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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray. Eternal God, who hears our prayers, we praise Your righteous Name. Lord, You are the God who listens even to our groans as we bring our requests to You.

Lord, we thank You for the life and legacy of Queen Elizabeth II and request Your blessings upon King Charles III. Guide him with Your wisdom and keep him on the path of integrity. We also pray for our Senators. Sustain them with Your unfailing love, making Your way plain for them to follow. Protect them from the enemies of freedom, for You have promised to be a shield for the godly.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 12, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. HIRONO thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo, of Rhode Island, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the Senate gavels back into session to consider more Federal judges, continue working to fund the government, and to find a path forward to protect marriage equality and other critical issues.

Later this afternoon, the Senate will vote on the confirmation of Judge Salvador Mendoza to serve a lifetime appointment on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The child of Mexican immigrant farmworkers, Mr. Mendoza was the first Latino judge to ever serve in the Eastern District of Washington.

And if confirmed today, he would be the first Latino from the State of Washington ever to sit on the Ninth Circuit. In 2014, the Senate confirmed Mr. Mendoza with an overwhelming bipartisan vote, 92 to 4. Today, it should be no different.

If confirmed, Judge Mendoza's elevation will be significant for another reason. He would be the 80th, the 80th—8-0—judicial nomination confirmed under President Biden. That is more judges confirmed under President Biden than were confirmed by this point under President Trump, President Obama, and President Bush. It is something we Democrats are very proud of because the impact of these judges will last for years, if not decades.

And we are by no means done. After Judge Mendoza is confirmed, we will turn to the nomination of Arianna Freeman to serve as circuit judge for

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



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the Third Circuit. She would be the fourth circuit judge nominee we would consider since the beginning of this work period.

Let me say that again. We are going to begin considering the fourth circuit court nominee since we returned from the August State work period. I said judges would be a priority, and this is what that looks like.

And it is my intention, as majority leader, to keep the Senate focused on judges this week and beyond. Our fundamental rights and our democracy itself depend on it.

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

Madam President, now, on marriage, off the Senate floor, my colleagues continue to have good conversations on very important legislation to codify marriage equality into law. Far from being a theoretical exercise, codifying marriage equality would have a dramatic long-term impact on millions of people.

At a time when our rights are under siege, it would be a much needed shield for scores of Americans at risk of discrimination simply because of whom they love.

For many of us in this Chamber—myself included—passing marriage equality would hit home in a very personal way. I want to thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle—especially Senators BALDWIN, COLLINS, and SINEMA—for all the work they are doing to build support for marriage equality legislation.

Over the past several months, I have given them the time and space they have requested to have these talks because I want their efforts to succeed. I know their work is not yet done, and I encourage them to keep going. I truly hope, for the sake of tens of millions of Americans, that there will be at least 10 Republicans who will vote with us to pass this very important bill.

We cannot forget that a mere decade ago—a mere decade ago—marriage discrimination was the law in much of the country. While we are happy that America has made a lot of progress since then, we are not naive in thinking we can't go backward. As we saw earlier this year, it took the Supreme Court just a few weeks to unravel decades of vital precedent on women's rights, gun safety, and environmental protection. And, of course, Judge Thomas has opened the door for the Court to go even further backward when he is saying that cases like *Obergefell*, which protect marriage equality for now, should be revisited.

So when some Republicans say: Oh, this is unnecessary; it won't happen, remember that is the same thing they said about *Roe*, and look at where we are today. We should protect marriage equality now, well before the MAGA-controlled Supreme Court steps in.

So I encourage my colleagues to continue these conversations. The American people support protecting marriage rights of same-sex marriages by a large margin so let's get it done.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Madam President, finally, on the legislative front on the CR, both parties must work together to keep the government open beyond the September 30 deadline. As my colleagues know, negotiations continue on a CR to extend funding through about mid-December, which hopefully will give appropriators enough time to draft an omnibus funding package.

I thank Chairman LEAHY, Ranking Member SHELBY, and everyone from both sides working to keep the government open. No one wants to see a shutdown—and I know that includes my Republican colleagues—but in order to avoid a shutdown, Senate Republicans must continue working with us to resolve the issues that remain.

21ST ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11

Madam President, finally, on the 21st anniversary of the horrible day, 9/11, everywhere I go, whenever I am wearing a suit or a sport jacket, I wear this flag pin on my lapel, a small but constant reminder of a promise America made 21 years ago: "Never forget."

It was on that day, September 12, 2001, that having seen the horror, smelling the death in the air, hearing the horrible stories, and seeing hundreds of people lined up with poignant signs that said: "Have you seen my son, Bill?" "Have you seen my mother, Mary?" because no one knew who was alive and who wasn't—on that day, I called on Americans to wear the flag, to display it at their homes, out their windows, or at least wear it on their clothing. I have done so ever since, and every day, I look at that flag, and I think of the people who were lost and the vicious evil of those who perpetrated this awful act.

Yesterday, I joined with the Vice President, Governor Hochul, Mayor Adams, and others to honor the fallen on September 11, to grieve for those who were taken from us, and to affirm that over three decades later, though scarred and battered, our country and our democracy endure.

An eternity can pass, and yet September 11 will always feel like yesterday to me. As clearly as the Presiding Officer sits before me, I still remember what it was like to visit the wreckage a day or 2 later. The destruction, the smell, the noise was nothing like the New York I knew and loved. People, as I mentioned, lined up along the sidewalks hoisting makeshift signs that asked the unthinkable: "Have you seen my daughter?" "Have you seen my father?" Those images, as well as the people I knew who were lost, will never leave me.

Yet in the midst of so much pain on 9/11, America encountered its best self. Ordinary people banded together to do extraordinary things. Taxi drivers, store managers, businessmen, city workers, and everyone in between, abandoned their day jobs and became heroes. They donated blood. They organized prayer vigils.

I will never forget the sight of a shoe store owner along the route, as people

escaped from the towers, handing out shoes, just depleting his entire stock so people could walk home.

People volunteered their time and resources to comfort those in need and rebuild our city to new heights, and the same is true for millions across the country.

And to our first responders and volunteers who worked the pile, we owe you such a special and undying measure of thanks. Among all our heroes of that time, they were among the greatest and the most valiant, and many of them have paid for that with their lives because the toxins that were in the air entered their lungs and digestive systems and caused cancers to the extent we have never known in those age groups before.

That is why we worked so hard in this Chamber to help provide healthcare and help for those who have lost loved ones. When we say that America will "never forget" what happened on 9/11, we mean something far more profound than recalling the memories of that awful day. It is not a passive promise, but it is an active one. It is why, 2 months ago, the Senate worked together to pass the largest expansion of veteran healthcare benefits in decades, to aid the nearly 3 million servicemembers exposed to dangerous toxins while serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other places around the world. And it is why we must work to replenish that Ground Zero Fund that helped pay for the healthcare of those who rushed to the towers, and we must replenish that fund in the near future.

And it is why all of us, regardless of party, must work together to defend the American way of life, to protect our precious democracy that the terrorists tried to bring down by violent means.

The world has changed dramatically since that morning that the towers fell, but the need to protect our Nation from threats, foreign and domestic, remain.

Today, 21 years after the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history, let us stay awake to the things we must do if we are to keep our promise to "never forget."

May God bless all those who died on September 11, as well as their families and all our first responders and servicemembers who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great Nation.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

INFLATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, tomorrow, the Labor Department will

release the latest monthly update on the Democrats' inflation, but, of course, the American people hardly need government statistics to explain to them that Washington Democrats' reckless spending has sent prices skyrocketing. Working families have been feeling this pain in their pocketbooks every single day. Nearly two-thirds of middle-income Americans say inflation is negatively affecting their finances. An outright majority say they are experiencing "financial hardship." A third of the country says they are struggling to meet basic family needs.

One parent shopping for school supplies recently told reporters:

I had to start early because the prices are so high. . . . Being a parent, I want to give them the world. Sometimes, I wish I could give them more.

But the back-to-school rush isn't the only headache facing working families. Since President Biden and this all-Democratic government took office, prices on grocery store essentials, from meat to produce, have seen double-digit percentage increases. Some household items, like furniture, are over 20 percent more expensive than they were on Inauguration Day. The diesel fuel that moves practically everything through the supply chain and onto store shelves is up nearly 80 percent since President Biden put his hand on the Bible. Households' electric bills are up an average of 20 percent since January of 2021. Commuting and running errands costs more, with gasoline up 70 percent. As fall and winter approach, homes that burn fuel oil are set to be more than 75 percent more expensive simply to keep warm.

The American people know who created this mess. They remember quite well how Washington Democrats spent the spring of 2021 dining out on left-wing spending and leaving taxpayers to pick up the bill. Poll after poll has shown they are overwhelmingly dissatisfied with what President Biden and his party have done since then.

One survey found five consecutive times that more than 70 percent of Americans say our country is headed in the wrong direction. But that hasn't stopped Washington Democrats from calling the same disastrous play over and over and over again.

For months—months—our colleagues' primary focus was on repeating the mistake they made in 2021. In August, on a party-line vote, they did it. In the teeth of the worst inflation in over 40 years, every single Democrat in Congress voted to ram through hundreds of billions of dollars more in liberal spending.

