality Criteria Applicable to Maine" (FRL No. 10017-97-OW) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6135. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Revoked 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Updates to 40 CFR Part 52 for Areas that Attained by the Attainment Date; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 10017-82-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6136. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the activities of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for fiscal year 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6137. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare and State Health Care Programs; Fraud and Abuse; Revision to Safe Harbors Under the Anti-Kickback Statute, and Civil Monetary Penalty Rules Regarding Beneficiary Inducements" (RIN0936-AA10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6138. A communication from the Regulations Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Musculoskeletal Disorders" (RIN0960-AG38) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6139. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; New Categories for Hospital Outpatient Department Prior Authorization Process; Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule: Laboratory Date of Service Policy; Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating Methodology; Physician-owned Hospitals; Notice of Closure of Two Teaching Hospitals and Opportunity to Apply for Available Slots, Radiation Oncology Model; and Reporting Requirements for Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) to Report COVID-19 Therapeutic Inventory and Usage to Report Acute Respiratory Illness During the Public Health Emergency (PHE) for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)" (RIN0938-AU12) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6140. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Inspector

General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fraud and Abuse; Removal of Safe Harbor Protection for Rebates Involving Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Creation of New Safe Harbor Protection for Certain Point-of-Sale Reductions in Price on Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Certain Pharmacy Benefit Manager Service Fees" (RIN0936-AA08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 11, 2020; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6141. A communication from the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause's Religious Exemption" (RIN1250-AA09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 10, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6142. A joint communication from the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's Annual Report for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6143. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability report for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6144. A communication from the Director of Financial Management, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6145. A communication from the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Gallery's Performance and Accountability Report for the year ended September 30, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6146. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual reports of the Attorney General relative to enforcement actions taken by the Department of Justice under the Lobbying Disclosure Act for the two semiannual reporting periods from 2017 through 2019, and the first semiannual reporting period of 2020, from January 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020; to the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and the Judiciary.

EC-6147. A communication from the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and a Management Report for the period from April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6148. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6149. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on Investigation, Enforcement, and Implementation of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Requirements"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-6150. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act Drain Cover Standard" (16 CFR Part 1450) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 14, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6151. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Section 201(a) of the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6152. A communication from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Amendments to Brake System Safety Standards and Codification of Waivers" (RIN2130-AC67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6153. 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 15, 73, and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Provide for the Preservation of One Vacant Channel in the UHF Television Band for Use by White Space Devices and Wireless Microphones" ((MB Docket No. 15-146, and 12-268) (FCC 20-175)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6154. 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 Alisos Canyon Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AC51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 14, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6155. A communication from the Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Part 74 of the Commission's Rules Regarding FM Translator Interference" ((MB Docket No. 18-119) (FCC 20-141)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6156. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Market Data Infrastructure" (RIN3235-AM61) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6157. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Derivatives by Registered Investment Companies and Business Development Companies" (RIN3235-AL60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6158. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Good Faith Determinations of Fair Value" (RIN3235-AM71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 4077. A bill to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 to provide for regulatory impact analyses for certain rules, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-333).

By Mr. ROBERTS, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

Report to accompany S. 4054, An original bill to reauthorize the United States Grain Standards Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-334).

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. WICKER (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 5024. A bill to establish the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, Characterization Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 5025. A bill to provide competitive grants for the promotion of Japanese American confinement education as a means to understand the importance of democratic principles, use and abuse of power, and to raise awareness about the importance of cultural tolerance toward Japanese Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 5026. A bill to establish the Office of Press Freedom, to create press freedom curriculum at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 5027. A bill to authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award grants to eligible State, Tribal, and territorial public health agencies to develop and administer a program for digital contact tracing for COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 5028. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require each authorized committee or leadership PAC of a former candidate for election for Federal office to disburse all of the remaining funds of the committee or PAC after the election, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 5029. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase transfer and graduation rates at community colleges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 5030. A bill to provide for negotiations for the establishment or designation of a trust fund administered by the international community for the prevention and reduction

of marine debris, including marine plastic pollution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 5031. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a progressive consumption tax and to reform the income tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 5032. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify venue requirements relating to bankruptcy proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5033. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support college students to meet satisfactory academic progress; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 5034. A bill to empower communities to establish a continuum of care for individuals experiencing mental or behavioral health crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 5035. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide matching payments for retirement savings contributions by certain individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 5036. A bill to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2023, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 5037. A bill to amend subtitle A of title II of division A of the CARES Act to provide a hardship waiver for certain overpayments of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 5038. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to modify the definition of a household under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 5039. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the automatic extension of certain deadlines in the case of taxpayers affected by Federally declared disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 803. A resolution designating room S-124 of the United States Capitol as the "U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Room" and designating room S-115 of the United States Capitol as the "U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room", in recognition of their service to the Senate and the people of the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 959

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 959, a bill to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes.

S. 1149

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1149, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income.

S. 2006

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2006, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to the use of horses for human consumption.

S. 2080

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2080, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 2227

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2227, a bill to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for re-investment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2232

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Massachu-

setts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2232, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the number of members of the Federal Election Commission from 6 to 5, to revise the method of selection and terms of service of members of the Commission, to distribute the powers of the Commission between the Chair and the remaining members, and for other purposes.

S. 2561

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2561, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 2666

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2666, a bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and for other purposes.

S. 2669

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2669, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

S. 2886

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 3072

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3072, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the approval of new abortion drugs, to prohibit investigational use exemptions for abortion drugs, and to impose additional regulatory requirements with respect to previously approved abortion drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 3144

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3144, a bill to establish a competitive grant program to support out-of-school-time youth workforce readiness programs, providing employability skills development, career exploration, employment readiness training, mentoring, work-based learning, and workforce opportunities for eligible youth.

S. 3206

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 3206, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to increase voting accessibility for individuals with disabilities and older individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 3296

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3296, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time an investment in qualified property is made, and for other purposes.

S. 3471

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3471, a bill to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes.

S. 3723

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3723, a bill to provide services to victims of sexual abuse who are incarcerated, and for other purposes.

S. 4012

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4012, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments through December 31, 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 4433

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4433, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 4867

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4867, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to support research on, and expanded access to, investigational drugs for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes.

S. 4906

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4906, a bill to establish a portal and database to receive and maintain information regarding blocked railroad-highway grade crossings and to require the Secretary of Transportation to evaluate the requirements of the railroad-highway crossings program.

S. 5019

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 5019, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 5031. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a progressive consumption tax and to reform the income tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I introduced the Progressive Consumption Tax Act of 2020.

We need a tax code that is fair for American families and for employers. We need a tax code that rethinks how our Nation collects the revenue that allows us to build our roads and bridges and keeps our Nation safe. We need a system that values our most vulnerable Americans, small businesses, and makes our U.S.-based businesses more competitive.

In our recent history, comprehensive tax reform has been out of grasp. Congressional leaders have long called for a 1986-style tax reform in which the tax code would be streamlined and simplified to broaden the tax base and lower income tax rates. The 2017 tax law was a representation of how hard this type of tax reform is. It kept in place much of what makes the tax code complicated and inefficient, did not secure permanent income tax rate reductions for working families, and it increased the deficit by nearly \$2 trillion. It is time we take a new approach.

As we look to the future and work towards the goal of a sustainable economy that works for all, my colleagues and I will need to think creatively about how to raise revenues and provide for the services the government must and can deliver.

Austere and regressive spending cuts are not the answer to the question of how to set the country on a sustainable path and support working families. Instead, we should look at ways to raise reasonable revenues and make the tax code work better for all. The Progressive Consumption Tax Act should be part of that conversation.

I introduced versions of this bill in the past to provide an opening for discussion and an opportunity to review legislative language for this type of comprehensive tax reform. Now more than ever it is critical Congress revisit the thinking about comprehensive tax reform that is lasting and progressive.

The 2017 tax law was constructed with many temporary policies that will require future action on tax policies as these provisions expire.

While some of those will be years from now, this conversation can never start early enough. We know that good ideas can take time to become mainstream. In a world where about 150

countries now have a consumption tax, it is time the U.S. join this mainstream thinking.

The legislation I have introduced today is an example of truly progressive, fiscally responsible, pro-growth tax reform could look like.

It also provides an opportunity for the U.S. to catch up with the rest of the world. All OECD countries except the U.S. have a consumption tax.

The Progressive Consumption Tax Act would put this country on a level playing field by providing for a progressive consumption tax, or PCT, at a rate of 10 percent. The PCT would generate revenue by taxing goods and services, rather than income.

The revenues collected by the PCT would eliminate an income tax liability for most households in this Nation. Lower income individuals, those currently eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit, would receive rebates to cover the cost of their PCT burden, cementing the progressivity of this new system.

For those who do still have an income tax liability under this Act would have lower rates and a simplified income tax. Under current law, the top marginal income tax rate is 37 percent. Under the Progressive Consumption Tax Act, the top income rate would be just 28 percent.

The 2017 tax law reduced the corporate tax rate to 21 percent. This Act would further reduce that rate to 17 percent. Businesses would be more competitive and this would contribute to a pro-growth economy in the U.S., all while collecting reasonable revenues.

As we discuss this proposal, you will hear me say this over and over again: An overarching goal of the Progressive Consumption Tax Act is ensuring the tax code is progressive, meaning that those who make less in income don't have a higher tax burden than wealthy people. The provisions included in this Act—removing an income tax liability for most households and providing rebates—are meant to maintain progressivity in the tax code for families.

For those who worry that a consumption tax will bring in “too much” money, my legislation remains balanced. It is designed to raise stable and reasonable tax revenues. However, if more revenues than envisioned are collected under this legislation, a “circuit breaker” would return additional revenues to taxpayers. Again, we put money back into the hands of the taxpayers.

In 2017, I offered the Progressive Consumption Tax Act as an alternative to the tax legislation considered that year. While it would have been a responsible choice to enact then, it could still provide a fresh start now.

Since that law was passed, there has been increased interest in looking at ways to reform the nation's tax laws to tilt any benefit more towards those who were left behind and raise reasonable revenues. My colleagues in Con-

gress and stakeholders are searching for forward-looking ideas for how to modernize the tax code. I am excited that President-elect Biden has put forward tax reform proposals and Congressional leaders have done the same. The longer we wait to put this country in a better, more competitive, progressive position, the harder it will be.

That's why I am reintroducing the Progressive Consumption Tax this year. As this Congress closes and the new Congress convenes, I hope we will seriously consider the tax system in this country and consider the types of reforms proposed in the Progressive Consumption Tax Act.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of my bill appear in the RECORD following these remarks.

S. 5031

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act may be cited as the “Progressive Consumption Tax Act of 2020”.

(b) REFERENCE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

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

Sec. 1. Short title, etc.

TITLE I—PROGRESSIVE CONSUMPTION TAX

Sec. 101. Imposition of progressive consumption tax.

TITLE II—INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE TAX REFORM

Subtitle A—Individual Income Tax Reforms

Sec. 201. Individual income tax rate reductions and inflation adjustments.

Sec. 202. Family allowance amounts; repeal of personal exemption deduction.

Sec. 203. Repeal of limitations relating to itemized deductions.

Sec. 204. Restoration of certain deductions.

Sec. 205. Termination of separate treatment of capital gains.

Sec. 206. Repeals.

Sec. 207. Establishment of progressive tax rebate.

Sec. 208. Technical and conforming amendments.

Subtitle B—Corporate Tax Reforms

Sec. 211. Corporate income tax rate reduction.

TITLE III—REFUND OF EXCESS CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUE

Sec. 301. Refunds of excess consumption tax revenue.

TITLE I—PROGRESSIVE CONSUMPTION TAX

SEC. 101. IMPOSITION OF PROGRESSIVE CONSUMPTION TAX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D is amended by inserting before chapter 31 the following new chapter:

“CHAPTER 30—PROGRESSIVE CONSUMPTION TAX

“SUBCHAPTER A. IMPOSITION OF TAX

“SUBCHAPTER B. TAXABLE SUPPLY

“SUBCHAPTER C. CREDIT AGAINST TAX

“SUBCHAPTER D. ADMINISTRATION

“SUBCHAPTER E. DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES

“Subchapter A—Imposition of Tax

“Sec. 3901. Imposition of tax.

“Sec. 3902. Taxable amount.

“SEC. 3901. IMPOSITION OF TAX.

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—A tax is hereby imposed on every taxable supply.

“(b) AMOUNT OF TAX.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amount of the tax shall be 10 percent of the taxable amount.

“(2) SPECIAL RATE FOR EXPORTS.—The amount of the tax shall be zero with respect to the provision of any supply which is—

“(A) a supply of tangible personal property that is exported from the United States within 90 days after the provider gives an invoice for the supply, or

“(B) a supply, other than a supply of tangible personal property—

“(i) which is provided to a recipient that is not in the United States when the supply is performed or otherwise done, and

“(ii) the use of which takes place outside of the United States.

“SEC. 3902. TAXABLE AMOUNT.

“(a) AMOUNT CHARGED CUSTOMER.—For purposes of this chapter, the taxable amount for any taxable supply for which money is the only consideration shall be the price charged by the provider—

“(1) including all invoiced charges for transportation, and other items payable to the provider with respect to the supply, but

“(2) excluding the tax imposed by section 3901 with respect to the supply and excluding any State and local sales and use taxes with respect to the supply.

“(b) BARTER TRANSACTIONS.—For purposes of this chapter, the taxable amount for any taxable supply which includes consideration other than money shall be the fair market value of the consideration (including all invoiced charges for transportation and other items payable to the provider) plus the amount of any money paid in consideration.

“(c) IMPORTS.—For purposes of this chapter, the taxable amount in the case of any import shall be—

“(1) the customs value plus customs duties and any other duties which may be imposed, or

“(2) if there is no such customs value, the fair market value (determined as if the importer had sold the supply).

For purposes of this subsection, the customs value of any import shall include all invoiced charges for transportation and other items payable to the importer with respect to the supply.

“(d) SPECIAL RULE IN THE CASE OF SALES OF CERTAIN USED CONSUMER GOODS.—For purposes of this chapter, if—

“(1) a person acquires any tangible personal property in a transaction which was not taxable under this chapter, and

“(2) such property had been used by an ultimate consumer before such acquisition, the taxable amount in the case of any sale of such property by such person (determined without regard to this subsection) shall be reduced by the amount paid for such property by such person.

“Subchapter B—Taxable Supply

“Sec. 3911. Taxable supply.

“Sec. 3912. Supplies made in connection with the United States.

“Sec. 3913. Exempt supply.