The American people's top concern is runaway costs. And the supply chain crisis could get even worse—much worse—in the next few days if Democrats let their far-left, Big Labor allies engage in massive railway worker strikes that would hamper the economy even further. But Washington Democrats' top concerns appear to be something very different. They

prioritized waging war on affordable American energy in a bill that will have no meaningful impact on global temperatures. They prioritized inflating the IRS with \$80 billion to audit more American citizens without a word of accountability for when tax collectors allow confidential information to become a political weapon.

Even the supposed reason for the spending package, "inflation reduction," is utter nonsense. Nonpartisan experts have concluded that what Washington Democrats did last month will not meaningfully reduce inflation at all and will actually make it worse in the near term. This is what Democrats decided to put first for the better part of a year, and it is what they are now trying to peddle to the American people as a victory.

But the American people don't want tens of billions of dollars in wish fulfillment for climate activists; they want affordable gas and electricity. The American people don't want a bloated IRS; they want stronger support for law enforcement at the southern border and in their communities. Washington Democrats have consistently misunderstood what the American people have asked them to do. They have repeatedly ignored the basic challenges they have created for working families.

When the American people's priorities and Washington Democrats' priorities have diverged, this government has put the people last at every turn.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, more than a year ago, a news website by the name of ProPublica published stories that it claims are based on "a vast trove of Internal Revenue Service data on the tax returns of thousands of the nation's wealthiest people, covering more than 15 years." Since then, ProPublica has continued to publish articles that appear to use data leaked or hacked from the IRS.

Despite questions from Congress and immediate expressions of concern from the Treasury Department, as well as the IRS, we don't know any more today than we did a year ago. Even though these apparent leaks of confidential taxpayer information appear to target the wealthy, not just the wealthy but all taxpayers and anyone who cares about effective tax administration should be very concerned. The fact is, until we get answers, we don't know if anyone's tax return or other information submitted to the IRS is actually secure.

At the end of the 2022 filing system, more than 145 million individual income tax returns had been filed with the IRS. Right now, we don't know if there is a current vulnerability to the IRS's systems that makes this personal information accessible within the IRS or to bad actors outside of the IRS. We do not know if a foreign nation with hostile intentions is responsible for a

leak or a hack of taxpayer information or the full scope of the IRS's information that may be involved. Just because ProPublica hasn't found it politically useful to publicly disclose your private taxpayer information doesn't mean that your tax information hasn't been compromised.

As I said earlier, in June of 2021, concern was immediately expressed in the Congress and at the Treasury Department. Almost on that very day, Commissioner Rettig appeared before the Finance Committee. In fact, it was on that very day that the first story was published.

Commissioner Rettig said:

I think that trust and confidence in the Internal Revenue Service is sort of the bedrock of asking people and requiring people to provide financial information, and we have, as I said, turned it over to the appropriate investigators, external and internal.

Attorney General Garland was quoted as saying:

This is an extremely serious matter. People are entitled, obviously, to great privacy with respect to their tax returns.

With this level of concern expressed so quickly, now a year ago, you would expect action to have been taken quickly. If you expected that, you would be wrong. Despite several letters sent by this Senator and other Members of Congress, we don't know any more today about what happened than we did last year on June 8, when this situation began.

When testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee, Secretary Yellen said:

I am as anxious as you are to find out what happened.

As a strong proponent of congressional oversight—as I am—of the executive branch, I have always been frustrated when the executive refuses to share relevant information that we need in Congress and are entitled under the Constitution to have. Secretary Yellen's statement suggests a more disturbing possibility where the executive branch completely lacks the sought-after information. Now, consider how shocking it is if the Secretary of the Treasury actually has no insight or any knowledge into a possible massive leak or hack of taxpayer information that occurred under her watch.

In order to determine if any action had been taken, I, along with other Republican members of the Judiciary Committee, wrote to Attorney General Garland and FBI Director Wray on June 24 of this year to ask what the status was of any investigation. This was the second time we tried to get this information.

I know the Department of Justice is capable of taking action quickly when the Department of Justice wants to. I have written to the Attorney General several times about the memo that he issued in response to a letter from the National School Boards Association. That school board letter compared parents to domestic terrorists. It took the Department of Justice only 5 days,

which included a weekend, to inject Federal law enforcement into local debates with concerned parents.

Clearly, the Attorney General is capable of taking action very quickly, but that seems to only be when an administrative priority is of concern. I hope the Biden administration and the Garland Department of Justice would be as concerned about the protection of confidential taxpayer information as they are about monitoring concerned parents who testify before a school board.

If the Department of Justice and the FBI want to show that they take the confidentiality of taxpayer information seriously, they can start by fully and completely responding to my letter of June 24, which hasn't yet been responded to. More than a full year, with a complete filing season, is too much time to have gone by without having any information on this leaking of taxpayer information being provided to any extent.

Democrats constantly spoke of the need for fairness in the tax system as they pushed through partisan tax-and-spending bills. Yet we have heard barely a peep out of our Democratic colleagues on what may be the largest unauthorized disclosure of taxpayer information in history.

While we continue to wait for answers, we have learned of another massive breach of taxpayer information.

On the first Friday of September, we learned the IRS mistakenly published on its website private information from about 120,000 taxpayers. According to Politico, the disclosure consisted of "details from business tax returns filed by tax-exempt organizations and retirement accounts, included people's names, business contact information and income produced by certain investments."

Clearly, the ability of the IRS to safeguard taxpayer information is still an ongoing issue.

This new revelation should light a very big fire underneath the FBI to get at the bottom of the ProPublica leak or hack. Attorney General Garland and FBI Director Wray must fully respond to my letter and help all of us really understand if our tax system is safe and secure.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

EGYPT

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, Egypt is one of America's closest allies. Our taxpayers send them more direct funding for their military than we send almost any other nation in the world.

But here is what happens to political opponents of the Egyptian regime when they get arrested—and they get arrested at a dizzying rate and get sent to the infamous Tora prison. Arrivals there are blindfolded and then are forced to run through a human corridor of guards who pummel them with sticks until they collapse.

Following this initiation for political prisoners, many of them are routinely beaten and tortured for months or years on end, often with no formal charges being filed. Some never make it out alive.

Human rights groups estimate that there are around 60,000 political prisoners in Egypt.

I get it. The big numbers sometimes lose their meaning in this place. But, by comparison, estimates are that Russia has 420. China likely has around a thousand. Egypt locks up 60,000 political opponents of the regime.

To keep up with the demand of President El-Sisi's imprisonment spree, the country has had to build 60 new detention centers over the last decades. These prisons house some of the country's most prominent human rights defenders, journalists, opposition leaders, but also just ordinary people who are locked up for years because they just attended a protest or they liked a Facebook post or they recorded a TikTok video.

Let me tell you a story of just one of these 60,000 people. Right now, one of my constituents is suffering through the pain and uncertainty of having a relative unjustly imprisoned in Egypt. Muhammad Amasha is studying at Yale University, pursuing his Ph.D. Meanwhile, his father, Dr. Ahmed Amasha, was imprisoned in Egypt from 2017 to 2019 and rearrested and jailed again in June of 2020. According to the U.N., his detention seems "to constitute [an act of reprisal] against Dr. Amasha for documenting cases of enforced disappearances for the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations."

Since his arrest in 2020, Dr. Amasha reportedly has endured abuse during his interrogations that resulted in broken ribs and other significant injuries. His abuse included rape, electrocution, threats to rape his wife, and physical abuse while blindfolded. He was forced to sign a written confession during his time of abuse.

Since President El-Sisi came to power in 2013, more than a thousand people have died in Egyptian custody. Fourteen percent of those deaths were torture. More than 70 percent are because of a denial of healthcare.

This isn't an adversary of the United States. This is Egypt, our ally. Every day that we continue to send billions of dollars to the Egyptian Government, while paying lip service to these egregious human rights violations, it is a blow both to our Nation's character and to our credibility around the world.

For the last several years, I fought to change our Egypt policy, and for the

first time, in fiscal year 2021, we conditioned, with no waiver, \$75 million of Egypt's \$1.3 billion military aid package on "making clear and consistent progress on releasing political prisoners and providing detainees with due process of law." Because there is no waiver, the administration either has to certify that Egypt has made this progress to merit the release of the money or that they haven't made that progress and withhold the money.

The record is clear that they have not. Let me just provide one way of measuring "clear and consistent progress" on releasing political prisoners. A group of Egyptian human rights organizations submitted a list of 2,954 known political prisoners to the government's Presidential Pardon Committee earlier this year. These are people who should not be in jail. They simply protested the government. And if you are going to be an ally of the United States, you shouldn't be locking people up for political speech. But of those 2,954 detainees, the government released 49. That is not "clear and consistent progress."

Another metric: Since April, Egypt's terrorism courts have ordered the release of 417 prisoners. But over that same time period, at least 4,400 political prisoners have had their detentions renewed by the courts. That is not "clear and consistent progress." It is progress, but it is always one step forward and two or three steps backward, at best.

Egypt has certainly not made the kind of progress required to merit the release of \$75 million.

In addition to that piece of funding tied to political prisoners, Congress has also tied an additional \$225 million of Egypt's military aid to "sustained and effective steps" to improving Egypt's human rights record—a broader record of human rights abuses. The statute lays out that, in order to receive this money, Egypt needs to allow NGOs and the media to operate freely, protect women and religious minorities, hold security forces accountable when they violate human rights, and investigate and prosecute these cases of forced disappearances.

Again, the record is overwhelmingly clear that things in Egypt have gotten worse on these fronts, not better, over the last year. Journalists are regularly still charged with "joining a terrorist group" or "spreading false news" for any critical reporting. Just last week, four journalists from the independent outlet Mada Masr were charged with a single news article that documented corruption within a political party close to the President.

Earlier this year, human rights lawyer Youssef Mansour was charged with "inciting terrorism" after he wrote a social media post denouncing prison conditions.

Egypt is also not content with imprisoning its critics at home but increasingly is pursuing its critics abroad. News reports emerged in December that a prominent opposition

leader who lives in exile in Turkey had his phone hacked with NSO group software. In January, the U.S. Justice Department arrested a foreign agent here acting on behalf of Egypt. This is not the behavior of a foreign government that has made “significant progress” toward improving human rights to merit the release of \$225 million.

Lastly, every year when we have this debate, there are always proponents who argue that, even though Egypt has this horrific human rights record, we should give them the money anyway. The argument is that because Egypt is a really important strategic ally, if we withhold just a portion of the \$1.3 billion, Egyptians might stop cooperating with us or shop around for another partner.

Let me just take a minute to address the fallacy of this argument. First, Egypt does provide strategic benefits to the United States. Egypt provides counterterrorism cooperation. It shares intelligence with us about shared threats. Access to the Suez Canal is critical for the United States. When violence does flare up in Gaza, Egypt often steps in and helps mediate and facilitate a truce through its ties with Hamas. There are good reasons for the United States and Egypt to be partners.

And it is not crazy that we give them military aid, but we shouldn't delude ourselves into thinking that reducing our aid from \$1.3 billion to \$1 billion, after giving Egypt an entire year to meet these commonsense conditions, is going to cause the sky to fall. Just last year, the administration actually did withhold \$130 million of Egypt's aid. Of course, the Egyptians were angry. It probably did make our diplomats' life a little bit harder in Egypt, but, by and large, our relationship didn't change. The Egyptians still cooperated with us on counterterrorism. They provided Suez overflight access. They again facilitated a truce in Gaza.

Why? Because all of these areas in which we engage are beneficial for the Egyptians. They don't do it as simple payback for our aid. They engage with us on these issues. They engage with Israel because it is good for Egyptian security, notwithstanding whether they get \$1 billion or \$1.3 billion from the United States.

We also sent a signal to the Egyptians by withholding some of that money last year. And while we didn't see significant improvements, we did see some political prisoners released.

This year, we have to keep the pressure up. The United States needs not just to talk the talk when it comes to human rights abroad; we need to be able to walk the walk as well. And the decision that the administration will make this week as to whether to comply with the conditions set forth by Congress on holding the Egyptians accountable for progress on human rights is critical to American credibility globally when it comes to our call to protect human rights and democracy

abroad, and, for that reason, I would urge the administration to withhold the full \$300 million as called for by the appropriations act until Egypt's record gets better.

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. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

IMMIGRATION

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, like you, I am proud to represent the city of Chicago. On Friday, returning back home to Chicago, I had a chance to see the best of that great city. I traveled to the Salvation Army Freedom Center in Humboldt Park, in the city of Chicago, where residents from around our city have come together to welcome the families who are seeking refuge in America.

Our city's agencies, State agencies, members of the faith community, and kind families have stepped up to provide supplies—the basics: clothing and such—and a safe place to sleep for many of these people who have come to America. These modest acts of generosity have changed everything for the families who have arrived at that Salvation Army Freedom Center because, for the first time in months, they feel safe and secure. And that is exactly why they left their home in the first place: to survive.

In Chicago, we are honored to offer a warm, welcoming hand to these families escaping unimaginable circumstances because in them we see ourselves, we see America, we see our history as a nation. And for me, personally, I see my own family.

Back in 1911, a young Lithuanian woman set sail for America. She carried two things with her: her Catholic prayer book, published the year before the Czars outlawed it in the nation of Lithuania; and her 2-year-old daughter Ona, my mother.

More than a century stands between my mother's arrival in America and the arrival of families I met Friday, but in many ways it is the same story. America opened its doors to my family all those years ago and gave us a chance to find a place for a new land of opportunity. Today, it is our responsibility to welcome families fleeing violence and persecution, families seeking nothing more than safety and a fair shot. This is fundamental to who we are as Americans, but, sadly, it seems that some in politics think otherwise.

You see, there is a reason these families arrived in Chicago, and it is not because they booked a bus on their own accord. It is because the Governor of Texas has chosen to exploit this humanitarian challenge to score political points. When these families arrived at our Nation's border seeking asylum,

what did the Governor of Texas do? He didn't help. He took advantage of the fear and confusion. He rounded these families up, boarded them onto a bus, and shipped them to cities like Chicago and New York without even telling them where they were headed and without any consultation with their destination States. This is cruelty of the highest degree.

The Governor of Texas didn't provide any notice to Illinois or Chicago. He bused them to our Union Station downtown, nearly 1,500 miles away from their Texas border, without sending as much as a text message in advance. No logic. No rationale. Just plain meanness.

Look, we can have reasonable disagreements about how to address the situation at our Nation's border, but there is no excuse for playing games with human lives. It is not the first time. Sadly, it is the playbook for many of the other party. You will recall when President Trump, the nominee or candidate, stood up and said they are all murderers and rapists coming in from Mexico, or do you remember when more than a thousand children—infants and toddlers—were separated from their parents at the border? Some of them are still adrift, never being reunited with their families.

One of the people I met on Friday was a man named Carlos. He and his wife are from Venezuela, a country with an economic and political crisis so severe that their family feared persecution and was on the brink of starvation, even though Carlos was a hard worker, always looking for a job.

So on May 15—May 15—Carlos and his wife did what they needed to do. Imagine this, if you will. They picked up their two children—a 5-year-old little girl and a 1-year-old infant—and set out on a trip to the United States. They set out on foot to reach the Texas-Mexico border. Their journey was a nightmare: violence, theft, and exploitation.

Carlos told me that at one point he thought he would die, with his wife and kids forced to spend nine nights in a Panamanian jungle. They were finally rescued by a local military force, but they had lost all their money, their cell phones. Everything had been stolen.

They didn't quit. They were determined, slowly making their way across Central America, primarily on foot, stopping from time to time. Carlos said: I would take any work they would give me. I would sell things on the street—whatever it was—to feed my family.

It took 4 long months for them to reach our Nation's border, and they had no destination in mind when they arrived, no contacts. They simply followed instructions, and then they were placed on a bus by the Governor of Texas that took them to the city of Chicago.

Carlos had no intention of ending up in this great city when he and his family arrived in America, but he told me,

with real gratitude, that he wanted to stay in Chicago. I warned him to get ready for the winter. They have been amazed by the welcome they have received from the Salvation Army and from so many others—Catholic Charities and other groups—that stepped up to help.

That is a similar sentiment I heard expressed by another man I met on Friday, William. William is 42 years old. He sat down next to me as I was talking to this family. I thought he was a translator. He happily listened to the conversation back-and-forth. Finally, I turned to him and said: So what is your story? Again, he left Venezuela, left his family behind, and is hoping to get some work here so he can send some money back to his family.

We talked about what he would do, and it was literally anything; he would take any job. I asked him if he had any family or friends in the United States. You know what he told me? He said: "I have you."

Before I left on Friday, both Carlos and William had something else to say to me. They both asked me the same question: When can I go to work? It should be a simple answer because the reality is they are legally in the country now awaiting a hearing on their ultimate status. That hearing could be a matter of months or years. And there are no shortage of work opportunities in Chicago and all across the country. Plenty of businesses—restaurants, entertainment venues, nursing homes, landscaping—all of them would be happy to hire them, but under the law, currently, they cannot do that because asylum seekers like Carlos and William could be years away from the final determination of their status in America.

They are at least prohibited for the first 6 months from taking any kind of legal employment in the United States. How did that happen? We let them in the country. Yet we wouldn't even allow them to work to feed their families.

Well, you won't be surprised to know that was a decision by the Trump administration. This administration of President Biden is trying to change it, but, in the meantime, they are faced with a horrible dilemma, a Jean Valjean moment if there ever was one—when they are trying to find some way to feed their families, but if they take a job and are paid for it in any way, they risk deportation. This is yet another example of a broken immigration system.

The system has failed not just these families but our Nation's economy as well. We have 10 million unfilled jobs in this country. We have 5 million unemployed Americans. There are jobs in every direction. A leading restaurateur in Chicago, whom the Presiding Officer knows very well, said to me: If you took the undocumented workers out of the restaurants in Chicago, you would turn out the lights.

Behind those swinging doors in each of those restaurants are undocumented

people doing the hard work: the dishwashing, the food prep and cleanup that is part of being a restaurant. And the same thing is true when we talk about other areas.

I had a visit from the Farm Bureau of Illinois, and they told me just point-blank: We are desperate for workers, for migrant workers, to pick the crops at Alto Pass orchards in Southern Illinois, to work in the dairy farms and dairy operations in Northwestern Illinois.

In every direction, they need these workers, and they need them now—farm workers, ag workers. And it isn't just in the Midwest. It is across the Nation, and yet we don't have a system that allows for these people to come to this country and to legally work. It doesn't make any sense.

Now, of course, there are standards we ought to apply. They shouldn't be offered any job that hasn't been offered first to an American. That is our first obligation. I get it. And we ought to make sure that if they are going to be here, they are good people.