“SEC. 3911. TAXABLE SUPPLY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this chapter, the term ‘taxable supply’ means—

“(1) the importation of property into the United States, and

“(2) any supply (other than an exempt supply)—

“(A) which is provided—

“(i) in the course of carrying on a trade or business,

“(ii) in the case of an organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), in furtherance of the activities related to the purpose or function constituting the basis of its exemption under section 501, or

“(iii) in the case of a State, an Indian tribal government, a possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, or the United States or the District of Columbia, in carrying out any activity that is not an essential governmental function,

“(B) for which consideration is provided in return, and

“(C) which is made in connection with the United States.

“(b) SUPPLY.—For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘supply’ means any supply whatsoever, including—

“(A) the sale or provision (including through renting, leasing, or licensing) of property,

“(B) the performance of services,

“(C) the grant, assignment, or surrender of real property,

“(D) the creation, grant, transfer, assignment, or surrender of any right,

“(E) financial supplies, and

“(F) an entry into, or release from, an obligation or agreement to perform or refrain from performing an act.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR SERVICES FOR EMPLOYER.—An employee’s services for the employer shall not be treated as a supply.

“SEC. 3912. SUPPLIES MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNITED STATES.

“(a) TANGIBLE PROPERTY.—For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The supply of tangible property is made in connection with the United States if—

“(A) the property is delivered or made available to the recipient in the United States, or

“(B) the property is assembled in or removed from any location in the United States.

“(2) REAL PROPERTY.—The supply of real property is made in connection with the United States if the real property is located in the United States.

“(b) SERVICES, INTANGIBLE PROPERTY, AND OTHER SUPPLIES.—For purposes of this chapter, the supply of anything other than tangible property or real property is made in connection with the United States if—

“(1) the supply is used, performed, or otherwise done in the United States, or

“(2) the supply is provided through a trade or business in the United States.

“SEC. 3913. EXEMPT SUPPLY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—An exempt supply shall not be subject to tax under this chapter.

“(b) EXEMPT SUPPLY.—For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘exempt supply’ means—

“(A) the rental or leasing of residential real property,

“(B) any sale of qualified residential real property,

“(C) any financial supply,

“(D) any nonparticipating small supplier supply, and

“(E) any taxable supply (or category of such supplies) treated as an exempt supply under section 3932(b).

“(2) QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘qualified residential real property’ means residential real property—

“(A) which—

“(i) has previously been sold as residential real property, or

“(ii) has been continuously rented for 5 years or more, and

“(B) to which substantial renovations have not been made after the date of the enactment of this chapter.

“(3) NONPARTICIPATING SMALL SUPPLIER SUPPLY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘nonparticipating small supplier’ means any supply provided by a supplier during—

“(i) any taxable period during which such supplier was a nonparticipating small supplier, or

“(ii) the four-week period beginning on the first day after the close of the last calendar quarter in which such supplier was a nonparticipating small supplier.

“(B) NONPARTICIPATING SMALL SUPPLIER.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘nonparticipating small supplier’ means any person for any taxable period if—

“(I) such person has aggregate taxable revenues of not more than \$100,000 for the four-calendar quarter period ending immediately before the taxable period, and

“(II) has not made an election under clause (iii) for such taxable period.

“(ii) TAXABLE REVENUE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘taxable revenue’ means revenue from supplies which are taxable supplies, determined without regard to paragraph (1)(D).

“(iii) ELECTION.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any person who meets the requirements of clause (i)(I) may make an election not to be treated as a nonparticipating small supplier for any taxable period.

“(C) AGGREGATION RULES.—For purposes of determining aggregate taxable revenues under subparagraph (B)(i)(I), all members of the same controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 267(f)) and all persons under common control (within the meaning of section 52(b) but determined by treating an interest of more than 50 percent as a controlling interest) shall be treated as 1 person.

“Subchapter C—Credit Against Tax

“Sec. 3916. Credit against tax.

“SEC. 3916. CREDIT AGAINST TAX.

“(a) GENERAL RULE.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the aggregate amount of tax imposed by section 3901 with respect to all taxable supplies made by the taxpayer during the taxable period an amount equal to the aggregate amount of tax imposed by section 3901 on creditable acquisitions of the taxpayer during such taxable period.

“(b) CREDITABLE ACQUISITIONS.—For purposes of this chapter, the term ‘creditable acquisition’ means the acquisition or receipt of any supply which—

“(1) was subject to tax under section 3901 at the time it was provided to the taxpayer,

“(2) was used by the taxpayer—

“(A) in the course of carrying on a trade or business,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer exempt from tax under section 501(a), in furtherance of the activities related to the purpose or function constituting the basis of the exemption under section 501, or

“(C) in the case of a State, an Indian tribal government, a possession of the United

States, or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, or the United States or the District of Columbia, in carrying out any activity that is not an essential governmental function, and

“(3) except as provided in subsection (c), was not used by the taxpayer to make an exempt supply.

“(c) CERTAIN ACQUISITIONS RELATED TO FINANCIAL SUPPLIES.—

“(1) ACQUISITIONS BY QUALIFIED SMALL FINANCIAL SUPPLIERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Solely for purposes of subsections (b)(3) and (d)(1), a financial supply which is provided by a qualified small financial supplier shall not be treated as an exempt supply.

“(B) QUALIFIED SMALL FINANCIAL SUPPLIER.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘qualified small financial supplier’ means any person for any month if, for the 12-month period ending with the month preceding such month, the amount of credits which, but for this paragraph, would be allowable to such person under subsection (a) for taxable supplies which are used for the purpose of making financial supplies does not exceed the lesser of—

“(I) \$150,000, or

“(II) 10 percent of the amount of credits allowable to such person under subsection (a) (determined without regard to this paragraph) for all taxable supplies during such 12-month period.

“(ii) AGGREGATION RULES.—For purposes of determining the amount of credits for any period under clause (i), all members of the same controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 267(f)) and all persons under common control (within the meaning of section 52(b) but determined by treating an interest of more than 50 percent as a controlling interest) shall be treated as 1 person.

“(2) PARTIALLY CREDITABLE ACQUISITIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any partially creditable acquisition by a person other than a qualified small financial supplier—

“(i) subsection (b) shall be applied without regard to paragraph (3) thereof, and

“(ii) only 60 percent of the amount of tax imposed by section 3901 shall be taken account under subsection (a) in determining the amount of the credit under this section.

“(B) PARTIALLY CREDITABLE ACQUISITION.—For purposes of this section—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘partially creditable acquisition’ means the acquisition of any supply described in clause (ii) if such acquisition is used to provide a financial supply.

“(ii) SUPPLIES DESCRIBED.—A supply is described in this clause if such supply is a supply of—

“(I) banking or cash management services, including services related to issuing, closing, operating, and maintaining accounts, and the processing of account information and applications,

“(II) payment and fund transfer services, including for the operation of a payment system and processing account transactions,

“(III) securities transaction services for the provision, acquisition, or disposal of an interest in a security,

“(IV) loan and debt collection services, including mortgage brokerage services, services related to mortgage insurance and loan protection insurance, and loan application, management, and processing services,

“(V) capital markets, financial instruments, or fund management services,

“(VI) insurance services, including brokerage services, or

“(VII) such other services as the Secretary may specify in regulations.

“(d) EXEMPT SUPPLIES, ETC.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If acquisitions (other than partially creditable acquisitions) are used partly for a use which is not for an exempt supply and partly for an exempt supply, the credit shall be allowable only with respect to the acquisitions which are not used for an exempt supply.

“(2) PARTIALLY CREDITABLE ACQUISITIONS.—If partially creditable acquisition is used partly to provide a supply described in subsection (c)(2)(B)(ii) and partly for another use, subsection (c)(2) shall apply only with respect to acquisitions used to provide supplies described in subsection (c)(2)(B)(ii).

“(e) EXCESS CREDIT TREATED AS OVERPAYMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If for any taxable period the amount of the credit allowable by subsection (a) exceeds the aggregate amount of the tax imposed by section 3901 for such period, such excess shall be treated as an overpayment of the tax imposed by section 3901.

“(2) TIME WHEN OVERPAYMENT ARISES.—Any overpayment under paragraph (1) for any taxable period shall be treated as arising on the later of—

“(A) the due date for the return for such period, or

“(B) the date on which the return is filed.

“Subchapter D—Administration

“Sec. 3921. Provider liable for tax.

“Sec. 3922. Tax invoices.

“Sec. 3923. Time for filing return and claiming credit; deposits of tax.

“Sec. 3924. Treatment of related businesses, etc.

“Sec. 3925. Reports.

“Sec. 3926. Regulations.

“SEC. 3921. PROVIDER LIABLE FOR TAX.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the person providing the supply shall be liable for the tax imposed by section 3901.

“(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR IMPORTS.—The person receiving the supply shall be liable for the tax imposed under section 3901—

“(1) in the case of any taxable supply described in section 3911(a)(1), and

“(2) in the case of any taxable supply which is not a supply of tangible property and which is—

“(A) performed or otherwise done outside the United States,

“(B) used in the United States, and

“(C) acquired for use—

“(i) in carrying on a trade or business in the United States,

“(ii) by an organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), in furtherance of activities related to the purpose or function constituting the basis of its exemption under section 501, or

“(iii) by a State, an Indian tribal government, a possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, or the United States or the District of Columbia, in carrying out any activity that is not an essential governmental function.

“SEC. 3922. TAX INVOICES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) SUPPLIES MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNITED STATES.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, any person providing a taxable supply shall give the recipient a tax invoice with respect to such supply.

“(2) CERTAIN SERVICES PERFORMED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—In the case of any taxable supply described in section 3921(b)(2), paragraph (1) shall not apply and the person receiving the taxable supply shall generate a tax invoice with respect to such supply.

“(3) IMPORTS.—In the case of any taxable supply described in section 3911(a), the Sec-

retary, in consultation with the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, shall promulgate regulations governing the provision of tax invoices.

“(b) CONTENT OF INVOICE.—The tax invoice required by subsection (a) with respect to any supply shall set forth—

“(1) the name and, in the case of an invoice under subsection (a)(1), identification number of the provider,

“(2) the name of the recipient,

“(3) the date of the taxable supply,

“(4) the taxable amount with respect to the taxable supply,

“(5) the amount of the tax imposed by section 3901, and

“(6) such other information as may be prescribed by regulations.

“(c) NO CREDIT WITHOUT INVOICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) or (3), a taxpayer may claim a credit with respect to a creditable acquisition only if the taxpayer—

“(A) has in the taxpayer's possession a tax invoice which meets the requirements of this section, and

“(B) is named as the recipient of the supply in such invoice.

“(2) EMPLOYEES OR OTHER AGENTS NAMED IN INVOICES.—To the extent provided in regulations, the naming of an employee or other agent of the recipient of the supply shall be treated as the naming of the recipient.

“(3) WAIVER OF INVOICE REQUIREMENT IN CERTAIN CASES.—To the extent provided in regulations, paragraph (1) shall not apply—

“(A) where the taxpayer can demonstrate that the failure to receive or to have in the taxpayer's possession a tax invoice was without fault on the taxpayer's part, or

“(B) to a taxable supply (or category of supplies) where—

“(i) the amount involved is de minimis, or

“(ii) the information required by subsection (b) can be reliably established by sampling or by another method and can be adequately documented.

“(d) TIME FOR FURNISHING INVOICE.—Any invoice required to be furnished by subsection (a) with respect to any supply shall be furnished not later than 15 business days after the tax point for such supply.

“SEC. 3923. TIME FOR FILING RETURN AND CLAIMING CREDIT; DEPOSITS OF TAX.

“(a) FILING RETURN.—Before the last day of the fourth week (third week, in the case of any taxpayer to which subsection (c)(2) applies) after the close of each taxable period, each person liable for tax under this chapter shall file a return of the tax imposed by section 3901 on taxable supplies having a tax point within such taxable period.

“(b) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR TAXABLE PERIOD IN WHICH RECIPIENT RECEIVES INVOICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a credit allowable by section 3916 with respect to a supply may be allowed only for the first taxable period by the close of which the taxpayer—

“(A) has paid or accrued amounts properly allocable to the tax imposed by section 3901 with respect to such supply, and

“(B) has a tax invoice (or equivalent) with respect to such supply.

“(2) USE FOR LATER PERIOD.—Under regulations, a credit allowable by section 3916 may be allowed for a period after the period set forth in paragraph (1).

“(c) TAXABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the term ‘taxable period’ means a calendar quarter.

“(2) MONTHLY PERIOD FOR CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a taxpayer who makes taxable supplies for any month in

excess of \$20,000,000, the term ‘taxable period’ means a calendar month.

“(B) ELECTION OF 1-MONTH PERIOD.—If the taxpayer so elects, the term ‘taxable period’ means a calendar month.

“(d) TAX POINT.—For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) CHAPTER 1 RULES WITH RESPECT TO PROVIDER GOVERN.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the tax point for any supply is the earlier of—

“(A) the time (or times) when any income from the provision of the supply should be treated by the provider as received or accrued (or any loss should be taken into account by the seller) for purposes of chapter 1, or

“(B) the time (or times) when the provider receives payment for the sale.

“(2) IMPORTS.—In the case of the importing of property, the tax point is when the property is entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption in the United States.

“(e) MONTHLY DEPOSITS REQUIRED.—To the extent provided in regulations, monthly deposits may be required of the estimated liability for any taxable period for the tax imposed by section 3901.

“SEC. 3924. TREATMENT OF RELATED BUSINESSES, ETC.

“For purposes of this chapter, except as provided in sections 3913(b)(3)(C) and 3916(c)(1)(B)(ii) and in regulations established by the Secretary, the taxpayer may elect—

“(1) to treat as 1 person 2 or more businesses which may be treated under section 52(b) as 1 employer, and

“(2) to treat as separate persons separate divisions of the same business.

“SEC. 3925. REPORTS.

“The Secretary shall submit to Congress semi-annual reports on the implementation and administration of this chapter, including the amount of revenue collected from the tax imposed under this chapter and estimates of the revenue to be collected from such tax for future period.

“SEC. 3926. REGULATIONS.

“The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

“Subchapter E—Definitions and Special Rules

“Sec. 3931. Definitions.

“Sec. 3932. Special rules.

“SEC. 3931. DEFINITIONS.

“For purposes of this chapter—

“(1) BUSINESS.—The term ‘business’ includes—

“(A) a trade, and

“(B) an activity regularly carried on for profit.

“(2) BUSINESS DAY.—The term ‘business day’ means any day other than Saturday and Sunday and other than a legal holiday (within the meaning of section 7503).

“(3) EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘employee’ has the meaning such term has for purposes of chapter 24.

“(4) FINANCIAL SUPPLIES.—The term ‘financial supplies’ means the provision, acquisition, or disposal of any of the following: a bank account, a debit or credit arrangement, a mortgage, a superannuation fund, an annuity, insurance, a financial guarantee, an indemnity, currency, securities, or derivatives.

“(5) PERSON.—The term ‘person’ includes any governmental entity.

“(6) PROVIDE; PROVIDER.—The term ‘provide’, when used in reference to taxable supplies (other than in section 3911(a)(2)), includes the importation of property and the term ‘provider’ includes the importer of property.

“(7) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United States’, when used in a geographical sense,

includes a Commonwealth and any possession of the United States.

“SEC. 3932. SPECIAL RULES.

“(a) COORDINATION WITH SUBTITLE A.—For purposes of subtitle A—

“(1) TREATMENT OF CREDIT.—Any credit allowable to a taxpayer under section 3916 which is attributable to any supply shall be treated as a reduction in the amount paid or incurred by the taxpayer for such supply.

“(2) AMOUNT OF DEDUCTION FOR TAX.—The amount allowable as a deduction for the tax imposed by section 3901 shall be determined without regard to any credit allowable under section 3916.

“(3) COMPUTATION OF PERCENTAGE DEPLETION.—For purposes of sections 613 and 613A—

“(A) gross income shall be reduced by the amount of the tax imposed by section 3901, and

“(B) taxable income shall be determined without regard to any deduction allowed for such tax.

“(b) AUTHORITY TO ZERO RATE DE MINIMIS SUPPLIES, ETC.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations treating as an exempt supply any taxable supply (or category of such supplies) where—

“(1) the amount involved is de minimis, or

“(2) the revenue raised by taxing the supply is not sufficient to justify the administrative and other costs involved in the payment and collection of the tax.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle D is amended by inserting before the item relating to chapter 31 the following:

“CHAPTER 30. PROGRESSIVE CONSUMPTION TAX”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to supplies provided after December 31, 2021.

TITLE II—INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE TAX REFORM

Subtitle A—Individual Income Tax Reforms

SEC. 201. INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE REDUCTIONS AND INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING JOINT RETURNS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES.—Subsection (a) of section 1 is amended by striking the table and inserting the following:

“If taxable income is:	The tax is:
Not over \$100,000	15 percent of taxable income.
Over \$100,000 but not over \$500,000	\$15,000, plus 25 percent of the excess over \$100,000.
Over \$500,000	\$115,000, plus 28 percent of the excess over \$500,000.”.

(2) HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS.—Subsection (b) of section 1 is amended by striking the table and inserting the following:

“If taxable income is:	The tax is:
Not over \$50,000	15 percent of taxable income.
Over \$50,000 but not over \$250,000	\$7,500, plus 25 percent of the excess over \$50,000.
Over \$250,000	\$57,500, plus 28 percent of the excess over \$250,000.”.

(3) UNMARRIED INDIVIDUALS (OTHER THAN SURVIVING SPOUSES AND HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS).—Subsection (c) of section 1 is amended by striking the table and inserting the following:

“If taxable income is:	The tax is:
Not over \$50,000	15 percent of taxable income.
Over \$50,000 but not over \$250,000	\$7,500, plus 25 percent of the excess over \$50,000.
Over \$250,000	\$57,500, plus 28 percent of the excess over \$250,000.”.

(4) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING SEPARATE RETURNS.—Subsection (d) of section 1 is

amended by striking the table and inserting the following:

“If taxable income is:	The tax is:
Not over \$50,000	15 percent of taxable income.
Over \$50,000 but not over \$250,000	\$7,500, plus 25 percent of the excess over \$50,000.
Over \$250,000	\$57,500, plus 28 percent of the excess over \$250,000.”.

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1 is amended by striking subsections (i) and (j).

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS APPLIED BASED ON CPI.—Paragraph (3) of section 1(f) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The cost-of-living adjustment for any calendar year is the percentage (if any) by which—

“(i) the CPI for the preceding calendar year, exceeds

“(ii) the CPI for calendar year 2016, multiplied by the amount determined under subparagraph (B).

“(B) AMOUNT DETERMINED.—The amount determined under this subparagraph is the product of—

“(i) the amount obtained by dividing—

“(I) the C-CPI-U for calendar year 2016, by

“(II) the CPI for calendar year 2016, and

“(ii) the amount obtained by dividing—

“(I) the CPI for calendar year 2021, by

“(II) the C-CPI-U for calendar year 2021.

“(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR ADJUSTMENTS WITH A BASE YEARS AFTER 2016.—

“(i) BASE YEARS AFTER 2021.—For purposes of any provision of this title which provides for the substitution of a year after 2021 for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii), such subparagraph shall be applied without regard to ‘, multiplied by the amount determined under subparagraph (B)’.

“(ii) BASE YEARS AFTER 2016 AND BEFORE 2022.—For purposes of any provision of this title which provides for the substitution of a year after 2016 and before 2021 for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii)—

“(I) subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be applied by substituting ‘C-CPI-U’ for ‘CPI’, and

“(II) the amount determined under subparagraph (B) shall be the amount obtained by dividing—

“(aa) the CPI for calendar year 2021, by

“(bb) the C-CPI-U for calendar year 2021.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATED TO RATE CHANGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 1(f) is amended by inserting ‘, except as provided in paragraph (7),’ after ‘for any calendar year’.

(2) UPDATED COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR NEW RATES.—Section 1(f) is amended by striking paragraphs (8) and inserting the following:

“(8) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR YEARS AFTER 2021.—

“(A) CALENDAR YEAR 2022.—In prescribing the tables under paragraph (1) which apply in lieu of the tables contained in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) with respect to taxable years beginning in calendar year 2022, the Secretary shall make no adjustment to the dollar amounts in any such table.

“(B) LATER CALENDAR YEARS.—In prescribing tables under paragraph (1) which apply in lieu of the tables contained in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022, the cost-of-living adjustment used in making adjustments to the dollar amounts in such tables shall be determined under paragraph (3) by substituting ‘2021’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.”.

(3) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (2) of section 1(f) is amended—

(i) by striking “paragraph (8)” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “paragraph (7)(A)”, and

(ii) by striking “by adjusting” in subparagraph (C) and inserting “except as provided in paragraph (7)(A), by adjusting”.

(B) The heading of subsection (f) of section 1 is amended by striking “PHASEOUT OF MARRIAGE PENALTY IN 15-PERCENT BRACKET; ADJUSTMENTS” and inserting “ADJUSTMENTS”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

“If the taxpayer is:

Single or married filing separately	\$50,000
Married filing jointly or a surviving spouse	\$100,000
A head of a household	\$75,000.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘single or married filing separately’ means a taxpayer to whom subsection (c) or (d) of section 1 applies,

“(B) the term ‘married filing jointly or a surviving spouse’ means a taxpayer to whom subsection (a) of section 1 applies, and

“(C) the term ‘head of a household’ means a taxpayer to whom subsection (b) of section 1 applies.

“(3) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2022, each of the dollar amounts in the table under paragraph (1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘2021’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(C) CROSS REFERENCES.—

“(1) For deductions of estates and trusts in lieu of the family allowance amount, see section 642(b).

“(2) For calculation of family allowance relating to nonresident aliens, see section 873(b)(3).

“(3) For determination of marital status, see section 7703.”.

(2) APPLICATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCE TO CERTAIN RULES.—

(A) SOURCE RULES.—

(i) Section 861(b) is amended by striking “the standard deduction” and inserting “the family allowance”.

(ii) Section 862(b) is amended by striking “the standard deduction” and inserting “the family allowance”.

(B) THRESHOLD FOR REQUIREMENT TO MAKE RETURN.—

(i) Section 6012(a)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1)(A) Every individual—

“(i) having for the taxable year gross income which equals or exceeds the family allowance amount applicable to the individual under section 63, or

“(ii) in the case of individuals entitled to make a joint return (but only if the individual and the individual’s spouse had the same household as their home at the close of the taxable year), every individual whose gross income, when combined with the gross income of the individual’s spouse, equals or exceeds the family allowance amount applicable to taxpayers who are married filing jointly under section 63.

“(B) Every individual not described in subparagraph (A) who is taken into account as a dependent by another taxpayer under section

SEC. 202. FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNTS; REPEAL OF PERSONAL EXEMPTION DEDUCTION.

(a) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 63 is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 63. TAXABLE INCOME DEFINED.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subtitle, the term ‘taxable income’ means adjusted gross income minus—

“(1) the deductions allowed by this chapter (other than those taken into account in determining adjusted gross income), and

7706 for purposes of any provision of this title, but only if such individual’s gross income, when combined with the gross income of all individuals taken into account in determining the family allowance amount under section 63(b) of the taxpayer, equals or exceeds the family allowance amount applicable to the taxpayer under such section.”.

(ii) Section 6012(a)(8) is amended by striking “is not less than the sum of the exemption amount plus the basic standard deduction under section 63(c)(2)(D)” and inserting “equals or exceeds the family allowance amount applicable to the estate under section 1398(c)(3)”.

(iii) Section 6012 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(C) OTHER RULES.—

(i) Section 1398(c) is amended—

(I) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT.—The family allowance amount under section 63(b) taken into account for the estate for the taxable year shall be the same as for a taxpayer who is single or married filing separately.”, and

(II) by striking “BASIC STANDARD DEDUCTION” in the heading and inserting “FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT”.

(ii) Section 6014 is amended—

(I) by striking “who does not itemize his deductions and who is not described in section 6012(a)(1)(C)(i)” in subsection (a) and inserting “who is not described in section 6012(a)(1)(B)”, and

(II) by striking subsection (b)(4) and inserting the following:

“(4) to cases where the taxpayer claims deductions in addition to the family allowance.”.

(b) PERMANENT REPEAL OF DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part V of subchapter B of chapter 1 is hereby repealed.

(2) DEFINITION OF DEPENDENT RETAINED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 152, prior to the repeal made by subsection (a), is hereby redesignated as section 7706 and moved to the end of chapter 79.

(B) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED TO TREAT INDIVIDUAL AS DEPENDENT.—Section 7706, as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REQUIRED.—No individual shall be treated as a dependent of the taxpayer under this section for a taxable year unless the taxpayer includes the TIN of such individual on the return of tax for the taxable year.”.

“(2) the family allowance amount.

“(b) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subtitle—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The family allowance amount with respect to a taxpayer shall be determined in accordance with the following table:

The family allowance amount is:

(3) APPLICATION OF REPEAL TO CERTAIN RULES.—

(A) DETERMINATION OF DEPENDENT.—Section 7706, as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended—

(i) in subsection (d)—

(I) by striking “the exemption amount (as defined in section 151(d))” in subparagraph (1)(B) and inserting “\$4,150”, and

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

“(6) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year beginning after 2018, the \$4,150 amount in paragraph (1)(B) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(c)(2)(A) for the calendar year in which such taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2017’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in clause (ii) thereof.”, and

(ii) in subsection (f)(6)(B)(i), by striking “the deduction under section 151(c)” and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63(b)”.

(B) NET OPERATING LOSS.—Section 172(d)(3) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT.—Taxable income under section 63 shall be determined without regard to paragraph (2) of section 63(a), relating to the family allowance amount. No deduction in lieu of such family allowance amount shall be allowed.”.

(C) SHORT TAXABLE YEARS.—

(i) Section 443(c) is amended—

(I) by striking “the exemptions allowed as a deduction under section 151 (and any deduction in lieu thereof) shall be reduced to amounts which bear the same ratio to the full exemptions” and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63 (and any deduction in lieu thereof) shall be reduced to an amount which bears the same ratio to the full family allowance amount”, and

(II) by striking “DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS” in the heading and inserting “FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT”.

(ii) Section 441(f)(2)(B)(iii) is amended by striking “of the deductions for personal exemptions as described in section 443(c)” and inserting “of the family allowance amount”.

(D) APPLICATION TO TRUSTS AND ESTATES.—

(i) Section 642(b)(2)(C) is amended—

(I) by striking “the exemption amount under section 151(d)” in clause (i) and inserting “the dollar amount in effect under section 7706(d)(1)(B)”, and

(II) by striking clause (iii).

(ii) Section 642(b)(3) is amended—

(I) by striking “the deductions allowed under section 151 (relating to deduction for personal exemption)” and inserting “the family allowance amount”, and

(II) by striking “PERSONAL EXEMPTION” in the heading and inserting “FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT”.

(E) PARTNERSHIP COMPUTATIONS.—Section 703(a) is amended—

(i) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (1),

(ii) by striking subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) and by redesignating subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F) of such paragraph as subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E),

(iii) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2)(F) and inserting “, and”, and

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

“(3) taxable income under section 63 shall be determined without regard to the family allowance amount.”.

(F) NONRESIDENT ALIENS.—

(i) Section 873(b) is amended—

(I) by striking “deductions” in the matter preceding paragraph (1), and

(II) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AMOUNT.—The family allowance amount under section 63(a)(2), except that the taxpayer shall be treated for purposes of section 63(b) as single or married filing separately unless the taxpayer is a resident of a contiguous country or is a national of the United States.”.

(ii)(I) The heading of section 873 is amended by striking “DEDUCTIONS” and inserting “DEDUCTIONS AND ALLOWANCES”.

(II) The item relating to section 873 in the table of sections for subpart A of part II of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 873. Deductions and allowances.”.

(iii) Section 874(b) is amended by striking “deduction for exemptions under section 151” and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63”.

(iv) Section 891 is amended by striking “deductions allowable under section 151 and under” and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63(a)(2) and the deductions allowable under”.

(G) FOREIGN TAX CREDIT.—Section 904(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) FAMILY ALLOWANCE AND DEDUCTIONS.—For purposes of subsection (a), the taxable income in the case of an individual, estate, or trust shall be computed without regard to the family allowance amount under section 63(a)(2) or any deduction in lieu of such amount under section 642(b)(3).”.

(H) TREATMENT OF POSSESSIONS.—

(i) Section 931(b)(1) is amended by striking “the deduction under section 151, relating to personal exemptions” and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63(c)”.

(ii) Section 933 is amended—

(I) by striking “the deduction under section 151, relating to personal exemptions” in paragraph (1) and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63(c)”, and

(II) by striking “the deduction for personal exemptions under section 151” in paragraph (2) and inserting “the family allowance amount under section 63(c)”.

(I) CAPITAL LOSSES.—Section 1212(b)(2)(B)(ii) is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) in the case of an estate or trust, the deduction allowed for such year under section 642(b).”.

(J) NET EARNINGS FROM SELF-EMPLOYMENT.—Section 1402(a) is amended by striking paragraph (7).

(K) PAYROLL WITHHOLDING.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 3402(f) is amended by striking subparagraph

(A) and all that follows and inserting the following:

“(A) the family allowance amount; and

“(B) any additional amounts to which the employee elects to take into account under subsection (m), but only if the employee’s spouse does not have in effect a withholding allowance certificate claiming such allowance.”.