I don't believe we should knowingly allow any dangerous person to come into this country or to stay. If they are guilty of crimes while they are here, they should be punished and deported, period. The standards we should establish should keep our country safe, first and foremost.

But, secondly, we have seen over the past 4 years, under the previous President, a complete downturn in the immigrants coming into this country to work, and that is why there are so many shortages in our current workforce. We can do better, and we should do better.

And there is a problem we have that is very fundamental. Our Nation's birth rate is not keeping up with our demands for new workers. We have to accept that reality, particularly when it comes to entry level positions.

We are a nation desperate for workers, particularly young, able-bodied people like those two men that I met. But we can't put them to work under the law as it stands today. How does that make any sense?

It is the same story for millions of people living throughout our hemisphere. Even though American employers should be willing to sponsor them, there are few, viable legal immigration pathways to bring them to America, and, as a result, the arduous journey to the Mexican-American border is the only option they have.

I will be the first to agree with my colleagues on the other side in saying we need an orderly process at the border, and we do not have it today.

I am chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. We have the responsibility of writing the laws on immigration. And you say to yourself: Well, Senator, why haven't you done it?

And I can tell you why: Because our committee is evenly divided—11 Democrats, 11 Republicans, as is the Senate, 50–50—making it extremely difficult to pass anything controversial.

It was 7 or 8 years ago when we put together a group of 8 Senators—4 Democrats, 4 Republicans. I was glad to be part of forming that group. John McCain, LINDSAY GRAHAM, MARCO RUBIO, and Jeff Flake were on the Republican side; and on the Democratic side: myself, CHUCK SCHUMER, BOB MENENDEZ, and MICHAEL BENNET. We put together a comprehensive immigration bill and called it on the floor of the Senate here, and it passed with 68 votes. We were elated. We finally found that sweet spot, that agreement.

Oh, we said to President Trump: We will build some more of your wall. And I had second thoughts about that. But if that is what it took, we had an agreement for a comprehensive bill.

We passed it in the Senate and sent it over to the House of Representatives, and under Paul Ryan's Republican leadership, they refused to call it or consider it. It died, and nothing—nothing—has been done ever since. In fact, nothing has been done for 30 years, when it comes to the immigration laws of this country.

Is it any wonder the problems we face?

We need an orderly process. We need to make sure that no dangerous person is going to come into this process and do our level best to keep them out. And we need to accept one reality, and that is that we cannot accept everyone in the world who wants to come to America tomorrow.

The numbers are overwhelming. We have to have an orderly process and bring those people in that help us grow as a nation.

Imagine, if you will—I thought about it from time to time in my own family—sitting down in a small town—a small village then—in Lithuania. Jurbarkas was the name of the village. I can't imagine what it was like over 100 years ago, when my grandfather sat down with my grandmother and said: We are leaving for America. We are going to the land of opportunity. We are going to a place called East St. Louis, IL—which is where I was born.

Imagine that decision—leaving your home, your church, your relatives, everything behind, and going to a land where you don't speak the language. It sounds like an incredible decision on their part, and I marvel today that they even did it. A lot of the people around them in their same village must have said: Oh, that family, the Kutkaite family, they will be back.

They weren't. They came here. They endured, and because of that endurance and determination, I am standing here today.

That kind of spirit in the DNA of people who are willing to sacrifice everything to be part of America is something we should not dismiss. This is not a selfish decision on the part of the heads of those families. This is a selfless decision. For their family, they are willing to risk everything to come to this country.

Now, we need an orderly process to bring them into this country, as needed, in the right fashion, and I believe we can achieve that. But, unfortunately, politically, we are stopped at the moment. I am going to continue to work to try to find some bipartisan approach to this which will solve this problem.

Our Nation's immigration system should reward hard work and the determination that these people have to be in America. Instead of exploiting families who are fleeing for their lives, we should all work together to create a system that reflects the best values of America.

We are a nation of immigrants. Our diversity is our strength. Those who say we need some kind of ethnic purity are aspiring to a goal which does not serve us well. We have done just the opposite. We have taken people from different sections of the world and brought them together into the American family, and that is what is important for our future as well.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCO J. COLLAZO

Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, I am pleased this afternoon to commend Mr. Francisco J. Collazo of Grant, AL, for his contributions to our great country and to the State of Alabama.

Born in 1931 in Puerto Rico, Mr. Collazo joined the Army at 15 years of age. He had an exceptionally distinguished career, serving in the Korean and the Vietnam wars and retiring as a chief warrant officer 4.

While in the Army, Mr. Collazo continually worked to further his education. Due to his 30 years of military service, he attended numerous Army technical schools and earned sufficient academic credits to receive the Department of the Army bachelor's equivalency degree in mathematics and computer science.

After his retirement from the Army, he continued his lifelong learning with additional coursework and the study of complex missile systems.

In 2003, the University of Alabama in Huntsville recognized his technical achievements and bestowed upon him an honorary degree of doctor of science.

In 1980, Mr. Collazo and his wife Carmen started COLSA Corporation in their garage in southeast Huntsville, AL. COLSA is a service-disabled, veteran-owned company, and it rapidly grew and received many accolades.

In 1983, COLSA was certified under the 8(a) Business Development Program. The Small Business Administration certified COLSA as a socially and economically disadvantaged company.

In 1988, the SBA selected COLSA as the Regional Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year—such an achievement.

In 1997, COLSA received a Cogswell Award for Excellence in Security Operations.

In 2004, COLSA was inducted into the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame.

NASA awarded COLSA the Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year Award in 2008.

In 2021, Forbes magazine named COLSA to two of their top lists: Best Employers by State—4th in Alabama; and America's Best Midsize Employers—17th overall in the United States.

Today, COLSA has grown to over 1,600 employees—1,600 employees from zero—and currently ranks as 76 on Washington Technology's Top 100 Federal Prime Contractors.

Frank Collazo has personally received numerous awards and declarations, some I have enumerated. In the military—just a few—he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal with two oakleaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with three oakleaf clusters, and a Bronze Star with one oakleaf cluster for distinguished service during his time in Vietnam.

As an industry leader, the Huntsville and Madison County Chapter of the National Management Association recognized Frank Collazo as the manager of the year 30 years ago, 1991. Mr. Collazo has served as president of the following: the Air Defense Artillery Association; the Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association; the Huntsville Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association.

In 2018, he received the Davidson Award for his leadership in the defense community. In addition to his leadership in industry, Mr. Collazo has been exceptionally generous in his contributions to local organizations. He funded the Collazo Endowment to retain and recruit students at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He established the Francisco J. Collazo Scholarship Fund at Auburn University and is an original Partner in Education at the new Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering located in Huntsville.

He is a routine and substantial contributor to over—yes, over—80 charitable organizations in the Tennessee Valley—that is including a lot of Alabama and a lot of Tennessee—personifying his motto when he says “Character is a matter of what you do when no one is watching.”

I am pleased this afternoon here in the U.S. Senate to join the citizens in Huntsville, AL, and throughout the State of Alabama, in offering my sincere thanks and gratitude to Frank Collazo, and I want to share my appreciation with his wife, Carmen, and his extended family.

Frank has continually demonstrated his commitment to our country, the State of Alabama, and to the community. Basically, Frank Collazo is an outstanding American.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1032.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Sarah A. L. Merriam, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1032, Sarah A.L. Merriam, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Sherrod Brown, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith, Jeanne Shaheen, Chris Van Hollen, Elizabeth Warren, Catherine Cortez Masto, Raphael G. Warnock, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Christopher Murphy, Maria Cantwell, Christopher A. Coons, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Duckworth.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, September 12, be waived.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATION OF SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I come to the floor today to urge my colleagues to vote to confirm Judge Mendoza to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

This is a historic moment. If confirmed, Judge Mendoza would be the first Hispanic judge to serve on the Ninth Circuit from Washington.

Judge Mendoza, whom I met before nominating him to the White House Counsel's Office as a candidate for U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, has been somebody who, when you think about his childhood growing up in the Yakima Valley—an agricultural area in Eastern Washington—he comes from a family of farm workers and has worked in the fields himself.

As a young student at Prosser High School, it was not uncommon for him to wake up before dawn to work in the fields before rushing home to change and head to school. His hard work earned him admission to the University of Washington.

After graduating from the University of Washington, he left the State to get his law degree from UCLA. After earning his degree, he returned home to Washington, where he worked as assistant attorney general in the Washington State AG's Office.

He went on to serve the community he grew up in, first as a deputy prosecutor for Franklin County and then as a judge in the Benton-Franklin Superior Court. He has been an outstanding judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, where he has served since 2014. Clearly, my colleagues here in the Senate saw his potential since he was confirmed to the Eastern District 92 to 4.

Judge Mendoza is not just an outstanding jurist; he is a community leader as well. He has served on the boards of directors for numerous organizations in Central Washington, including the Benton-Franklin Legal Aid Society, the Benton and Franklin Counties Circle of Hope Foundation for Drug Courts, and the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties.

I know Judge Mendoza will make an excellent addition to the Ninth Circuit Court, and I urge my colleagues to support his nomination to the court of appeals.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today the Senate is poised to confirm another outstanding judicial nominee: Judge Salvador Mendoza, Jr., nominated to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Mendoza is a highly experienced jurist with a lifelong commitment to public and community service. After graduating from the University of Washington and UCLA School of Law, Judge Mendoza joined the office of the Franklin County, WA prosecuting attorney, where he handled a range of felony and misdemeanor cases. Following this role, Judge Mendoza entered private legal practice, simultaneously serving as a judge pro tempore on various Washington State municipal, district, and juvenile courts. He then served 2 years on the Washington State superior court.