(ii) FAMILY ALLOWANCE EXEMPTION AMOUNT.—Subsection (f) of section 3402 is amended—

(I) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8), respectively,

(II) by striking “paragraph (2)(C)” in paragraph (3)(B)(iii) and inserting “paragraph (3)(C)”, and

(III) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) FAMILY ALLOWANCE EXEMPTION AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), the term ‘family allowance exemption amount’ means the family allowance amount with respect to the taxpayer under section 63(b) for the taxable year in which the payroll period begins, prorated to the payroll period.

“(B) MARRIED EMPLOYEES.—If the employee is married filing jointly and the employee’s spouse is an employee receiving wages, the employee and the employee’s spouse may divide the family allowance amount determined under section 63(b) in the proportion of their choice for purposes of this paragraph, but the sum of the family allowance exemption amounts claimed by the employee and the employee’s spouse shall not exceed such family allowance amount.

“(C) EMPLOYEES WITH MORE THAN 1 EMPLOYER.—In the case of an employee that has withholding exemption certificates in effect with respect to more than 1 employer, the employee may divide the family allowance amount (or the employee’s share of such amount after the application of subparagraph (B), if applicable) determined under section 63(b) among employers in the proportion of the employee’s choice for purposes of this paragraph, but the sum of the family allowance exemption amounts claimed by the employee with respect to all employers shall not exceed such family allowance amount (or the employee’s share of such amount after the application of subparagraph (B), if applicable).”.

(iii) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(I) Paragraph (7) of section 3402(f), as redesignated by subparagraph (B)(i) of this paragraph, is amended by striking “shall be entitled to only one withholding exemption” and inserting “shall be treated as single or married filing separately for purposes of determining the family allowance exemption amount”.

(II) Paragraph (8) of section 3402(f), as redesignated by subparagraph (B)(i) of this paragraph, is amended by inserting “, except as provided in paragraph (2)(C)” after “with respect to one employer”.

(III) Paragraph (3) of section 3402(m) is amended by striking “deductions (including the additional standard deduction under section 63(c)(3) for the aged and blind)” and inserting “deductions”.

(IV) Paragraph (2) of section 3402(r) is amended striking “the sum of” and all that follows and inserting “the family allowance amount determined under section 63(b) for a taxpayer who is single or married filing separately.”.

(V) Section 6040(4) is amended by striking “section 3402(f)(2), (3), (4), and (5)” and inserting “paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) of section 3402(f)”.

(L) JOINT RETURNS.—Section 6013(b)(3)(A) is amended by striking “has the meaning given

to such term” and all that follows and inserting “means the family allowance amount applicable to a taxpayer who is single or married filing separately under section 63(b).”.

(M) AMOUNTS SUBJECT TO LEVY.—

(i) Section 6334(d)(2)(A) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) 50 percent of the family allowance amount determined under section 63(b) with respect to the taxpayer for the taxable year in which such levy occurs, divided by”.

(ii) Section 6334(d) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1(f)(7) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 63(c)(4), section 68(b)(2) or section 151(d)(4)” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “subsection (g)(4)(B), section 63(b)(3), section 68(b)(2), or section 7706(d)(6)”, and

(B) by striking “sections 63(c)(4) and section 151(d)(4)(A)” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “sections 63(b)(3) and 7706(d)(6)”.

(2) Section 1(g)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) and inserting the following:

“(I) \$500, plus”, and

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively, and inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 1988, the \$500 amount in subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under subsection (f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting ‘1987’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.”.

(3) Section 1(g)(5)(A) is amended by striking “section 152(e)” and inserting “section 7706(e)”.

(4) Section 2(a)(1)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”, and

(B) by striking “with respect to whom the taxpayer is entitled to a deduction for the taxable year under section 151” and inserting “whose TIN is included on the taxpayer’s return of tax for the taxable year”.

(5) Section 2(b)(1)(A)(i) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subclause (I)—

(i) by striking “section 152(c)” and inserting “section 7706(c)”, and

(ii) by striking “section 152(e)” and inserting “section 7706(e)”, and

(B) in subclause (II), by striking “section 152(b)(2) or 152(b)(3)” and inserting “section 7706(b)(2) or 7706(b)(3)”.

(6) Section 2(b)(1)(A)(ii) is amended by striking “if the taxpayer is entitled to a deduction for the taxable year for such person under section 151” and inserting “if the taxpayer included such person’s TIN on the return of tax for the taxable year”.

(7) Section 2(b)(1)(B) is amended by striking “if the taxpayer is entitled to a deduction for the taxable year for such father or mother under section 151” and inserting “if such father or mother is a dependent of the taxpayer and the taxpayer included such father or mother’s TIN on the return of tax for the taxable year”.

(8) Section 2(b)(3)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 152(d)(2)” in clause (i) and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”, and

(B) by striking “section 152(d)” in clause (ii) and inserting “section 7706(d)”.

(9) Section 36B(b)(2)(A) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(10) Section 36B(b)(3)(B) is amended by striking “unless a deduction is allowed under section 151 for the taxable year with respect

to a dependent” in the flush matter at the end and inserting “unless the taxpayer has a dependent for the taxable year (and the taxpayer included such dependent’s TIN on the return of tax for the taxable year)”.

(11) Section 36B(c)(1)(D) is amended by striking “with respect to whom a deduction under section 151 is allowable to another taxpayer” and inserting “who is a dependent of another taxpayer”.

(12) Section 36B(d)(1) is amended by striking “equal to the number of individuals for whom the taxpayer is allowed a deduction under section 151 (relating to allowance of deduction for personal exemptions) for the taxable year” and inserting “the sum of 1 (2 in the case of a joint return) plus the number of individuals who are dependents of the taxpayer for the taxable year”.

(13) Section 36B(e)(1) is amended by striking “1 or more individuals for whom a taxpayer is allowed a deduction under section 151 (relating to allowance of deduction for personal exemptions) for the taxable year (including the taxpayer or his spouse)” and inserting “1 or more of the taxpayer, the taxpayer’s spouse, or any dependent of the taxpayer”.

(14) Section 42(i)(3)(D)(ii)(I) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(15) Section 45R(e)(1)(A)(iv) is amended—
(A) by striking “section 152(d)(2)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”, and

(B) by striking “section 152(d)(2)(H)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)(H)”.

(16) Section 51(i)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 152(d)(2)” in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”, and

(B) by striking “section 152(d)(2)(H)” in subparagraph (C) and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)(H)”.

(17) Section 72(t)(2)(D)(i)(III) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(18) Section 72(t)(7)(A)(iii) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”.

(19) Section 105(b) is amended—

(A) by striking “as defined in section 152” and inserting “as defined in section 7706”,

(B) by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)” and

(C) by striking “section 152(e)” and inserting “section 7706(e)”.

(20) Section 105(c)(1) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(21) Section 125(e)(1)(D) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(22) Section 129(c)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) who is a dependent of such employee or of such employee’s spouse, or”.

(23) Section 129(c)(2) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”.

(24) Section 132(h)(2)(B) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”, and

(B) by striking “section 152(e)” and inserting “section 7706(e)”.

(25) Section 139D(c)(5) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(26) Section 139E(c)(2) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(27) Section 162(l)(1)(D) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”.

(28) Section 170(g)(1) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(29) Section 170(g)(3) is amended by striking “section 152(d)(2)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”.

(30) Section 213(a) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(31) Section 213(d)(5) is amended by striking “section 152(e)” and inserting “section 7706(e)”.

(32) Section 213(d)(11) is amended by striking “section 152(d)(2)” in the matter following subparagraph (B) and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”.

(33) Section 220(b)(6) is amended by striking “with respect to whom a deduction under section 151 is allowable to” and inserting “who is a dependent of”.

(34) Section 220(d)(2)(A) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(35) Section 223(b)(6) is amended by striking “with respect to whom a deduction under section 151 is allowable to” and inserting “who is a dependent of”.

(36) Section 223(d)(2)(A) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(37) Section 401(h) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” in the last sentence and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”.

(38) Section 402(l)(4)(D) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(39) Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(ii)(I) is amended by striking “section 152(a)” and inserting “section 7706(a)”.

(40) Section 501(c)(9) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)”.

(41) Section 529(e)(2)(B) is amended by striking “section 152(d)(2)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”.

(42) Section 529A(e)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking “section 152(d)(2)(B)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)(B)”, and

(B) by striking “section 152(f)(1)(B)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)(B)”.

(43) Section 643(a)(2) is amended—

(A) by striking “(relating to deduction for personal exemptions)” and inserting “(relating to basic deduction)”, and

(B) by striking “DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL EXEMPTION” in the heading thereof and inserting “BASIC DEDUCTION”.

(44) Section 1361(c)(1)(C) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)(C)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(1)(C)”.

(45) Section 2032A(c)(7)(D) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(2)” and inserting “section 7706(f)(2)”.

(46) Section 5000A(b)(3)(A) is amended by striking “section 152” and inserting “section 7706”.

(47) Section 5000A(c)(4)(A) is amended by striking “the number of individuals for whom the taxpayer is allowed a deduction under section 151 (relating to allowance of deduction for personal exemptions) for the taxable year” and inserting “the sum of 1 (2 in the case of a joint return) plus the number of the taxpayer’s dependents for the taxable year”.

(48) Section 6103(l)(21)(A)(iii) is amended by striking “for whom a deduction is allowed under section 151” and inserting “who is taken into account as a dependent under section 7706 for purposes of any provision of this title”.

(49) Section 6213(g)(2)(H) is amended by striking “section 21 (relating to expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment) or section 151 (relating to allowance of deductions for personal exemptions)” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)(B), (b)(1)(A)(ii), or (b)(1)(B) of section 2 or section 36B(b)(3)(B)”.

(50) Section 7702B(f)(2)(C)(iii) is amended by striking “section 152(d)(2)” and inserting “section 7706(d)(2)”.

(51) Section 7703(a) is amended by striking “part V of subchapter B of chapter 1 and”.

(52) Section 7703(b)(1) is amended by striking “section 152(f)(1)” and all that follows and inserting “section 7706(f)(1) who is a dependent of such individual for the taxable year (or would be but for section 7706(e))”.

(53) Section 7706(a), as redesignated by this section, is amended by striking “this subtitle” and inserting “subtitle A”.

(54) Section 7706(e)(3), as redesignated by this section, is amended by inserting “(as in effect before its repeal)” after “section 151”.

(55) The table of parts for subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to part V.

(56) The table of sections for chapter 79 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 7706. Dependent defined.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 203. REPEAL OF LIMITATIONS RELATING TO ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 67 and 68 are repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 162(o) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(2) Section 164(b)(5)(H)(ii) is amended—

(A) by striking the comma at the end of subclause (I) and inserting “, and”,

(B) by striking “, and” at the end of subclause (II) and inserting a period, and

(C) by striking subclause (III).

(3) Section 302(b)(5) is amended by inserting “, as in effect on December 31, 2021” after “67(c)(2)(B)”.

(4) Section 562(c) is amended by inserting “, as in effect on December 31, 2021” after “67(c)(2)(B)”.

(5) Section 642(b)(2)(C)(i)(II) is amended by inserting “, and as in effect on December 31, 2021” after “642(b)”.

(6) Section 6654(d)(1)(C)(iii) is amended by inserting “, as in effect on December 31, 2021” before the period.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The repeal and the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 204. RESTORATION OF CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS.

(a) DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED RESIDENCE INTEREST.—Section 163(h)(3) is amended by striking subparagraph (F).

(b) DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXES.—Section 164(b) is amended by striking paragraph (6).

(c) DEDUCTION FOR PERSONAL CASUALTY LOSSES.—Section 165(h) is amended by striking paragraph (5).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 205. TERMINATION OF SEPARATE TREATMENT OF CAPITAL GAINS.

Subsection (h) of section 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2021.”.

SEC. 206. REPEALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are repealed:

(1) Subpart A of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to nonrefundable personal credits).

(2) Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to other credits), other than section 27 (relating to taxes of foreign countries and possessions of the United States; possession tax credit).

(3) Sections 34, 35, and 36.

(4) Part VI of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to alternative minimum tax).

(5) Section 199A (relating to deduction for qualified business income).

(6) Section 217 (relating to moving expenses).

(7) Section 221 (relating to interest on education loans).

(8) Section 222 (relating to qualified tuition and related expenses).

(9) Chapter 2A (relating to unearned income medicare contribution).

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The repeals made by subsection (a) shall take effect for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 207. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRESSIVE TAX REBATE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 32 is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 32. PROGRESSIVE TAX REBATE.

“(a) **ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this subtitle for the taxable year an amount equal to the sum of—

“(1) the earned income amount (as determined under subsection (b)),

“(2) the child benefit amount (as determined under subsection (c)), plus

“(3) the additional child benefit amount (as determined under subsection (d)).

“(b) **EARNED INCOME AMOUNT.**—

“(1) **SINGLE WORKERS.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer (other than a head of a household as defined in section 2(b)) who is not filing a joint return for the taxable year under section 6013, the earned income amount shall be equal to—

“(A) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income for the taxable year does not exceed \$6,100, 25.1 percent of such earned income,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income for the taxable year exceeds \$6,100 but does not exceed \$9,000, \$1,530 plus 17.1 percent of such earned income in excess of \$6,100,

“(C) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) for the taxable year exceeds \$9,000, but does not exceed \$49,494, \$2,025 minus 5 percent of such earned income or adjusted gross income in excess of \$9,000, or

“(D) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) for the taxable year exceeds \$49,494, \$0.

“(2) **HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer who is a head of a household (as defined in section 2(b)), the earned income amount shall be equal to—

“(A) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income for the taxable year does not exceed \$9,150, 25.1 percent of such earned income,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income for the taxable year exceeds \$9,150 but does not exceed \$13,500, \$2,294 plus 17.1 percent of such earned income in excess of \$9,150,

“(C) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) for the taxable year exceeds \$13,500, but does not exceed \$74,241, \$3,037 minus 5 percent of such earned income or adjusted gross income in excess of \$13,500, or

“(D) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) for the taxable year exceeds \$74,241, \$0.

“(3) **MARRIED FILING JOINTLY.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer filing a joint return under section 6013, the earned income amount shall be determined pursuant to paragraph (1), except that the dollar amounts in effect under such paragraph shall be multiplied by 2.

“(c) **CHILD BENEFIT AMOUNT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer with a qualifying child, the child

benefit amount shall be equal to 15 percent of the earned income of such taxpayer for the taxable year.

“(2) **LIMITATIONS.**—

“(A) **LIMITATION BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN.**—The child benefit amount determined under paragraph (1) shall not exceed an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) the number of qualifying children of the taxpayer, multiplied by

“(ii) \$1,590.

“(B) **REDUCTION BASED ON EARNINGS OR ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.**—The child benefit amount determined under this subsection (as determined after application of subparagraph (A)) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by an amount equal to 5 percent of the earned income (or, if greater, the adjusted gross income) of the taxpayer for the taxable year in excess of \$75,000 (\$110,000 in the case of a joint return).

“(d) **ADDITIONAL CHILD BENEFIT AMOUNT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of an eligible taxpayer with a qualifying child, the additional child benefit amount shall be equal to—

“(A) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income for the taxable year does not exceed \$20,000, the applicable percentage of such earned income,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income exceeds \$20,000 but does not exceed \$25,000, the applicable percentage of \$20,000,

“(C) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) exceeds \$25,000 but does not exceed the applicable amount, an amount equal to—

“(i) the applicable percentage of \$20,000, minus

“(ii) 15 percent of such earned income or adjusted gross income in excess of \$25,000, or

“(D) in the case of a taxpayer whose earned income (or, if greater, adjusted gross income) exceeds the applicable amount, \$0.

“(2) **APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the applicable percentage is—

“(A) in the case of a taxpayer with 1 qualifying child, 11 percent,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer with 2 qualifying children, 17 percent, and

“(C) in the case of a taxpayer with 3 or more qualifying children, 19 percent.

“(3) **APPLICABLE AMOUNT.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the applicable amount is—

“(A) in the case of a taxpayer with 1 qualifying child, \$39,667,

“(B) in the case of a taxpayer with 2 qualifying children, \$47,667, and

“(C) in the case of a taxpayer with 3 or more qualifying children, \$50,333.

“(e) **ELIGIBLE TAXPAYER.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘eligible taxpayer’ means an individual—

“(A) whose principal place of abode is in the United States for more than one-half of such taxable year, and

“(B) is not a dependent (as defined under section 152) to another taxpayer for any taxable year beginning in the same calendar year as such taxable year.

“(2) **QUALIFYING CHILD INELIGIBLE.**—If an individual is the qualifying child of a taxpayer for any taxable year of such taxpayer beginning in a calendar year, such individual shall not be treated as an eligible taxpayer for any taxable year of such individual beginning in such calendar year.

“(3) **EXCEPTION FOR TAXPAYER CLAIMING BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 911.**—The term ‘eligible taxpayer’ does not include any taxpayer who claims the benefits of section 911 for the taxable year.

“(4) **LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY OF NON-RESIDENT ALIENS.**—The term ‘eligible taxpayer’ shall not include any individual who is a nonresident alien individual for any portion of the taxable year unless such indi-

vidual is treated for such taxable year as a resident of the United States for purposes of this chapter by reason of an election under subsection (g) or (h) of section 6013.

“(5) **IDENTIFICATION NUMBER REQUIREMENT.**—No credit shall be allowed under this section to an eligible taxpayer who does not include on the return of tax for the taxable year—

“(A) such individual’s taxpayer identification number, and

“(B) if the individual is married (within the meaning of section 7703), the taxpayer identification number of such individual’s spouse.

“(6) **TAXPAYERS WHO DO NOT INCLUDE TIN, ETC., OF ANY QUALIFYING CHILD.**—No credit shall be allowed under this section to any eligible taxpayer who has one or more qualifying children if no qualifying child of such taxpayer is taken into account under subsection (c) or (d) by reason of subsection (f)(4).

“(7) **TREATMENT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES.**—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A) and subsection (f)(3), the principal place of abode of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be treated as in the United States during any period during which such member is stationed outside the United States while serving on extended active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘extended active duty’ means any period of active duty pursuant to a call or order to such duty for a period in excess of 90 days or for an indefinite period.

“(8) **JOINT RETURN.**—

“(A) **MARRIED INDIVIDUALS.**—In the case of an individual who is married (within the meaning of section 7703), this section shall apply only if a joint return is filed for the taxable year under section 6013.

“(B) **OTHER.**—In the case of taxpayer filing a joint return under section 6013, such taxpayer shall not be treated as an eligible taxpayer for purposes of this section unless either the taxpayer or the taxpayer’s spouse satisfies each of the requirements under this subsection.

“(f) **QUALIFYING CHILD.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘qualifying child’ means a qualifying child of the taxpayer (as defined in section 152(c)), determined without regard to paragraph (1)(D) thereof and section 152(e)).

“(2) **MARRIED INDIVIDUAL.**—The term ‘qualifying child’ shall not include an individual who is married as of the close of the eligible taxpayer’s taxable year unless the individual qualifies as a dependent (as defined under section 152) of the taxpayer for such taxable year.

“(3) **PLACE OF ABODE.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the requirements of section 152(c)(1)(B) shall be met only if the principal place of abode is in the United States.

“(4) **IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A qualifying child shall not be taken into account under subsection (c) or (d) unless the taxpayer includes the name, age, and TIN of the qualifying child on the return of tax for the taxable year.

“(B) **OTHER METHODS.**—The Secretary may prescribe other methods for providing the information described in subparagraph (A).

“(g) **EARNED INCOME.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The term ‘earned income’ means—

“(A) wages, salaries, tips, and other employee compensation, but only if such amounts are includible in gross income for the taxable year, plus

“(B) the amount of the taxpayer’s net earnings from self-employment for the taxable year (within the meaning of section

1402(a)), but such net earnings shall be determined with regard to the deduction allowed to the taxpayer by section 164(f).

“(2) SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of paragraph (1)—

“(A) no amount received as a pension or annuity shall be taken into account,

“(B) no amount to which section 871(a) applies (relating to income of nonresident alien individuals not connected with United States business) shall be taken into account,

“(C) no amount received for services provided by an individual while the individual is an inmate at a penal institution shall be taken into account,

“(D) no amount described in paragraph (1) received for service performed in work activities as defined in paragraph (4) or (7) of section 407(d) of the Social Security Act to which the taxpayer is assigned under any State program under part A of title IV of such Act shall be taken into account, but only to the extent such amount is subsidized under such State program, and

“(E) a taxpayer may elect to treat amounts excluded from gross income by reason of section 112 as earned income.

“(h) TAXABLE YEAR MUST BE FULL TAXABLE YEAR.—Except in the case of a taxable year closed by reason of the death of the eligible taxpayer, no credit shall be allowable under this section in the case of a taxable year covering a period of less than 12 months.

“(i) COORDINATION WITH CERTAIN MEANS-TESTED PROGRAMS.—For purposes of—

“(1) the United States Housing Act of 1937,

“(2) title V of the Housing Act of 1949,

“(3) section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965,

“(4) sections 221(d)(3), 235, and 236 of the National Housing Act, and

“(5) the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008,

any refund made to a taxpayer by reason of this section shall not be treated as income (and shall not be taken into account in determining resources for the month of its receipt and the following month).

“(j) AMOUNT OF CREDIT TO BE DETERMINED UNDER TABLES.—The amount of the credit allowed by this section shall be determined under tables prescribed by the Secretary.

“(k) DENIAL OF CREDIT FOR INDIVIDUALS HAVING EXCESSIVE INVESTMENT INCOME.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No credit shall be allowed under subsection (a) for the taxable year if the aggregate amount of disqualified income of the taxpayer for the taxable year exceeds \$5,000.

“(2) DISQUALIFIED INCOME.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘disqualified income’ means—

“(A) interest or dividends to the extent includible in income for the taxable year,

“(B) interest received or accrued during the taxable year which is exempt from tax imposed by this chapter,

“(C) the excess (if any) of—

“(i) gross income from rents or royalties not derived in the ordinary course of a trade or business, over

“(ii) the sum of—

“(I) the deductions (other than interest) which are clearly and directly allocable to such gross income, plus

“(II) interest deductions properly allocable to such gross income,

“(D) the capital gain net income (as defined in section 1222) of the taxpayer for such taxable year, and

“(E) the excess (if any) of—

“(i) the aggregate income from all passive activities for the taxable year (determined without regard to any amount included in earned income under subsection (f) or described in a preceding subparagraph), over

“(ii) the aggregate losses from all passive activities for the taxable year (as so determined).

“(3) PASSIVE ACTIVITY.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(E), the term ‘passive activity’ has the meaning given such term by section 469.

“(1) INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2022, each of the dollar amounts in subsections (b), (c), (d), and (j)(1) shall each be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘2021’ for ‘2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any dollar amount in subsections (b), (c), (d), and (j)(1), after being increased under paragraph (1), is not a multiple of \$100, such dollar amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100.

“(m) RESTRICTIONS ON TAXPAYERS WHO IMPROPERLY CLAIMED CREDIT IN PRIOR YEAR.—

“(1) TAXPAYERS MAKING PRIOR FRAUDULENT OR RECKLESS CLAIMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No credit shall be allowed under this section for any taxable year in the disallowance period.

“(B) DISALLOWANCE PERIOD.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the disallowance period is—

“(i) the period of 10 taxable years after the most recent taxable year for which there was a final determination that the taxpayer’s claim of credit under this section was due to fraud, and

“(ii) the period of 2 taxable years after the most recent taxable year for which there was a final determination that the taxpayer’s claim of credit under this section was due to reckless or intentional disregard of rules and regulations (but not due to fraud).

“(2) TAXPAYERS MAKING IMPROPER PRIOR CLAIMS.—In the case of a taxpayer who is denied credit under this section for any taxable year as a result of the deficiency procedures under subchapter B of chapter 63, no credit shall be allowed under this section for any subsequent taxable year unless the taxpayer provides such information as the Secretary may require to demonstrate eligibility for such credit.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 86(f)(2) is amended by striking “section 32(c)(2)” and inserting “section 32(g)”.

(2) Section 129(e)(2) is amended by striking “section 32(c)(2)” and inserting “section 32(g)”.

(3) Section 6213(g)(2) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (G), by striking “section 32(c)(2)(A)” and inserting “section 32(g)(1)”, and

(B) in subparagraph (K), by striking “section 32(k)(2)” and inserting “section 32(m)(2)”.

(4) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “32,” after “25A.”.

(5) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A is amended by striking the item relating to section 32 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 32. Progressive tax rebate.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 208. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate shall, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Committee on Ways and

Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a draft of any technical and conforming changes in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which are necessary to reflect throughout such Code the purposes of the provisions of, and amendments made by, this title.

Subtitle B—Corporate Tax Reforms

SEC. 211. CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE REDUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 11 is amended to read as follows:

“(b) AMOUNT OF TAX.—The amount of the tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be an amount equal to 17 percent of the taxable income.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1551 is amended—

(1) by striking “BENEFITS OF THE GRADUATED CORPORATE RATES AND” in the heading,

(2) by striking “the benefits of the rates contained in section 11(b) which are lower than the highest rate specified in such section, or” in subsection (a), and

(3) by striking “such benefits or credit” in subsection (a) and inserting “such credit”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021.

TITLE III—REFUND OF EXCESS CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUE

SEC. 301. REFUNDS OF EXCESS CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter 65 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 6433. REFUNDS OF EXCESS CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any qualifying excess consumption tax revenue year, the Secretary shall pay to each eligible filer an amount equal to the consumption tax refund amount.

“(b) QUALIFYING EXCESS CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUE YEAR.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying excess consumption tax revenue year’ means any calendar year for which the net consumption tax revenues exceed 10 percent of gross domestic product for such year.

“(2) NET CONSUMPTION TAX REVENUES.—The net consumption tax revenues for any calendar year shall be the excess of—

“(A) the tax imposed under section 3901 with respect to taxable supplies the tax point for which is during such calendar year, over

“(B) the credits allowed under section 3916 for such calendar year.

(3) GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.—The gross domestic product for any calendar year shall be the last estimate of the gross domestic product for such calendar year by the Department of Commerce which is published before the date that is 3 months after the close of such calendar year.

“(c) ELIGIBLE FILER.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) DEFINITION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible filer’ means, with respect to any qualifying excess consumption tax revenue year, any individual (other than an individual described in paragraph (2)) who filed a return of income tax for the individual’s qualifying rebate taxable year.

“(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘eligible filer’ shall not include—

“(i) any nonresident alien individual,

“(ii) any individual who is a dependent (as defined in section 152) of another taxpayer for the individual’s qualifying rebate taxable year, or

“(iii) an estate or trust.

“(2) QUALIFYING REBATE TAXABLE YEAR.—The term ‘qualifying rebate taxable year’

means, with respect to any individual in connection with a qualifying excess consumption tax revenue year, the taxable year of such individual which contains 6 or more months of such qualifying excess consumption tax revenue year.

“(3) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall not be treated as an eligible filer for any year unless such individual includes on the return of tax for such year—

“(i) such individual’s valid identification number,

“(ii) in the case of a joint return, the valid identification number of such individual’s spouse, and

“(iii) the valid identification number of any qualifying child (as defined in section 32(f)) claimed on such return.

“(B) VALID IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘valid identification number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration. Such term shall not include a TIN issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

“(C) SPECIAL RULE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to a joint return where at least 1 spouse was a member of the Armed Forces of the United States at any time during the taxable year.

“(d) CONSUMPTION TAX REFUND AMOUNT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The consumption tax refund amount for any eligible filer for any qualifying excess consumption tax year shall be the product of—

“(A) the applicable amount, times

“(B) the applicable shares of the eligible filer.

“(2) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—The applicable amount for any qualifying excess revenue consumption tax year is an amount equal to—

“(A) the excess described in subsection (b)(1), divided by

“(B) the total number of applicable shares of all eligible filers for such year.

“(3) APPLICABLE SHARE.—The number of applicable shares for any eligible filer shall be the sum of—

“(A) 1 (2 in the case of a joint return), plus

“(B) ½ of the number of qualifying children (as defined in section 32(f)) claimed on the eligible filer’s return for the filer’s qualifying rebate taxable year.

“(e) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—Payments under subsection (a) shall be made as soon as practical after the Secretary has determined the consumption tax refund amount.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1324(b)(2) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking “or 6431” and inserting “6431, or 6433”.

(2) The table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 65 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 6433. Refunds of excess consumption tax revenue.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to calendar years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 5035. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide matching payments for retirement savings contributions by certain individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I have introduced the Encouraging

Americans to Save Act (EASA). This legislation makes common sense reforms to the saver’s tax credit by making the credit refundable and restructuring it as a government matching contribution that is directly deposited into a worker’s retirement savings account.

This bill would offer matching contributions for the first time to millions of middle and lower income individuals not covered by an employer-sponsored retirement plan, including those who save through an IRA under a State or local government savings program—such as workers in my home State of Oregon under the OregonSaves program. The government match is also available to middle and lower income savers who participate in an employer-sponsored plan.