In 2014, President Obama nominated Judge Mendoza to the Eastern District

of Washington, and the Senate confirmed him on an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, 92-4. Judge Mendoza has distinguished himself on the bench, presiding over dozens of trials and demonstrating evenhandedness and impartiality in all matters that have come before him. And once confirmed, Judge Mendoza will be the first judge of Hispanic origin to sit on a Washington seat on the Ninth Circuit.

The American Bar Association has unanimously rated Judge Mendoza "well qualified," and he enjoys the strong support of his home State Senators, Mrs. MURRAY and Ms. CANTWELL.

I will support Judge Mendoza's confirmation, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Judge Salvador Mendoza, from my home State of Washington, to serve on the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

I was honored to recommend Judge Mendoza for this seat to President Biden and to introduce him before the Senate Judiciary Committee in May.

I was thrilled to see him advance out of the committee in a bipartisan vote, and I couldn't be happier to support him today and to strongly urge all my colleagues to join me in voting for his confirmation to the bench.

Judge Mendoza is a lifelong Washington State resident and a tremendously qualified candidate to join the Ninth Circuit Court. He has served as a district court judge for the Eastern District of Washington since 2014, when he was confirmed by the Senate with an overwhelming, bipartisan majority of 92-4.

In his time on the bench in the Eastern District, he has presided over nearly 1,500 cases—including appellate cases—where he treated every party who came before him with fairness and respect.

And before that, he served Washington State as a Superior Court Judge.

He also has experience as a prosecutor, in the State attorney general's office, and as a solo practitioner, where he often represented defendants who could not afford their own attorneys.

He also worked to establish the first drug court in Benton and Franklin counties, along with prosecutors, defense attorneys, mental health professionals, and other judges.

From representing those without means, to establishing drug courts, to serving with distinction on the Eastern District Court, Judge Mendoza has been a trailblazer, focused on building a more fair and just legal system that works for everyone—not just the wealthy and well-off.

Judge Mendoza's many years of public service and even-handed application of the law have earned him not only the support of people across the State of Washington, but also the respect of both Democrats and Republicans.

It is why my bipartisan judicial merit selection committee, which in-

cludes top Republican lawyers, recommended him to serve in his current district court judgeship 8 years ago and why he was confirmed to that judgeship in an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote. And that should be no different today.

Beyond just his impeccable professional qualifications, Judge Mendoza will bring an important perspective to one of the most consequential appellate courts in this country: the perspective of someone whose parents immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico and worked as farm laborers, maids, and factory workers to build a better life for their family; the perspective of someone who, as a child, worked beside them on farms in the Yakima Valley; the perspective of someone who was the first Latino Federal judge in the Eastern District of Washington and who would break new ground once again as the first Latino from Washington State to serve on the Ninth Circuit.

Confirming Judge Mendoza will bring us even closer to building a Federal bench that reflects the diversity of the people it serves. That is especially important to me and to the many people across the country who don't currently see themselves represented on our Nation's courts.

I have no doubt—and based on his record, I think there can be no doubt that serving on the Ninth Circuit, Judge Mendoza will carefully review each case as an appellate judge, respect every party that appears before him, and protect the rights of the American people.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting his confirmation.

Ms. CANTWELL. 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.

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

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The bill clerk read the nomination of Salvador Mendoza, Jr., of Washington, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

VOTE ON MENDOZA NOMINATION

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) would have noted "nay".

The result was announced— yeas 46, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 331 Ex.]

YEAS—46

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

NAYS—40

Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Burr	Hoeben	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cassidy	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Johnson	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Lummis	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	Wicker
Ernst	McConnell	
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—14

Barrasso	Padilla	Sinema
Braun	Paul	Stabenow
Brown	Peters	Toomey
Hassan	Risch	Young
Menendez	Scott (SC)	

The nomination was confirmed.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1043, Arianna J. Freeman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Christopher Murphy, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith, Christopher A. Coons, Elizabeth Warren, Jeanne Shaheen, Jeff Merkley, Alex Padilla, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Lujan, Mazie Hirono.

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 Arianna J. Freeman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 45, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 332 Ex.]

YEAS—45

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

NAYS—44

Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hagerty	Portman
Burr	Hawley	Romney
Capito	Hoeben	Rounds
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Collins	Inhofe	Sasse
Cornyn	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Lankford	Shelby
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Lummis	Thune
Daines	Marshall	Tillis
Ernst	McConnell	Tuberville
Fischer	Moran	Wicker
Graham	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—11

Barrasso	Hassan	Stabenow
Blunt	Menendez	Toomey
Braun	Peters	Young
Brown	Risch	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). On this vote, the yeas are 45, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Arianna J. Freeman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

EXTRADITION TREATY WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate consider Calendar No. 4, treaty document No. 116-2; that the treaty be considered as having advanced through the various parliamentary stages up to and including the presentation of the resolution of the advice and consent to ratification; that any committee conditions, declarations, or reservations be agreed to and applicable; that any statements be printed in the RECORD as if read; further, that if the resolution of ratification is agreed to, 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.

The treaty will be stated.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Treaty document No. 116-2, Extradition Treaty with the Republic of Croatia.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I ask for a division vote on the resolution of advice and consent to ratification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A division vote has been requested.

On treaty document No. 116-2, all those in favor, stand and be counted.

All those opposed, stand and be counted.

On a division vote, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of advice and consent to ratification has been agreed to.

The resolution of ratification agreed to is as follows:

VIII. TEXT OF RESOLUTION OF ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION

(A) THE U.S.-CROATIA EXTRADITION AGREEMENT
Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),

SECTION 1. SENATE ADVICE AND CONSENT SUBJECT TO A DECLARATION

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Agreement between the, Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 3(2) of the Agreement

on Extradition between the United States of America and the European Union, signed June 25, 2003, as to the Application of the Treaty on Extradition signed on October 25, 1901 (the "U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement"), signed at Washington on December 10, 2019, (Treaty Doc. 116-2), subject to the declaration of section 2.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement is self-executing.

(B) THE U.S.-CROATIA MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),

SECTION 1. SENATE ADVICE AND CONSENT SUBJECT TO A DECLARATION

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 3(3) of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance between the United States of America and the European Union signed at Washington on June 25, 2003 (the "U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement"), signed at Washington on December 10, 2019, (Treaty Doc. 116-2), subject to the declaration of section 2.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following declaration: The U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement is self-executing.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

TRIBUTE TO BOWLING GREEN'S GAINES FAMILY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, after five generations and 140 years of ownership, Bowling Green, Kentucky's Gaines Family has made the difficult decision to sell their newspaper, the Bowling Green Daily News. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these towering figures in Bowling Green's history, thanking them for their service to the Commonwealth, and wishing the best for their paper's success under its new owners.

The Gaineses laid down the roots of the Bowling Green Daily News in 1882 when John B. Gaines founded the Bowling Green Daily Times. At the time, the city sported several newspapers, but the Gaines family's paper quickly rose above the rest. The Daily Times later merged with its chief rival, the Bowling Green Democrat, to create a new daily called the Park City Daily News. The paper's name derived from Bowling Green's nickname, "beautiful park city," given to the city in an 1892 speech by Congressman and journalist

Henry Watterson. The paper dropped its new moniker after nearby Glasgow Junction, KY, rechristened itself Park City in 1938, adopting Bowling Green Daily News as its name shortly thereafter.

In the decades following, local newspapers around the country consolidated into large news media corporations. The Gaines family remained fiercely independent, though, keeping their paper family-owned and -operated despite outside pressure. They understood that, to provide the best possible coverage of life, breaking news, sports, and politics in Bowling Green, the paper had to be run by a local family with deep ties to the community. The Gaines family passed ownership down from one generation to another, and by this year, the Bowling Green Daily News was one of the oldest family-owned newspapers remaining in the South.

From my first run for statewide office until today, I have had the pleasure of working closely with the Bowling Green Daily News's editorial and news teams. Often when I visit Bowling Green, I go straight to the paper's offices to meet with members of the editorial board and the Gaines family to discuss current events in the Commonwealth. Alone among most of Kentucky's largest papers, the Bowling Green Daily News opinion pages are filled with a diversity of ideas and discourse. As a result, their editorials usually come closest to reflecting what most Kentuckians actually believe about their State and our politics.

Over the decades, I have developed a close working relationship with the Gaines family and especially Pipes Gaines, the publisher emeritus of the Bowling Green Daily News. Pipes joined the family paper full-time in 1966, following a career in the U.S. Army that included Active Duty in Korea. He has been a mainstay of the paper ever since, navigating rapid changes in the media industry and shepherding the next generation of talent into leadership roles at the newspaper, including his sons, Scott and Steve Gaines. Last year, Scott succeeded his father as the paper's publisher and joined his brother, who serves as an editor, as the fifth generation of Gaineses to help lead the Bowling Green Daily News.