The government match provided by the bill would both encourage saving and help middle and low income earners build assets by providing an immediate, meaningful return on their personal contributions. The legislation would also establish a coronavirus bonus recovery credit that would provide an additional government match of up to \$5,000 to workers on their retirement saving for a five year period beginning in 2022. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 5036. A bill to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2023, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 5036

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 “Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF OVERTIME PAY EXCEPTION THROUGH 2023 FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 (5 U.S.C. 5547 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “2020” and inserting “2023”;

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, or 2020” and inserting “during any of calendar years 2016 through 2023”; and

(3) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by inserting “for a given calendar year” after “for premium pay”; and

(B) by striking “during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020” and inserting “during each of calendar years 2016 through 2023”.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) REPORT ON EXTENSIONS.—Not later than January 30 of each of calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023, the Director of the United States Secret Service shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the effects of the amendments made by sub-

section (a) and the amendments made by section 2(a) of the Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act (Public Law 115-383; 132 Stat. 5121), which shall include, with respect to the previous calendar year, the information described under paragraphs (1) through (7) of section 2(c) of the Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-160; 132 Stat. 1246).

(3) OPEN RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the United States Secret Service shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report discussing the progress of the United States Secret Service in implementing each recommendation of the Government Accountability Office to the United States Secret Service that has not been designated as closed by the Comptroller General of the United States.

(4) PROTECTIVE MISSION PANEL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the extent of the progress made by the United States Secret Service in implementing the recommendations of the United States Secret Service Protective Mission Panel, including in particular those items pertaining to training and personnel enumerated in the Executive Summary to Report from the United States Secret Service Protective Mission Panel to the Secretary of Homeland Security dated December 15, 2014.

(c) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 2(b) of the Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act (Public Law 115-383; 132 Stat. 5121) is repealed.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 803—DESIGNATING ROOM S-124 OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL AS THE “U.S. SENATOR MARGARET CHASE SMITH ROOM” AND DESIGNATING ROOM S-115 OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL AS THE “U.S. SENATOR BARBARA A. MIKULSKI ROOM”, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICE TO THE SENATE AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 803

Whereas Senator Margaret Chase Smith served the people of Maine for more than 32 years as a member of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

Whereas Senator Margaret Chase Smith became the first woman to serve in both the House of Representatives and the Senate;

Whereas Senator Margaret Chase Smith served as Chair of the Republican Conference, the first woman to hold a leadership position in the Senate;

Whereas, during her tenure in the Senate, Senator Margaret Chase Smith served as—

(1) the first woman Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services, the first woman Ranking Member of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, and the Chair of the Committee on Rates and Compensation of Certain Officers and Employees of the Senate; and

(2) a member of the Committee on District of Columbia, the Committee on Expenditures

in the Executive Departments (renamed the Committee on Government Operations in 1952), the Committee on Rules and Administration, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies;

Whereas, on June 1, 1950, Senator Margaret Chase Smith spoke out against McCarthyism in the Senate Chamber, becoming one of the first Senators to do so, with her "Declaration of Conscience" speech;

Whereas Senator Margaret Chase Smith championed legislation and policies for women in the military throughout her Senate career and served as a role model to countless women seeking elective office and careers in public service;

Whereas Senator Barbara A. Mikulski served the people of Maryland for more than 45 years as a member of the Baltimore City Council, the House of Representatives, and the Senate;

Whereas Senator Barbara A. Mikulski served as Democratic Conference Secretary, the first woman to hold a Democratic leadership position in the Senate;

Whereas Senator Barbara A. Mikulski served as Democratic Conference Secretary, the first woman to hold a Democratic leadership position in the Senate;

Whereas, during her tenure in the Senate, Senator Barbara A. Mikulski served as—

(1) the first Chairwoman of the Committee on Appropriations, the Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations, and the first Vice Chairwoman of the Committee on Appropriations; and

(2) a member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (formerly the Committee on Labor and Human Resources) and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship;

Whereas Senator Barbara A. Mikulski championed policy on higher education, pay equality, space, technology, justice, Alzheimer's research, and maritime issues and sponsored legislation to improve women's health, including the creation of the Office of Research on Women's Health of the National Institutes of Health; and

Whereas Senator Barbara A. Mikulski mentored other female Senators as the Dean of the Women Senators and fostered bipartisan cooperation and friendship amongst the women of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, in recognition of the service of Senator Margaret Chase Smith and Senator Barbara A. Mikulski to the Senate and the people of the United States, the Senate designates—

(1) room S-124 of the United States Capitol as the "U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Room"; and

(2) room S-115 of the United States Capitol as the "U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2709. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. RUBIO) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 221, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

SA 2710. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. BRAUN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1387, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the service obligation verification process for TEACH Grant recipients, and for other purposes.

SA 2711. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. ENZI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3287, to modify the governmentwide financial management plan, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2709. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. RUBIO) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 221, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism Act".

SEC. 2. FINDING.

Congress finds that, since the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-332) was enacted, in many foreign countries acts of anti-Semitism have been frequent and wide in scope, the perpetrators and variety of threats to Jewish communities and their institutions have proliferated, and in some countries anti-Semitic attacks have increased in frequency, scope, violence, and deadliness.

SEC. 3. MONITORING AND COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM.

Section 59(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2731(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate"; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The Special Envoy shall report directly to the Secretary."; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in the heading, by striking "APPOINTMENT" and inserting "NOMINATION";

(ii) by striking the first sentence;

(iii) in the second sentence, by striking "If the Secretary determines that such is appropriate, the Secretary may appoint" and inserting "If the President determines that such is appropriate, the President may nominate"; and

(iv) in the third sentence, by striking "The Secretary may allow such officer or employee to retain the position (and the responsibilities associated with such position) held by such officer or employee prior to the appointment" and inserting "Such officer or employee may not retain the position (or the responsibilities associated with such position) held by such officer or employee prior to the nomination"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(3) **DUTIES.**—The Special Envoy shall serve as the primary advisor to, and coordinate efforts across, the United States Government relating to monitoring and combating anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic incitement that occur in foreign countries.

"(4) **RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR.**—The Special Envoy shall have the rank of ambassador.

"(5) **QUALIFICATIONS.**—The Special Envoy should be a person of recognized distinction in the field of combating anti-Semitism."

SA 2710. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. BRAUN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1387, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the service obligation verification process for TEACH Grant recipients, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consider Teachers Act".

SEC. 2. TEACH GRANTS.

Section 420N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g-2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "(referred to in this section as the 'service obligation window')" after "under this subpart";

(B) in subparagraph (C)(vii), by inserting "or geographic area" after "field"; and

(C) by striking subparagraphs (D) and (E) and inserting the following:

"(D) submit a certification of employment by the chief administrative officer of the school in accordance with subsection (d)(5); and

"(E) meet all State certification requirements for teaching (which may include meeting such requirements through a certification obtained through alternative routes to teaching);";

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking "In the event" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In the event"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) RECONSIDERATION OF CONVERSION DECISIONS.—

"(A) REQUEST TO RECONSIDER.—In any case where the Secretary has determined that a recipient of a grant under this subpart has failed or refused to comply with the service obligation in the agreement under subsection (b) and has converted the grant into a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D in accordance with paragraph (1), the recipient may request that the Secretary reconsider such initial determination and may submit additional information to demonstrate satisfaction of the service obligation. Upon receipt of such a request, the Secretary shall reconsider the determination in accordance with this paragraph not later than 90 days after the date that such request was received.

"(B) RECONSIDERATION.—If, in reconsidering an initial determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary determines that the reason for such determination was the recipient's failure to timely submit a certification required under subsection (b)(1)(D) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Consider Teachers Act), an error or processing delay by the Secretary, a change to the fields considered eligible for fulfillment of the service obligation (as described in subsection (b)(1)(C)), a recipient having previously requested to have the TEACH Grant converted to a loan, or another valid reason determined by the Secretary, and that the recipient has, as of the date of the reconsideration, demonstrated that the recipient did meet, or is meeting the service obligation in the agreement under subsection (b), the Secretary shall—

"(i) discharge the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D, and reinstate the recipient's grant under this subpart;

"(ii) discharge any interest or fees that may have accumulated during the period that the grant was converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D;

"(iii) if the recipient has other loans under part D, apply any payments made for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D during such period to those other loans under part D;

"(iv) if the recipient does not have other loans under part D, reimburse the recipient for any amounts paid on the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D during such period;

"(v) request that consumer reporting agencies remove any negative credit reporting due to the conversion of the TEACH Grant to a loan; and

“(vi) use the additional information provided under subparagraph (A) to determine the progress the recipient has made in meeting the service obligation.

“(C) EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE SERVICE OBLIGATION.—In the case of a recipient whose TEACH Grant was reinstated in accordance with subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall, upon such reinstatement—

“(i) extend the time remaining for the recipient to fulfill the service obligation described in subsection (b)(1) to a period of time equal to—

“(I) 8 years; minus

“(II) the number of full academic years of teaching that the recipient completed prior to the reconversion of the loan to a TEACH Grant under subparagraph (B), including any years of qualifying teaching completed during the period when the TEACH Grant was in loan status; and

“(ii) treat any full academic years of teaching described in clause (i)(II) as years that count toward the individual's service obligation (regardless of whether the TEACH Grant funds were in grant or loan status) if that time otherwise meets the requirements of this section.”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

“(3) COMMUNICATION WITH RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH grant recipients not less than once per calendar year regarding how to submit the employment certification under subsection (b)(1)(D) and the recommendations and requirements for submitting that certification under subsection (d)(5).

“(4) QUALIFYING SCHOOLS AND HIGH-NEED FIELDS.—The Secretary shall maintain and annually update a list of qualifying schools as described in subsection (b)(1)(B), and a list of high-need fields as described in subsection (b)(1)(C) and shall make such lists publicly available on the Department's website in a sortable and searchable format.”.

SEC. 3. SUBMISSION OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION.

Section 420N(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g-2(d)), as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) SUBMISSION OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION.—

“(A) RECOMMENDED SUBMISSIONS.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH Grant recipients that the Department recommends that TEACH Grant recipients submit the employment certification described in subsection (b)(1)(D) as soon as practicable after the completion of each year of service.

“(B) REQUIRED SUBMISSION.—A TEACH Grant recipient shall be required to submit to the Department employment certification within the timeframe that would allow that individual to complete their service obligation before the end of the service obligation window.

“(C) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH Grant recipients of the required submission deadlines described in this paragraph.

“(D) ADJUSTMENT OF DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall adjust the submission deadline described in subparagraph (B) to account for a service obligation window extension.

“(E) ALTERNATIVE TO CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall provide an alternative to the certification of employment described in subsection (b)(1)(D) for recipients who cannot obtain such required certification of employment from the chief administrative officer of the school because the recipient can demonstrate the school is no longer in existence or the school refuses to cooperate.”.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF TIME TO FULFILL SERVICE OBLIGATION DUE TO COVID-19.

(a) Section 3519(a) of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “For the purpose of section 420N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g-2), during a qualifying emergency,” and inserting “Notwithstanding any provision of subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.),”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking “such section 420N,” and inserting “section 420N of such Act; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) shall extend the service obligation window (as described in section 420N(b)(1)(A) of such Act) for a period of not more than 3 years, in addition to any extensions provided in accordance with subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.), in the case of a grant recipient whose service obligation window begins during, or includes—

“(A) the qualifying emergency period; or

“(B) a period of recession or economic downturn related to the qualifying emergency period, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Labor.”.

(b) Section 3519 of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS.—Notwithstanding section 465 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ee), the Secretary shall waive the requirements of such section in regard to full-time service and shall consider an incomplete year of service of a borrower as fulfilling the requirement for a complete year of service under such section, if the service was interrupted due to a qualifying emergency.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136).

SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION.

In carrying out this Act and any amendments made by this Act, or any regulations promulgated under this Act or under such amendments, the Secretary of Education may waive the application of—

(1) subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”);

(2) the master calendar requirements under section 482 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1089);

(3) negotiated rulemaking under section 492 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098a); and

(4) the requirement to publish the notices related to the system of records of the agency before implementation required under paragraphs (4) and (11) of section 552a(e) of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”), except that the notices shall be published not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2711. Mr. MORAN (for Mr. ENZI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3287, to modify the governmentwide financial management plan, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 33, lines 5 and 6 strike “effectively and” and insert “effectively, including sufficient tests”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nomination.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

The Subcommittee on Health Care of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION

The Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

APPOINTMENT

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106-398, as amended by Public Law 108-7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the re-appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Robin Cleveland, of Virginia for a term expiring December 31, 2022.

SCARLETT'S SUNSHINE ON SUDDEN UNEXPECTED DEATH ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 1130.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1130) entitled “An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden

death in early life.”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment, and I know of no further debate on the motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the motion to concur.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

NATIONAL LANDSLIDE PREPAREDNESS ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 8810, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8810) to establish a national program to identify and reduce losses from landslide hazards, to establish a national 3D Elevation Program, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 8810) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

COORDINATED OCEAN OBSERVATIONS AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2020

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the message to accompany S. 914.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 914) entitled “An Act to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and to require the establishment of a National Water Center, and for other purposes.”, do pass with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment, and I ask unanimous consent that the motion be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

SPECIAL ENVOY TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 221 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 221) to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Rubio substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 2709) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDING.

Congress finds that, since the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-332) was enacted, in many foreign countries acts of anti-Semitism have been frequent and wide in scope, the perpetrators and variety of threats to Jewish communities and their institutions have proliferated, and in some countries anti-Semitic attacks have increased in frequency, scope, violence, and deadliness.

SEC. 3. MONITORING AND COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM.

Section 59(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2731(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Special Envoy shall report directly to the Secretary.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in the heading, by striking “APPOINTMENT” and inserting “NOMINATION”; and

(ii) by striking the first sentence; (iii) in the second sentence, by striking “If the Secretary determines that such is appropriate, the Secretary may appoint” and inserting “If the President determines that such is appropriate, the President may nominate”; and

(iv) in the third sentence, by striking “The Secretary may allow such officer or employee to retain the position (and the responsibilities associated with such position) held by such officer or employee prior to the appointment” and inserting “Such officer or employee may not retain the position (or the responsibilities associated with such position) held by such officer or employee prior to the nomination”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) DUTIES.—The Special Envoy shall serve as the primary advisor to, and coordi-

nate efforts across, the United States Government relating to monitoring and combating anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic incitement that occur in foreign countries.

“(4) RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR.—The Special Envoy shall have the rank of ambassador.

“(5) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Special Envoy should be a person of recognized distinction in the field of combating anti-Semitism.”.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 221), as amended, was passed.

SECRET SERVICE OVERTIME PAY EXTENSION ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 5036, introduced earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5036) to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2023, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 5036) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows

S. 5036

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 “Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF OVERTIME PAY EXCEPTION THROUGH 2023 FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 (5 U.S.C. 5547 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “2020” and inserting “2023”; and

(2) in subsection (a), by striking “during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, or 2020” and inserting “during any of calendar years 2016 through 2023”; and

(3) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by inserting “for a given calendar year” after “for premium pay”; and

(B) by striking “during 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020” and inserting “during each of calendar years 2016 through 2023”.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) REPORT ON EXTENSIONS.—Not later than January 30 of each of calendar years 2021,

2022, and 2023, the Director of the United States Secret Service shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the effects of the amendments made by subsection (a) and the amendments made by section 2(a) of the Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act (Public Law 115-383; 132 Stat. 5121), which shall include, with respect to the previous calendar year, the information described under paragraphs (1) through (7) of section 2(c) of the Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-160; 132 Stat. 1246).

(3) OPEN RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the United States Secret Service shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report discussing the progress of the United States Secret Service in implementing each recommendation of the Government Accountability Office to the United States Secret Service that has not been designated as closed by the Comptroller General of the United States.

(4) PROTECTIVE MISSION PANEL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the extent of the progress made by the United States Secret Service in implementing the recommendations of the United States Secret Service Protective Mission Panel, including in particular those items pertaining to training and personnel enumerated in the Executive Summary to Report from the United States Secret Service Protective Mission Panel to the Secretary of Homeland Security dated December 15, 2014.

(c) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 2(b) of the Secret Service Overtime Pay Extension Act (Public Law 115-383; 132 Stat. 5121) is repealed.

U.S. SENATOR MARGARET CHASE SMITH ROOM AND U.S. SENATOR BARBARA A. MIKULSKI ROOM

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 803, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 803) designating room S-124 of the United States Capitol as the “U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Room” and designating room S-115 of the United States Capitol as the “U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room”, in recognition of their service to the Senate and the people of the United States.

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 803) was agreed to.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

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

CONSIDER TEACHERS ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of S. 1387 and Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1387) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the service obligation verification process for TEACH Grant recipients, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Braun amendment at the desk be agreed to and the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 2710) was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MORAN. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the bill?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1387), as amended, was passed as follows:

S. 1387

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 “Consider Teachers Act”.

SEC. 2. TEACH GRANTS.

Section 420N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g-2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “(referred to in this section as the ‘service obligation window’)” after “under this subpart”;

(B) in subparagraph (C)(vii), by inserting “or geographic area” after “field”; and

(C) by striking subparagraphs (D) and (E) and inserting the following:

“(D) submit a certification of employment by the chief administrative officer of the school in accordance with subsection (d)(5); and

“(E) meet all State certification requirements for teaching (which may include meeting such requirements through a certification obtained through alternative routes to teaching);”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “In the event” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the event”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) RECONSIDERATION OF CONVERSION DECISIONS.—

“(A) REQUEST TO RECONSIDER.—In any case where the Secretary has determined that a recipient of a grant under this subpart has failed or refused to comply with the service obligation in the agreement under subsection (b) and has converted the grant into a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D in accordance with paragraph (1), the recipient may request that the Secretary reconsider such initial determination and may submit additional information to demonstrate satisfaction of the service obligation. Upon receipt of such a request, the Secretary shall reconsider the determination in accordance with this paragraph not later than 90 days after the date that such request was received.

“(B) RECONSIDERATION.—If, in reconsidering an initial determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary determines that the reason for such determination was the recipient's failure to timely submit a certification required under subsection (b)(1)(D) (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Consider Teachers Act), an error or processing delay by the Secretary, a change to the fields considered eligible for fulfillment of the service obligation (as described in subsection (b)(1)(C)), a recipient having previously requested to have the TEACH Grant converted to a loan, or another valid reason determined by the Secretary, and that the recipient has, as of the date of the reconsideration, demonstrated that the recipient did meet, or is meeting the service obligation in the agreement under subsection (b), the Secretary shall—

“(i) discharge the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D, and reinstate the recipient's grant under this subpart;

“(ii) discharge any interest or fees that may have accumulated during the period that the grant was converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D;

“(iii) if the recipient has other loans under part D, apply any payments made for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D during such period to those other loans under part D;

“(iv) if the recipient does not have other loans under part D, reimburse the recipient for any amounts paid on the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan under part D during such period;

“(v) request that consumer reporting agencies remove any negative credit reporting due to the conversion of the TEACH Grant to a loan; and

“(vi) use the additional information provided under subparagraph (A) to determine the progress the recipient has made in meeting the service obligation.

“(C) EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLETE SERVICE OBLIGATION.—In the case of a recipient whose TEACH Grant was reinstated in accordance with subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall, upon such reinstatement—

“(i) extend the time remaining for the recipient to fulfill the service obligation described in subsection (b)(1) to a period of time equal to—

“(I) 8 years; minus

“(II) the number of full academic years of teaching that the recipient completed prior to the reconversion of the loan to a TEACH Grant under subparagraph (B), including any years of qualifying teaching completed during the period when the TEACH Grant was in loan status; and

“(ii) treat any full academic years of teaching described in clause (i)(II) as years that count toward the individual's service obligation (regardless of whether the TEACH Grant funds were in grant or loan status) if that time otherwise meets the requirements of this section.”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

“(3) COMMUNICATION WITH RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH grant recipients not less than once per calendar year regarding how to submit the employment certification under subsection (b)(1)(D) and the recommendations and requirements for submitting that certification under subsection (d)(5).”

“(4) QUALIFYING SCHOOLS AND HIGH-NEED FIELDS.—The Secretary shall maintain and annually update a list of qualifying schools as described in subsection (b)(1)(B), and a list of high-need fields as described in subsection (b)(1)(C) and shall make such lists publicly available on the Department’s website in a sortable and searchable format.”

SEC. 3. SUBMISSION OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION.

Section 420N(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g–2(d)), as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) SUBMISSION OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION.—

“(A) RECOMMENDED SUBMISSIONS.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH Grant recipients that the Department recommends that TEACH Grant recipients submit the employment certification described in subsection (b)(1)(D) as soon as practicable after the completion of each year of service.

“(B) REQUIRED SUBMISSION.—A TEACH Grant recipient shall be required to submit to the Department employment certification within the timeframe that would allow that individual to complete their service obligation before the end of the service obligation window.

“(C) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall notify TEACH Grant recipients of the required submission deadlines described in this paragraph.

“(D) ADJUSTMENT OF DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall adjust the submission deadline described in subparagraph (B) to account for a service obligation window extension.

“(E) ALTERNATIVE TO CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall provide an alternative to the certification of employment described in subsection (b)(1)(D) for recipients who cannot obtain such required certification of employment from the chief administrative officer of the school because the recipient can demonstrate the school is no longer in existence or the school refuses to cooperate.”

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF TIME TO FULFILL SERVICE OBLIGATION DUE TO COVID-19.

(a) Section 3519(a) of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “For the purpose of section 420N of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g–2), during a qualifying emergency,” and inserting “Notwithstanding any provision of subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.),”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking “such section 420N.” and inserting “section 420N of such Act; and”;

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) shall extend the service obligation window (as described in section 420N(b)(1)(A) of such Act) for a period of not more than 3 years, in addition to any extensions provided in accordance with subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.), in the case of a grant recipient whose service obligation window begins during, or includes—

“(A) the qualifying emergency period; or

“(B) a period of recession or economic downturn related to the qualifying emer-

gency period, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Labor.”

(b) Section 3519 of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS.—Notwithstanding section 465 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ee), the Secretary shall waive the requirements of such section in regard to full-time service and shall consider an incomplete year of service of a borrower as fulfilling the requirement for a complete year of service under such section, if the service was interrupted due to a qualifying emergency.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136).

SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION.

In carrying out this Act and any amendments made by this Act, or any regulations promulgated under this Act or under such amendments, the Secretary of Education may waive the application of—

(1) subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”);

(2) the master calendar requirements under section 482 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1089);

(3) negotiated rulemaking under section 492 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098a); and

(4) the requirement to publish the notices related to the system of records of the agency before implementation required under paragraphs (4) and (11) of section 552a(e) of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of 1974”), except that the notices shall be published not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

CFO VISION ACT OF 2020

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 572, S. 3287.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3287) to modify the governmentwide financial management plan, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “CFO Vision Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS; GOVERNMENTWIDE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND DEPUTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.—Chapter 9 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 902(a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “An” and inserting “It shall be the duty and responsibility of each agency Chief Fi-

nancial Officer to oversee and provide leadership in the areas of budget formulation and execution, planning and performance, risk management, internal controls, financial systems, accounting, and other areas as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may designate. In carrying out the preceding sentence, each”;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “areas and” before “systems”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

(II) in clause (iv), by striking “performance,” and inserting “performance and integration of performance and cost information; and”;

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) annual agency financial statements prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles.”

(C) by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (10);

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (7) as paragraphs (6) through (8), respectively;

(E) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) prepare, in consultation with financial management and other appropriate experts, an agency plan to implement the 4-year financial management plan prepared by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under section 3512(a)(2) of this title and to achieve and sustain effective financial management in the agency, which shall—

“(A) be completed within 90 days of the issuance of a governmentwide plan under section 3512(a)(2) of this title;

“(B) be revised as determined necessary by the Chief Financial Officer;

“(C) include performance-based financial management metrics against which the financial management performance of the agency shall be assessed; and

“(D) be submitted upon completion or revision to the head of the agency, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller General, and appropriate committees of Congress, and be made publicly available.”;

(F) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end;

(G) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget,” and inserting “, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller General, and appropriate committees of Congress, which shall be made publicly available and”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “agency,” and inserting “agency, including—

“(i) the progress of the agency in implementing the agency plan described in paragraph (5);

“(ii) the progress of the agency in implementing the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan prepared by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under section 3512(a)(2) of this title; and

“(iii) the performance of the agency against financial management metrics established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;”;

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) by striking “of the reports” and inserting “of—

“(i) the reports”;

(II) in clause (i), as so designated, by striking “the amendments made by the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act of 1987 (Public law 97–255); and” and inserting “section 3512(d) of this title;”;

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) agency spending data published under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note); and

“(iii) the reporting of the agency under the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3512 note); and”;

(H) in paragraph (8), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking “monitor the” and insert “manage the formulation and”; and

(ii) by striking “, and prepare and submit to the head of the agency timely performance reports; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(I) by inserting after paragraph (8), as so redesignated, the following:

“(9) be responsible for linking performance and cost information, including the preparation and submission to the head of the agency of timely performance reports that incorporate cost information;”;

(J) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated—

(i) by inserting “inflation and” before “costs”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(K) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) coordinate with senior agency personnel, including the Chief Data Officer, Chief Information Officer, Chief Performance Officer, Chief Acquisition Officer, Chief Risk Officer, and Chief Evaluation Officer of the agency on—

“(A) the exercise of authorities under this subsection; and

“(B) the strategic planning, performance measurement and reporting, and risk management functions of the agency.”; and

(2) in section 903—

(A) in subsection (a), by inserting “and who shall assist the agency Chief Financial Officer in the performance of each of the duties of the agency Chief Financial Officer under this chapter” after “matters”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) Notwithstanding subchapter III of chapter 33 of title 5, in the event of a vacancy in the position of Chief Financial Officer of an agency, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer of the agency shall serve as the acting Chief Financial Officer.”.

(b) GOVERNMENTWIDE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Section 3512 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “a financial management status report and a governmentwide 5-year financial management plan” and inserting “a governmentwide 4-year financial management plan and a financial management status report”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(D) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(II) by striking “shall describe” and inserting the following: “shall—

“(i) describe”;

(III) in clause (i), as so designated, by striking “5 fiscal years to improve the financial management of the Federal Government.” and inserting “4 fiscal years to improve the financial management of the Federal Government in a manner that is strategic, comprehensive, and cost-effective; and”; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) be developed in consultation with the Chief Financial Officers Council, the Chief Information Officers Council, the Chief Data Officer Council, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council, the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, the Government Accountability Office, and, as appropriate, other councils and financial management experts.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(II) in clause (iii)—

(aa) by striking “for developing” and inserting “for improving financial management systems, including—

“(I) developing”; and

(bb) by adding at the end the following:

“(II) linking performance and cost information to facilitate effective and efficient decision making;

“(III) eliminating duplicative and unnecessary systems and activities; and

“(IV) identifying opportunities for agencies to share systems and services and encouraging agencies to do so where practicable;”;

(III) by striking clause (iv);

(IV) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv);

(V) by inserting after clause (iv), as so redesignated, the following:

“(v) provide a strategy for reporting performance and cost information;”;

(VI) in clause (vi), by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(VII) in clause (vii), by striking “identify” and inserting “provide a strategy for strengthening the Federal financial management workforce, including identification of”;

(VIII) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(IX) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x);

(X) by inserting after clause (viii) the following:

“(ix) include comprehensive financial management performance-based metrics against which the financial management performance of executive agencies can be assessed; and”; and

(XI) in clause (x), as so redesignated, by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(E) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) A financial management status report under this subsection shall include—

“(A) a description and analysis of the status of financial management in the executive branch, including the progress made towards implementing the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan, the status of remaining challenges, and, as necessary based on obligations or expenditures, any updates or revisions to the cost estimates included in the most recent governmentwide 4-year financial management plan;

“(B) a summary of the performance of agencies against the metrics developed and identified by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan;

“(C) a summary of the most recently completed financial statements—

“(i) of Federal agencies under section 3515 of this title; and

“(ii) of Government corporations;

“(D) a summary of the most recently completed financial statement audits and reports—

“(i) of Federal agencies under subsections (e) and (f) of section 3521 of this title; and

“(ii) of Government corporations;

“(E) a summary of reports on internal accounting and administrative control systems submitted to the President and Congress under subsection (d);

“(F) a listing of agencies whose financial management systems do not comply substantially with the requirements of section 803(a) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3512 note), and a summary statement of the efforts underway to remedy the noncompliance; and

“(G) any other information the Director considers appropriate to fully inform Congress regarding the financial management of the Federal Government.”;

(F) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “15 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection” and inserting “6 months after the date of enactment of the CFO Vision Act of 2020”; and

(II) by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “Not later than January 31 of each year thereafter” and inserting “At a minimum, concurrently with the submission of the budget of the United States Government under section 1105(a) of this title made in the first full fiscal year following any year in which the term of the President commences under section 101 of title 3”;

(bb) by striking “financial management status report and a revised governmentwide 5-year” and inserting “governmentwide 4-year”; and

(cc) by striking “5 fiscal years” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “4 fiscal years.”; and

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by striking “revised governmentwide 5-year” and inserting “governmentwide 4-year”; and

(bb) by striking “paragraph (3)(B)(viii)” and inserting “paragraph (2)(B)(viii)”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) Each year, concurrently with the submission of the budget of the United States Government under section 1105(a) of this title, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and the Comptroller General a financial management status report.”; and

(G) by striking paragraph (5);

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

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

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

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a separate report on the results of the assessment and conclusion required under subsection (e)(2).”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (f), (g), and (h), respectively; and

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

“(e) The head of each executive agency shall—

“(1) in establishing the internal accounting and administrative controls under subsection (c), identify the key financial management information needed for effective financial management and decision making; and

“(2) annually assess and make a conclusion on the effectiveness of the internal controls of the executive agency over financial reporting and key financial management information identified under paragraph (1).”.