The Gaines family delivered an immense service to Bowling Green by running the city's flagship paper, but refused to keep their public works confined strictly to the family business. In 2007, the Gaines family created the Gaines Family Fund for Excellence in Print Journalism at Bowling Green's Western Kentucky University, forming an incubator for future local journalists at WKU's School of Journalism and Broadcasting. This type of generosity was part and parcel of the Gaineses' success, demonstrating a deep dedication for, and connection to, life in Bowling Green.

The Gaines family's impact on Bowling Green has been felt all across Ken-

tucky. From media, to education, to philanthropy, their extraordinary work on the Commonwealth's behalf will have an enduring impact. I thank the entire Gaines family for their stewardship of Kentucky's news media and wish them the best in the next stages of the family's life.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY, has charted quite a few major milestones in American Christian life. The school was the home of the first Christian music festival in the country; they established the first department of prayer and spiritual life at an American seminary; they have readied thousands of graduates to serve at every level of religious life. This year, Asbury is celebrating another milestone, marking 100 years of operation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this renowned Kentucky institution and recognizing its outstanding contributions to our Nation's spiritual strength.

When Dr. Henry Clay Morrison founded Asbury Theological Seminary a century ago, he did so with one simple motto: "the whole Bible for the whole world." Back then, the school only had three students and a skeleton staff. But Dr. Morrison was an energetic, effective leader, and soon, Asbury was attracting theological students from across the country and world to learn how to spread the gospel in the tradition of John Wesley.

Since its earliest days, Asbury has grown by leaps and bounds, now enrolling more than 1,800 students from 80 denominations and 50 countries. It is among the 10 largest accredited theological seminaries in the country, with satellite campuses in Tennessee, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Florida and a robust online presence. The seminary also shares a heritage with Asbury University, one of Kentucky's finest Christian universities, and helps the school provide a faith-driven education to students pursuing secular professions.

Today, Asbury's reach extends far beyond Kentucky and all across the globe. With several U.S. Navy chaplains as graduates, they even have representation in every time zone on the planet. Asbury alumni have served as pastors, church planters, missionaries, counselors, educators, nonprofit leaders, and in government. As much as the school has grown over the past 100 years, though, Asbury remains firmly rooted in its Jessamine County home. The vibrant community surrounding the school is a testament to its founders' enduring commitment to Kentucky.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Asbury Theological Seminary president, Dr. Timothy Tennent, and to all of Asbury's administrators, professors, alumni, and students, who do so much to support mission-based

service in the Commonwealth. They have helped put Kentucky at the center of America's religious education system. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Asbury Theological Seminary on a century of service and success and wish them the best as their school continues to evangelize and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

BUDGETARY REVISIONS

Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the fiscal year 2022 congressional budget resolution, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise budget aggregates, committee allocations, and the pay-as-you-go ledger for legislation considered under the resolution's reconciliation instructions.

I find that H.R. 5376, an act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 14, fulfills the conditions found in section 3002. Accordingly, I am revising the allocations for eight of the reconciled committees and revising other enforceable budgetary levels to account for the budgetary effects of the law. This adjustment reflects the estimate of the law as enacted provided by the Congressional Budget Office on September 7, 2022.

This adjustment supersedes the adjustments I previously made for the processing of Senate amendment Nos. 5194, 5472, and 5488 to H.R. 5376 on August 6 and 7.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustments, be printed in the RECORD.

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

REVISIONS TO BUDGET AGGREGATES—BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(Pursuant to Section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)
(\$ in billions)

	2022	
Current Spending Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	4,176.690	
Outlays	4,503.198	
Adjustment:		
Budget Authority	208.981	
Outlays	2.378	
Revised Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	4,385.671	
Outlays	4,505.576	

REVISIONS TO BUDGET REVENUE AGGREGATES

(Pursuant to Section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)
(\$ in billions)

	2022	2022–2026	2022–2031
Current Revenue Aggregates ...	3,409.875	17,817.016	39,007.541
Adjustments	0.000	47.219	104.215
Revised Revenue Aggregates ...	3,409.875	17,864.235	39,111.756

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO SENATE COMMITTEE OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS

(Pursuant to Section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)
(\$ in billions)

	2022	2022–2026	2022–2031
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:			
Budget Authority	169.301	739.376	1,502.313

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO SENATE COMMITTEE OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS—Continued

(Pursuant to Section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)
(\$ in billions)

	2022	2022–2026	2022–2031
Outlays	156.545	681.230	1,370.549
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	23.694	36.547	36.747
Outlays	–0.622	9.305	34.675
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	192.995	775.923	1,539.060
Outlays	155.923	690.535	1,405.224
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:			
Budget Authority	22.106	123.886	245.422
Outlays	16.131	59.645	65.228
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	1.500	1.500	1.500
Outlays	0.000	0.680	1.465
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	23.606	125.386	246.922
Outlays	16.131	60.325	66.693
Commerce, Science, and Transportation:			
Budget Authority	18.161	91.223	183.890
Outlays	32.945	95.536	165.865
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	3.607	3.607	3.607
Outlays	0.000	2.546	3.584
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	21.768	94.830	187.497
Outlays	32.945	98.082	169.449
Energy and Natural Resources:			
Budget Authority	7.410	36.704	65.681
Outlays	7.124	35.751	69.719
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	42.117	41.770	41.473
Outlays	0.000	17.265	35.136
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	49.527	78.474	107.154
Outlays	7.124	53.016	104.855
Environment and Public Works:			
Budget Authority	49.417	272.510	586.154
Outlays	7.315	–22.644	–25.400
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	50.450	50.450	50.450
Outlays	0.000	24.262	41.870
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	99.867	322.960	636.604
Outlays	7.315	1.618	16.470
Finance:			
Budget Authority	2,937.622	15,682.796	37,800.964
Outlays	3,032.554	15,768.091	37,875.037
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	83.625	118.476	–68.416
Outlays	0.000	53.713	–70.437
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	3,021.247	15,801.272	37,732.548
Outlays	3,032.554	15,821.804	37,804.600
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:			
Budget Authority	163.032	859.033	1,822.564
Outlays	162.069	868.154	1,838.966
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	3.565	3.915	3.915
Outlays	3.000	3.665	3.976
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	166.597	862.948	1,826.479
Outlays	165.069	871.819	1,842.942
Indian Affairs:			
Budget Authority	0.563	2.438	4.498
Outlays	4.362	7.681	9.805
Adjustments:			
Budget Authority	0.423	0.423	0.423
Outlays	0.000	0.318	0.423
Revised Allocation:			
Budget Authority	0.986	2.861	4.921
Outlays	4.362	7.999	10.228
Memo—total of all adjustments:			
Budget Authority	208.981	256.688	69.699
Outlays	2.378	111.754	50.692

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE

(Revisions Pursuant to Section 3002 of S. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022)
(\$ in billions)

	Balances
Current Balances:	
Fiscal Year 2022	–8.424
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	–75.460
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	–138.777
Revisions:	
Fiscal Year 2022	2.378
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	64.535
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	* 0.000
Revised Balances:	
Fiscal Year 2022	–6.046
Fiscal Years 2022–2026	–10.925
Fiscal Years 2022–2031	–138.777

*Sec. 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the FY 2018 budget resolution, specifies that the budgetary effects of a reconciliation bill with net deficit reduction "shall never be made available on the pay-as-you-go ledger." Since the savings from H.R. 5376 will not be entered the PAYGO scorecard, no adjustment is necessary. The law will reduce on-budget deficits by \$53.523 billion over 2022–2031.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, on September 6, 2022, I missed rollcall vote No. 326 while quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 326, cloture on the nomination of John Z. Lee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Madam President, on September 7, 2022, I missed rollcall vote No. 327 while quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 327, confirming John Z. Lee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Madam President, on September 7, 2022, I missed rollcall vote No. 328 while quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 328, cloture on the nomination of Andre B. Mathis to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Madam President, on September 8, 2022, I missed rollcall vote No. 329 while quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 329, confirming Andre B. Mathis to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Madam President, on September 8, 2022, I missed rollcall vote No. 330 while quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall vote No. 330, cloture on the nomination of Salvador Mendoza to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

TRIBUTE TO RENEE COHEN

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Renee Cohen, a member of my staff who is retiring after more than 37 years of service to the people of Maryland. Renee has been with me since I served as speaker of the house in the Maryland General Assembly before I won election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1986.

W.H. Auden said, "We are all here on earth to help others; what on earth the others are here for I don't know." Certainly, Renee has devoted her life to helping others, and she has made an extraordinary difference in the lives of so many people and families. She is a native Baltimorean and a graduate of Forest Park High School, where she was an officer in her sorority and excelled academically. She grew up surrounded by aunts and uncles, especially the Pollakoffs on her mother's side of the family. She attended Temple University, where she earned an associate's degree that allowed her to work as a dental hygienist. She worked to help support her mother, who was widowed when Renee was a young teenager.

Renee married the love of her life, Jonas Cohen, in 1960, and they had three wonderful sons, Mark, Adam, and Ethan. Renee has been a devoted mother and grandmother. When her sons

were old enough, she returned to school, to Notre Dame College of Maryland, now known as Notre Dame of Maryland University, to earn a bachelor's degree in fine arts. She is a gifted artist.

Renee and Jonas found many opportunities for volunteer work and leadership roles through the Associate Jewish Charities. Her influence and reach in local civic life and politics continued to expand to the point where I knew I needed her on my staff as a constituent liaison. When I entered the House of Representatives in 1987, Renee became a caseworker, focusing on healthcare and senior citizen issues. She has had a special interest and insight into these issues after caring for her mother, Rose Katz, who lived to be 105, and her husband, who had a progressive illness before he passed away in 2020. Since I joined the Senate, Renee has been an indefatigable field representative for me on health and senior issues and a liaison to the Jewish community.

Try as we might, Senators cannot be in two places at once. We depend on staff to represent us. If you were to Google Renee, you would find numerous articles and pictures of her representing me in Baltimore and around the State, at healthcare fairs and other events, where she shared her knowledge, contacts, and other information with constituents who needed Federal assistance of some kind. She particularly relished helping people to understand and navigate the Affordable Care Act.

Much of what Senators do can seem ethereal or intangible. Staffers like Renee represent where "the rubber hits the road." Casework and the sort of outreach Renee performed is intensely personal. Renee helped people receive their Social Security retirement, Social Security disability, and supplemental security income payments and Medicare benefits. She excelled because she is empathetic and has a passion for service, for problem-solving, and for strategic thinking. If, for any reason, she was unable to offer assistance—which was exceedingly rare—she had a knack for finding agencies that the rest of us never knew existed for a referral. She would never end a call with, "I'm sorry, we can't help you." She always went the proverbial extra mile.

Another keen interest of Renee's has been science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—STEM—education. Renee was instrumental in helping to establish STEM programs for underserved students in schools across Maryland and the annual STEM Expo at Morgan State University. She calls these projects "my baby," and educators affectionately refer to Renee as "the STEM Queen."

Renee has worked for me longer than any other member of my staff. It was inevitable that I would consider her as a member of my extended family and vice versa. I have been so fortunate to have her by my side for nearly 40 years.

The positive difference she has made in so many people's lives is incalculable. She has run the race and is ready to retire—sort of. Renee is not someone who lets the grass grow under her feet so she will return to the office occasionally as a "senior intern," helping answer the phones and pitching in on casework. I am grateful we will stay connected. But she will have more time to devote to her family and friends and her avocation, which is painting. Renee sees the beauty in the people she has faithfully served and in the natural world, which she captures on canvas. On behalf of my Senate colleagues and the people of Maryland, I want to express my undying gratitude to Renee for nearly four decades of exemplary service, congratulate her on her retirement, and extend my best wishes to her as she turns the page, paint brushes in hand, to a new chapter in a life well-lived.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. HAND

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert "Bob" Hand as he retires this week after 40 years of faithful service to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission. The Commission is an independent U.S. Government agency Congress created in 1975 to monitor and encourage compliance with the Helsinki Final Act and other commitments undertaken since then by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, OSCE. The Commission consists of nine members from the House of Representatives, nine members from the U.S. Senate, and one member each from the Departments of State, Defense, and Commerce. The House and Senate share the positions of chair and cochair and rotate every 2 years, when a new Congress convenes. For the Commission to function, it relies on expert professional staff who must be as nonpartisan as they are expert in their fields.

I am, during this 117th Congress, the chair of the Helsinki Commission, though for these remarks it is important to note that I have served on the Commission since the 103rd Congress, dating back to my time in the House of Representatives. When I joined the Commission in 1993, as the several Balkan Wars were unfolding in the former Yugoslavia, Bob Hand was already the go-to person on Capitol Hill for news and information—and explanations—of what was happening in the Western Balkans. I have worked with Bob for 29 years now. I have relied on him for 29 years. I have respected his intellect and his prodigious work ethic for 29 years.

This month, Bob retires as the longest serving staff person on the Helsinki Commission, with 40 years of service. Bob earned a B.A. in international relations and Russian area studies, with a minor in economics, from the School of International Service at American

University in 1983 but actually started at the Commission in 1982 as an intern. After he graduated, he quickly moved to full-time staff in 1983. Throughout the years, he has shown exceptional professionalism and has always been willing to go above and beyond the call to do whatever was necessary to ensure that the Commission served mandate defended human rights. His deep expertise on the Western Balkans has made him renowned among policy professionals in Washington, and his appearances on Voice of America and TOP channel in Albania nearly made him a household name there.

Bob worked tirelessly throughout the wars in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s to ensure that members of the Helsinki Commission had the best information and analysis of developments when formulating legislation and policy responses to address the aggression, war crimes, and ethnic cleansing which took place in Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1992 to 1995. He helped to document these atrocities through numerous hearings and briefings and reports. He also advised Helsinki Commissioners as they pressed U.S. leadership to use NATO assets to end the siege of Sarajevo and protect UN-designated safe havens and to lift the arms embargo imposed on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Bob was an early proponent of the establishment of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia—ICTY—to hold those responsible for atrocities to account, including for the Srebrenica genocide, which he has ensured the Commission commemorates each year in memory of those murdered. He has also ensured that other cases stay at the forefront of policy attention, particularly the Bytyqi brothers, three Albanian-Americans whose murdered bodies were found in Serbia in 2001 and for whom Bob has never stopped seeking justice.

Bob is also an expert on Albania, and he helped organize a Helsinki Commission visit to Albania in 1990, the first U.S. Government agency visit to that nation since relations were severed in 1946. He returned to Albania numerous times over the years, observed most of the country's elections over the past two decades, and through his thoughtful and in-depth analysis of political developments in the country, became a respected commentator on Albanian radio and television.

Bob served on numerous U.S. delegations to OSCE Meetings, observed dozens of elections, and he even served as a mission member on one of the OSCE's first field missions: the OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina, stationed in Novi Pazar in 1993. He is not just one of our Nation's top experts on the Western Balkans; he is also a fount of knowledge on the OSCE itself, and especially the OSCE's Parliamentary Assembly, PA.

Bob has served for many years as the Secretary of the U.S. Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly. In that role,

he deftly ensured that our delegation was not only well-prepared both logistically and substantively, but also through working diplomatically with other delegations, he ensured that our proposals, resolutions, and amendments had the best possible chance of being successfully adopted. Most recently at the OSCE PA annual session in Birmingham, Bob worked diligently with several other delegations to ensure that a critical resolution condemning Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine was adopted with the strongest possible language.

Bob has also always been a voice of reason, humanity, and fairness. He did not refrain from criticizing U.S. policy when it was warranted and several times advocated that the United States proactively discuss its own shortcomings with other OSCE countries, including after reports of prisoner abuse in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, surfaced in 2003. Among Commission staff, he was always quick to support his colleagues, but also did not shy away from debating the pros and cons of ideas. Above all, Bob has always sought to do what is right—for the Helsinki Commission, for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, for the United States, and for the promotion of human rights, democracy, and rule of law throughout the 57 nations of the OSCE.

A little over 2 years ago, I paid tribute to another Commission staffer, Erika Schlager, on her retirement after 34 years of service. It so happens that Bob and Erika are husband and wife. Bob and Erika have devoted their lives—75 years and counting—to defending and promoting human rights. They have been passionate and remarkably effective advocates for the world's downtrodden and disenfranchised.

The Most Reverend Desmond Tutu, former Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, remarked, "It means a great deal to those who are oppressed to know that they are not alone." For the past 40 years, oppressed people around the world, but especially in Eastern and Central Europe, knew they weren't alone because Bob Hand was fighting for them. I know I speak on behalf of my Senate colleagues, my fellow Commissioners, and Bob's wide circle of professional colleagues and admirers when I say that I will miss him. I am grateful for his stalwart service and wish him all the best for his future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TRACIE TEXAS SHIFFLETT

• Mr. PAUL. Madam President, after more than 25 years of service—first as an officer, then as executive director of the Louisville Metro Police Foundation, LMPF—Tracie Shifflett has announced that she will retire from the foundation in September.

The LMPF is an independent, private nonprofit organization, the only orga-

nization authorized to raise funds on behalf of the Louisville Metro Police Department. LMPF supports special community programs to strengthen relationships between police and the communities they serve, purchase equipment and training programs, and grants for the Officers in Distress Program.

Shifflett took on leadership of the LMPF in 2016 after retiring from the Louisville Metro Police Department as a lieutenant over the training academy. The rank of lieutenant is the highest achievable rank on your merit within the department.

"I always felt our officers were like my kids," Shifflett said. "I felt like my work with the Foundation was a way I could truly help them."

During her tenure as its leader, the foundation has grown from less than \$700,000 in total assets to \$2.4 million. Tracie dealt with many challenges and faced all of them with grace, love, and a great sense of humor. She has put her own life on hold many times to be there for "her" officers, the board, and the Louisville community. She has repeatedly set new records for fundraising at the LMPF's annual event by sharing the unvarnished truth of what officers face every day while serving. Her passion both while serving on LMPD and for the LMPF was to make sure "her babies" were taken care of, that they felt loved, and had the support needed to continue to make a difference every day.

"I'm especially proud that we have been able to positively impact at least 50 officer families each year that have faced injury, medical diagnosis, or other critical needs," Shifflett said. "Since 2016, we have granted \$1.7 million to officer families who are facing life-altering difficulty."

Some of the foundation's key accomplishments under Shifflett's leadership include training programs, purchasing equipment, and the Officers in Distress Program.

Tracie has partnered with many officers and helped to strengthen their bonds in the community with programs like Shop with a Cop, Gang Resistance, and Education Training. The department has also helped build and provide bedding to 100 kids in the community, purchased new bleachers for the California Community Center, and launched the Help Us Give fund. She also secured funding for seven mounted patrol horses, purchased nine K-9s for patrol work and narcotics detection, some of which went on to win the National K-9 Olympics Competition, and obtained K-9 trauma kits and K-9 protective vests for all LMPD K-9s. In her last few weeks with the foundation, she secured two Kid ID Kits for LMPD to use in the community.