(c) AUDITS BY AGENCIES.—Section 3521 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) by striking “(e) Each financial” and inserting “(e)(1) Each financial”;

(C) in paragraph (1), as so designated, by striking “standards—” and inserting “standards.”; and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1), as so designated, the following:

“(2) As part of each audit under this subsection, the auditor shall—

“(A) evaluate the design of the internal control of the agency over financial reporting and key financial information, as assessed and reported on by the head of the agency under section 3512(d)(2)(C) of this title;

“(B) determine whether those controls have been implemented;

“(C) for controls that are properly designed and implemented, perform sufficient tests of those controls to conclude whether the controls are operating effectively and to support a low level of assessed control risk; and

“(D) communicate controls that the auditor concludes are not suitably designed and implemented or are not operating effectively, as appropriate under applicable generally accepted government auditing standards.

“(3) Audits under this subsection shall be conducted—”; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking “section 3512(a)(3)(B)(viii)” and inserting “section 3512(a)(2)(B)(viii)”.

(d) **TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 3348(e) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by adding “or” at the end;

(2) by striking paragraph (4); and

(3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the Enzi amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended, be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 2711) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

On page 33, lines 5 and 6 strike “effectively and” and insert “effectively, including sufficient tests”.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 3287), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3287

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 “CFO Vision Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS; GOVERNMENTWIDE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND DEPUTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.—Chapter 9 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 902(a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “An” and inserting “It shall be the duty and responsibility of each agency Chief Financial Officer to oversee and provide leadership in the areas of budget formulation and execution, planning and performance, risk management, internal controls, financial systems, accounting, and other areas as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may designate. In carrying out the preceding sentence, each”;

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “areas and” before “systems”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (iii), by striking “and” at the end;

(II) in clause (iv), by striking “performance;” and inserting “performance and integration of performance and cost information; and”;

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) annual agency financial statements prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles.”

(C) by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (10);

(D) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (7) as paragraphs (6) through (8), respectively;

(E) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) prepare, in consultation with financial management and other appropriate experts,

an agency plan to implement the 4-year financial management plan prepared by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under section 3512(a)(2) of this title and to achieve and sustain effective financial management in the agency, which shall—

“(A) be completed within 90 days of the issuance of a governmentwide plan under section 3512(a)(2) of this title;

“(B) be revised as determined necessary by the Chief Financial Officer;

“(C) include performance-based financial management metrics against which the financial management performance of the agency shall be assessed; and

“(D) be submitted upon completion or revision to the head of the agency, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller General, and appropriate committees of Congress, and be made publicly available;”;

(F) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A);

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by adding “and” at the end;

(G) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget,” and inserting “, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Comptroller General, and appropriate committees of Congress, which shall be made publicly available and”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “agency;” and inserting “agency, including—

“(i) the progress of the agency in implementing the agency plan described in paragraph (5);

“(ii) the progress of the agency in implementing the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan prepared by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under section 3512(a)(2) of this title; and

“(iii) the performance of the agency against financial management metrics established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget;”;

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) by striking “of the reports” and inserting “of—

“(i) the reports”;

(II) in clause (i), as so designated, by striking “the amendments made by the Federal Managers’ Financial Integrity Act of 1987 (Public law 97-255); and” and inserting “section 3512(d) of this title;”;

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) agency spending data published under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note); and

“(iii) the reporting of the agency under the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3512 note); and”;

(H) in paragraph (8), as so redesignated—

(i) by striking “monitor the” and insert “manage the formulation and”;

(ii) by striking “, and prepare and submit to the head of the agency timely performance reports; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(I) by inserting after paragraph (8), as so redesignated, the following:

“(9) be responsible for linking performance and cost information, including the preparation and submission to the head of the agency of timely performance reports that incorporate cost information;”;

(J) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated—

(i) by inserting “inflation and” before “costs”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(K) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) coordinate with senior agency personnel, including the Chief Data Officer, Chief Information Officer, Chief Performance Officer, Chief Acquisition Officer, Chief Risk Officer, and Chief Evaluation Officer of the agency on—

“(A) the exercise of authorities under this subsection; and

“(B) the strategic planning, performance measurement and reporting, and risk management functions of the agency.”; and

(2) in section 903—

(A) in subsection (a), by inserting “and who shall assist the agency Chief Financial Officer in the performance of each of the duties of the agency Chief Financial Officer under this chapter” after “matters”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) Notwithstanding subchapter III of chapter 33 of title 5, in the event of a vacancy in the position of Chief Financial Officer of an agency, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer of the agency shall serve as the acting Chief Financial Officer.”

(b) GOVERNMENTWIDE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Section 3512 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “a financial management status report and a governmentwide 5-year financial management plan” and inserting “a governmentwide 4-year financial management plan and a financial management status report”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(D) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(II) by striking “shall describe” and inserting the following: “shall—

“(i) describe”;

(III) in clause (i), as so designated, by striking “5 fiscal years to improve the financial management of the Federal Government.” and inserting “4 fiscal years to improve the financial management of the Federal Government in a manner that is strategic, comprehensive, and cost-effective; and”;

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) be developed in consultation with the Chief Financial Officers Council, the Chief Information Officers Council, the Chief Data Officer Council, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council, the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, the Government Accountability Office, and, as appropriate, other councils and financial management experts.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(II) in clause (iii)—

(aa) by striking “for developing” and inserting “for improving financial management systems, including—

“(I) developing”; and

(bb) by adding at the end the following:

“(II) linking performance and cost information to facilitate effective and efficient decision making;

“(III) eliminating duplicative and unnecessary systems and activities; and

“(IV) identifying opportunities for agencies to share systems and services and encouraging agencies to do so where practicable;”;

(III) by striking clause (iv);

(IV) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv);

(V) by inserting after clause (iv), as so redesignated, the following:

“(v) provide a strategy for reporting performance and cost information;”;

(VI) in clause (vi), by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(VII) in clause (vii), by striking “identify” and inserting “provide a strategy for strengthening the Federal financial management workforce, including identification of”;

(VIII) in clause (viii), by striking “and” at the end;

(IX) by redesignating clause (ix) as clause (x);

(X) by inserting after clause (viii) the following:

“(ix) include comprehensive financial management performance-based metrics against which the financial management performance of executive agencies can be assessed; and”;

(XI) in clause (x), as so redesignated, by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(E) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) A financial management status report under this subsection shall include—

“(A) a description and analysis of the status of financial management in the executive branch, including the progress made towards implementing the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan, the status of remaining challenges, and, as necessary based on obligations or expenditures, any updates or revisions to the cost estimates included in the most recent governmentwide 4-year financial management plan;

“(B) a summary of the performance of agencies against the metrics developed and identified by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the governmentwide 4-year financial management plan;

“(C) a summary of the most recently completed financial statements—

“(i) of Federal agencies under section 3515 of this title; and

“(ii) of Government corporations;

“(D) a summary of the most recently completed financial statement audits and reports—

“(i) of Federal agencies under subsections (e) and (f) of section 3521 of this title; and

“(ii) of Government corporations;

“(E) a summary of reports on internal accounting and administrative control systems submitted to the President and Congress under subsection (d);

“(F) a listing of agencies whose financial management systems do not comply substantially with the requirements of section 803(a) of the Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3512 note), and a summary statement of the efforts underway to remedy the noncompliance; and

“(G) any other information the Director considers appropriate to fully inform Congress regarding the financial management of the Federal Government.”;

(F) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “15 months after the date of the enactment of this subsection” and inserting “6 months after the date of enactment of the CFO Vision Act of 2020”; and

(II) by striking “5-year” and inserting “4-year”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “Not later than January 31 of each year thereafter” and inserting “At a minimum, concurrently with the submission of the budget of the United States Government under section 1105(a) of this title made in the first full fiscal year following any year in which the term of the President commences under section 101 of title 3”;

(bb) by striking “financial management status report and a revised governmentwide 5-year” and inserting “governmentwide 4-year”;

(cc) by striking “5 fiscal years” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “4 fiscal years.”; and

(II) in clause (ii)—

(aa) by striking “revised governmentwide 5-year” and inserting “governmentwide 4-year”;

(bb) by striking “paragraph (3)(B)(viii)” and inserting “paragraph (2)(B)(viii)”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) Each year, concurrently with the submission of the budget of the United States Government under section 1105(a) of this title, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and the Comptroller General a financial management status report.”;

(G) by striking paragraph (5);

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

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

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

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a separate report on the results of the assessment and conclusion required under subsection (e)(2).”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (f), (g), and (h), respectively; and

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

“(e) The head of each executive agency shall—

“(1) in establishing the internal accounting and administrative controls under subsection (c), identify the key financial management information needed for effective financial management and decision making; and

“(2) annually assess and make a conclusion on the effectiveness of the internal controls of the executive agency over financial reporting and key financial management information identified under paragraph (1).”.

(c) AUDITS BY AGENCIES.—Section 3521 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(B) by striking “(e) Each financial” and inserting “(e)(1) Each financial”;

(C) in paragraph (1), as so designated, by striking “standards—” and inserting “standards.”; and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1), as so designated, the following:

“(2) As part of each audit under this subsection, the auditor shall—

“(A) evaluate the design of the internal control of the agency over financial reporting and key financial information, as assessed and reported on by the head of the agency under section 3512(d)(2)(C) of this title;

“(B) determine whether those controls have been implemented;

“(C) for controls that are properly designed and implemented, perform sufficient tests of those controls to conclude whether the controls are operating effectively, including sufficient tests to support a low level of assessed control risk; and

“(D) communicate controls that the auditor concludes are not suitably designed and implemented or are not operating effectively, as appropriate under applicable generally accepted government auditing standards.

“(3) Audits under this subsection shall be conducted—”;

(2) in subsection (h), by striking “section 3512(a)(3)(B)(viii)” and inserting “section 3512(a)(2)(B)(viii)”.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3348(e) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by adding “or” at the end;

(2) by striking paragraph (4); and

(3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4).

REPORTING EFFICIENTLY TO PROPER OFFICIALS IN RESPONSE TO TERRORISM ACT OF 2019

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 329, S. 2513.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2513) to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment, as follows:

(The part of the bill intended to be inserted is shown in *italics*.)

S. 2513

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.

This Act may be cited as the “Reporting Efficiently to Proper Officials in Response to Terrorism Act of 2019” or the “REPORT Act”.

SEC. 2. DUTY TO REPORT.

(a) DUTY IMPOSED.—Except as provided in subsection (c), whenever an act of terrorism occurs in the United States, it shall be the duty of the primary Government agency investigating such act to submit, in collaboration with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and, as appropriate, the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, an unclassified report (which may be accompanied by a classified annex) to Congress concerning such act not later than 1 year after the completion of the investigation. Reports required under this subsection may be combined into a quarterly report to Congress.

(b) CONTENT OF REPORTS.—Each report under this section shall include—

(1) a statement of the facts of the act of terrorism referred to in subsection (a), as known at the time of the report;

(2) an explanation of any gaps in national security that could be addressed to prevent future acts of terrorism;

(3) any recommendations for additional measures that could be taken to improve homeland security, including potential changes in law enforcement practices or changes in law, with particular attention to changes that could help prevent future acts of terrorism; and

(4) a summary of the report for public distribution.

(c) EXCEPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The duty established under subsection (a) shall not apply in instances in which the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the head of the National Counterterrorism

Center determines that the information required to be reported could jeopardize an ongoing investigation or prosecution.

(2) **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**—In each instance described in paragraph (1), the principal making a determination under such paragraph shall notify Congress of such determination not later than 1 year after the completion of the related investigation described in subsection (a).

(d) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this section, the term “act of terrorism” means an act of domestic terrorism or international terrorism (as such terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code).

(e) **SUNSET.**—*This section shall cease to be effective beginning on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.*

Mr. MORAN. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2513), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2513

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLES.

This Act may be cited as the “Reporting Efficiently to Proper Officials in Response to Terrorism Act of 2019” or the “REPORT Act”.

SEC. 2. DUTY TO REPORT.

(a) **DUTY IMPOSED.**—Except as provided in subsection (c), whenever an act of terrorism occurs in the United States, it shall be the duty of the primary Government agency investigating such act to submit, in collaboration with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and, as appropriate, the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, an unclassified report (which may be accompanied by a classified annex) to Congress concerning such act not later than 1 year after the completion of the investigation. Reports required under this subsection may be combined into a quarterly report to Congress.

(b) **CONTENT OF REPORTS.**—Each report under this section shall include—

(1) a statement of the facts of the act of terrorism referred to in subsection (a), as known at the time of the report;

(2) an explanation of any gaps in national security that could be addressed to prevent future acts of terrorism;

(3) any recommendations for additional measures that could be taken to improve homeland security, including potential changes in law enforcement practices or changes in law, with particular attention to changes that could help prevent future acts of terrorism; and

(4) a summary of the report for public distribution.

(c) **EXCEPTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The duty established under subsection (a) shall not apply in instances in which the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or the head of the National Counterterrorism Center determines that the information required to be reported could jeopardize an ongoing investigation or prosecution.

(2) **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**—In each instance described in paragraph (1), the principal making a determination under such paragraph shall notify Congress of such determination not later than 1 year after the completion of the related investigation described in subsection (a).

(d) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this section, the term “act of terrorism” means an act of domestic terrorism or international terrorism (as such terms are defined in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code).

(e) **SUNSET.**—*This section shall cease to be effective beginning on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.*

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, December 17; further, 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; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consider-

ation of the Atchley nomination, under the previous order.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:27 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 10 a.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

DEVEN J. PAREKH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

IRVING BAILEY, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 16, 2020:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ANNA MARIA RUZINSKI, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

GREGORY SCOTT TABOR, OF ARKANSAS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

THE JUDICIARY

KATHERINE A. CRYTZER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE.

JOSEPH DAWSON III, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION

DEVEN J. PAREKH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

IRVING BAILEY, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.