Jim Ellis, chairman of the Louisville Metro Police Foundation, said the following about Tracie in her evaluation:

"Tracie has become the go-to person for many members of LMPD when they have a gripe, concern, or problem. I be-

lieve that is a great demonstration of the trust the officers have in our Foundation and our Executive Director. Tracie receives inquiries from other Foundations around the county on how we implement and apply checks and balances to each of our grants. Tracie maintains confidentiality with sensitive and life-altering data and information that comes into the Foundation. This confidentiality helps protect the safety of the LMPD and the Foundation's board members. Tracie is unique in that she is a former police officer and understands what the men and women of the LMPD want and need to make Louisville safer. She lets them know what is possible to achieve and what may be beyond the Board's ability to obtain or provide. She hates to deny any request, but if it is denied, she works to solve the problem. Tracie has become somewhat of a parental figure for many members of LMPD."

Almost every targeted foundation project was obtained under her leadership. One of the things that Tracie was proud to have accomplished during her tenure at the foundation is securing funding for high-velocity bulletproof vests for every LMPD officer, which recently saved the life of an officer. Another highlight of her career was receiving her master's degree in education.

She is incredibly proud of her close family: her mother, Judy, her late father, Benjamin, her son, Ben, her daughter, Alex, and her husband, John, a retired police officer.

I am proud to salute Tracie for her dedicated career in making our community a safer place to live.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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

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

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 4822. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4832. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of the Department's intent to obligate fiscal year (FY) 2011 and FY 2020 Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining and Related Programs funds to support activities of the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4833. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4834. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise the authorities under section 506(a)(1) of the FAA to provide military assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4835. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of HAVANA Act of 2021" (RIN1400-AF52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 3, 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4836. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4837. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4838. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting an additional legislative proposal relative to the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4839. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise the authorities under section 506(a)(1) of the FAA to provide military assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4840. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and the UK in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-017); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4841. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Thailand in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-001); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4842. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Georgia in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 21-058); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4843. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the UK and Italy in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 21-069); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4844. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia and the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-002); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4845. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia and the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 21-084); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4846. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Hungary, Norway, and the UK in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 21-079); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4847. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-015); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4848. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Norway in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-031); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4849. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Oman in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more

(Transmittal No. DDTC 22-007); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4850. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Thailand in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-031); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4851. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0119—2022-0130); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4852. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4853. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Examination and Copying of PBGC Records" (RIN1212-AB53) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4854. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on mining safety technologies for fiscal year 2021 as required by the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4855. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Progress Report to Congress on the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory Program"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4856. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applications for New Awards; Full Service Community Schools" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 6, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4857. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals; Fumonisin Esterase" (Docket No. FDA-2020-F-1275) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4858. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Report to Congress for Fiscal Year

2017"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4859. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tobacco Products; Required Warnings for Cigarette Packages and Advertisements; Delayed Effective Date" (RIN0910-AI39) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 25, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4860. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the text of an Agreement to Extend the Agreement for Cooperation between the United States of America and the Republic of South Africa Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER (for Mr. PETERS), from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 471. A bill to allow Members of Congress to opt out of the Federal Employees Retirement System, and allow Members who opt out of the Federal Employees Retirement System to continue to participate in the Thrift Savings Plan (Rept. No. 117-143).

By Mr. CARPER (for Mr. PETERS), from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3092. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-144).

By Mr. CARPER (for Mr. PETERS), from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

H.R. 5641. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to increase the threshold for eligibility for assistance under sections 403, 406, 407, and 502 of such Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-145).

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. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 4814. A bill to establish a demonstration program for the active remediation of orbital debris and to require the development of uniform orbital debris standard practices in order to support a safe and sustainable orbital environment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SASSE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WICKER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. YOUNG, Mr.

CRUZ, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BURR, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 4815. A bill to clarify regulatory certainty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4816. A bill to require the Archivist of the United States to submit to Congress a comprehensive plan for reducing the backlog of requests for records from the National Personnel Records Center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BURR, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 4817. A bill to prevent the use of additional Internal Revenue Service funds from being used for audits of taxpayers with taxable incomes below \$400,000 in order to protect low- and middle-income earning American taxpayers from an onslaught of audits from an army of new Internal Revenue Service auditors funded by an unprecedented, nearly \$80,000,000,000, infusion of new funds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 4818. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal and local funds to impose or enforce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate in District of Columbia schools, and to repeal the Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 enacted by the District of Columbia Council; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 4819. A bill to establish a minimum temperature for thermostats at the headquarters of the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 4820. A bill to auction spectrum and to authorize the Federal Communications Commission to borrow funds from the Treasury, to be repaid out of auction proceeds, to ensure rural communications providers have the resources to replace communications equipment and services to protect their networks from Chinese Communist Party espionage; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 4821. A bill to increase oversight of foreign direct investment in agricultural land in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MERKLEY,

Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KING, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SMITH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 4822. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S.J. Res. 61. A joint resolution to provide for the resolution of issues in a railway labor-management dispute, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Con. Res. 44. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the statue of Harry S. Truman from the people of Missouri; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 282

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 282, a bill to designate a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness.

S. 295

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 295, a bill to designate residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as Priority 21 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 467

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 467, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in hospital emergency departments who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes.

S. 821

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 821, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1156

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1156, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit.

S. 1157

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1157, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee.

S. 1458

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1458, a bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to encourage the planting of cover crops following prevented planting, and for other purposes.

S. 1548

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1548, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes.

S. 1692

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1692, a bill to provide better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related to dementias and their caregivers, while accelerating progress toward prevention strategies, disease modifying treatments, and, ultimately, a cure.

S. 1697

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms.

SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1697, a bill to address maternity care storages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes.

S. 1725

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated.

S. 2013

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2013, a bill to provide for the coverage of medically necessary food and vitamins and individual amino acids for digestive and inherited metabolic disorder under Federal health programs and private health insurance, to ensure State and Federal protection for existing coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 2410

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2410, a bill to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 2612

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2612, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare.

S. 3295

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3295, a bill to increase access to pre-exposure prophylaxis to reduce the transmission of HIV.

S. 3892

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3892, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to improve the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

S. 3909

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3909, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit.

S. 4009

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4009, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to rebase the calculation of payments for sole community hospitals and Medicare-dependent hospitals, and for other purposes.

S. 4111

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4111, a bill to support research and State management efforts relating to chronic wasting disease, and for other purposes.

S. 4182

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 4182, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 4202

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4202, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 4203

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4203, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 4213

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4213, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employers from paying employees in the garment industry by piece rate, to require manufacturers and contractors in the garment industry to register with the Department of Labor, and for other purposes.

S. 4223

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4223, a bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2022, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 4580

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4580, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 4587

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4587, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Berell Ferencz, in recognition of his service to the United States and international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and rule of law.

S. 4628

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4628, a bill to improve certain criminal provisions.

S. 4649

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 4649, a bill to amend the Global Food Security Act of 2016 to improve the comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, promote inclusive, sustainable, agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

S. 4747

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4747, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to expand the availability of mental, emotional, and behavioral health services under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 4769

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 4769, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize and modernize the registered traveler program of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 4799

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4799, a bill to simplify the grant process for nonurbanized areas, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 60, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Final Priorities, Requirements, Definitions, and Selection Criteria-Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)-Grants to State Entities (State Entity Grants); Grants to Charter Management Organizations for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (CMO Grants); and Grants to Charter School Developers for the Opening of New Charter Schools and for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (Developer Grants).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 44—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE STATUE OF HARRY S. TRUMAN FROM THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 44

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF ROTUNDA FOR CEREMONY FOR PRESENTATION OF STATUE OF HARRY S. TRUMAN FROM THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI.

The State of Missouri is authorized to use the rotunda of the Capitol on September 29, 2022, for a ceremony to present the statue of Harry S. Truman from the people of Missouri for placement in the rotunda of the Capitol. Physical preparations for the conduct of the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that James Carmany, a detailee in my office, be granted floor privileges until August 31, 2023, and that another detailee in my office, Dave Lewen, be granted floor privileges until March 3, 2023.

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

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR A CEREMONY TO PRESENT THE STATUE OF HARRY S. TRUMAN FROM THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 44.

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

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 44) authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the statue of Harry S. Truman from the people of Missouri.

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

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 44) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 4822

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4822) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

Mr. PADILLA. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 13, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Freeman nomination postcloture; further, that all postcloture time on the Freeman nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and that following the cloture vote on the Montecalvo nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOEL MATTHEW SZABAT, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, VICE DEREK TAI-CHING KAN, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

GENE RODRIGUES, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ENERGY (ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY), VICE BRUCE J. WALKER.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JENNIFER M. ADAMS, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE.

NICOLE D. THERIOT, OF LOUISIANA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DANTE QUINTIN ALLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF THE REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE MARK SCHULTZ.

ISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE MARK SCHULTZ.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RICHARD L. REVESZ, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE PAUL J. RAY.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

ROBERT G. TAUB, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING OCTOBER 14, 2028. (REAPPOINTMENT)

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate September 12, 2022:

THE JUDICIARY

SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR., OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT.