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No. 110

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, guide our lawmakers through this day with Your higher wisdom. Help them to walk with integrity, reverence, and humility. May they refuse to deviate from the path that honors You.

Lord, open their minds to Your truth as You use them to bring healing to our Nation and world. May they submit their lives to the light of Your precepts, replacing fear with faith, falsehood with truth, and hate with love.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 24, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. ROSEN 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. First, I have a message for the information of the Senate.

I understand there is an important meeting at the White House this morning that several Members are attending. So in order to accommodate them, the first vote will start at 10:45 a.m., not at 11 a.m., and we are going to have to move quickly on that vote so people can get their votes done and get to the White House.

So, Members, please take notice.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, before we reach the conclusion of the June work period, the Senate will confirm yet another one of President Biden's highly qualified nominees to the Federal Bench: Candace Jackson-Akiwumi to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

A graduate of Princeton and Yale Law School, Ms. Jackson-Akiwumi left a career at a big law firm to work for 10 years as a Federal defender in Illinois. She was a voice in the courtroom for Americans who often had no one else to speak for them: the mentally ill, folks who could not afford an attorney.

We have plenty of former prosecutors and corporate lawyers on the bench.

Ms. Jackson-Akiwumi would bring a sorely needed perspective. The more our courts reflect our country as a whole, the more faith Americans will have in the equal application of the law.

Ms. Jackson-Akiwumi will make an outstanding addition to the Seventh Circuit, and I urge all my colleagues to vote for her later today.

Now, I want to reflect for a moment on the pace of judicial nominations in the Democratic-led Senate so far this year. Typically, the first several months of a new administration don't feature a ton of judicial nominations. New Presidents often have ambitious legislative agendas, and it takes a lot of time for a new President to make appointments and to get them to go through all of the background checks and for the Judiciary Committee to advance nominees to the floor. So in administrations past, the first 6 months are a fallow period for judges.

For all the focus that the Republican leader put on judges during the previous administration, the Senate only confirmed one—one district or circuit judge—before July 4 in the first year of Donald Trump's Presidency. By the end of today, the Senate will have confirmed more judges this week than in all 6 months of Donald Trump's first year in office.

In fact, with the confirmations this week, the Senate will have confirmed more district and circuit court judges to the Federal bench in the first 6 months of President Biden's first year than any other administration in 50 years.

Let me say that again so people hear, because I know there is a lot of worry—justified—that President Trump shifted the bench so far to the right that we need to rebalance it, and we need to make that a very high priority. Well, we have. After the confirmation of Ms. Jackson-Akiwumi, the Senate will have confirmed more district and circuit court judges in the first year of a

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



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Presidency in over 50 years, including the first 6 months of Donald Trump's Presidency. So we are making good, good progress, and we have done it with judges who break the Federal mold—Federal defenders, civil rights lawyers, voting rights lawyers, the first Native American judge, the first Muslim American judge. Those make me proud that we are constantly expanding who in America can get to the bench. All of these folks have one thing in common: They are individuals of impeccable character and impressive credentials.

The Democratic Senate is restoring balance to the judiciary with highly qualified, mainstream jurists who reflect the diversity of this country, and we are going to keep at it when we come back in July and beyond.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on another matter, infrastructure, our Nation's economic potential depends on the quality of its infrastructure. Our businesses, workers, farmers, manufacturers—you name it—they all depend on the infrastructure networks that connect our country. And here in the 21st century, electrical grids and broadband internet access are just as important as roads, bridges, and highways.

But it has been decades—decades—since Congress passed a significant, stand-alone bill to increase Federal investment in infrastructure. Our roads and bridges are crumbling. Children learn in dilapidated schools. Large swaths of rural America lack access to broadband internet.

We need to refashion much of our infrastructure to address the existential threat of climate change. That is so important and essential to the overwhelming majority of my caucus. So the Senate, this summer, is going to move forward on multiple legislative proposals to make historic investments in our Nation's infrastructure. And when we say that, we mean both types of infrastructure: the concrete and steel and that kind of infrastructure—the physical infrastructure—but also the human infrastructure, so that we can maximize the potential of our people which, after all, is our greatest resource—our greatest resource.

So we are pursuing on multiple—we are making two tracks. The first legislative track is bipartisan. The second track will incorporate elements of the American jobs and families plan and will be done through the budget process, which must pass even if it is not bipartisan.

There has been significant progress this week on both tracks.

Yesterday, a bipartisan group of Senators announced that they had reached an agreement in concept for a bipartisan infrastructure proposal, and I have encouraged them to move forward. But I made it explicit to every one of them, together and separately,

that we have to pass both tracks together.

Speaker PELOSI and I were made aware of the concepts of the agreement—the bipartisan agreement—last night. And while we have yet to see the details, I am encouraged by the progress the bipartisan group of Senators has made. I have supported these bipartisan discussions from the beginning, and I want to thank my colleagues for their hard work.

Senate Democrats have also made significant progress on preparing a budget resolution.

These two efforts are tied together. Let me make that clear. The bipartisan infrastructure bill and the budget resolution are tied together. If the Senate is going to move forward with a bipartisan infrastructure bill, we must also move forward on a budget resolution, as well. I have discussed this with President Biden directly on several occasions, and he agrees that we cannot do one without the other, and he has let the participants know that. Speaker PELOSI agrees that we cannot do one without the other. All parties understand that we won't get enough votes to pass either unless we have enough votes to pass both.

When the Senate returns in July, it will be time to take the next step and hold the first votes on the bipartisan infrastructure bill on the floor of the Senate. Senators should also be prepared to consider a budget resolution that will clear the way for the budget reconciliation bill as soon as possible.

The bottom line is, both tracks need to make progress concurrently.

This is about building a foundation for the United States to remain the world economic leader in the 21st century. We are the largest economy in the world, but our infrastructure ranks 13th, behind South Korea, Germany, Japan, and even the United Arab Emirates.

There isn't a community in this country without some glaring infrastructure challenge—certainly, in my home State of New York. If America is going to prosper in the 21st century, we can't have infrastructure that is stuck in the last century.

We need to pass major investment in infrastructure, both physical and human, this year, and I look forward to holding the first votes when we return for the July work period.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEE. 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.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

GROWING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ACT OF 2021

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 1251, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1251) to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2119

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.)

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 2119 and ask that it be reported by number.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Utah [Mr. LEE] proposes an amendment numbered 2119.

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of June 22, 2021, under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. LEE. Madam President, as Americans want to buy more clean and green products, the market has been finding solutions to provide those products.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act before us, however, will not. Though it seeks to aid the carbon credit market, it could ultimately serve only to quell it. Let's just take a look at how the carbon credit market currently works.

Farmers, ranchers, and private foresters develop these credits to sell by taking actions to either limit their greenhouse gas emissions or to capture greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere. They work with technical assistance providers to know how to do so and then with third-party verifiers who make sure that the proper standards are met. Companies can then purchase the credits to offset their carbon emissions, and they can also sell unused credits to other companies wanting to offset their carbon emissions. It is a voluntary exchange and an example of the market working as it ought to work.

As the demand for these credits grows, more farmers, ranchers, and foresters would explore this revenue-generating market, more technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers would emerge, and potentially innovation would occur with new types of entities emerging to create and sell carbon credits beyond these initial three.

So what would the bill do? It would establish a USDA certification program for the technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers involved in creating carbon credits on grounds that it would help small farmers better understand the carbon credit market and know with whom they may work.

In other words, it would create a massive accreditation program that would potentially hamper, not foster, innovation. It would insert the Federal Government into a market that is blossoming on its own, imposing burdensome regulation and picking winners and losers in the carbon credit marketplace.

To make matters worse, it would corrupt the financial incentives of the market by allowing the USDA to cap revenues and generally regulate the sale of these credits.

Though it aims to help small farmers to participate in this market, it could easily be manipulated to demand the USDA set unusually high protocols and qualifications and then drive carbon credit purchasers solely to credit sellers working with those who fit and comply with the edicts of the Federal Government.

This will ultimately only impose obstacles for farmers, ranchers, and foresters, impede potential new participants, and, in the end, hurt the environment. That is why I am offering an alternative.

My amendment would transform this program into a transparent, informational resource for farmers, ranchers, and private foresters as they look for technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers. It would include common qualifications and common practices of these entities and a list of providers and verifiers that they could reach out to for assistance.

The Federal Government ought to get out of the way for the carbon credit market to continue innovating and thriving, not squash it. The American Energy Alliance agrees and has issued a favorable vote recommendation.

For all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, our farmers, ranchers, and foresters are the greatest stewards of the land, and many have been working for a long time to preserve natural resources and protect the environment through on-farm practices. And now, more than ever, farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners are looking to explore opportunities to benefit financially through emerging voluntary environmental credit markets.

New opportunities to generate benefits through environmental practices hold a great deal of promise. However, producers and landowners must navigate a complex and costly landscape in order to access these markets.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act provides a framework for producers to access technical assistance, guidance, and resources in these emerging markets as they investigate whether to pursue this new opportunity.

USDA certification of entities who will assist farmers in how best to navigate these markets will improve market integrity and provide farmers and ranchers more confidence as they take

the first steps. The information gathered by USDA through the certification process will serve as a reliable resource to producers seeking to learn about both the entities involved and the practices being implemented to generate credits that are transacted in voluntary environmental credit markets.

These markets and the key players are evolving very quickly, and this bill directs USDA to first assess the current state of voluntary environmental credit markets because it is important that we all have an understanding of the landscape first.

Further, this bill is farmer-friendly. It acknowledges that for farmers and ranchers to be successful, there cannot be a one-size-fits-all approach. A corn farmer in Indiana, a cherry farmer in Michigan, and a rice farmer in Arkansas have different soil types and varying potential for carbon sequestration. So this bill recognizes the diversity of agriculture and the practices that may be employed by farmers. It provides educational resources for producers who decide this new market opportunity works for their unique business model.

The bill ensures farmers comprise a majority on the USDA advisory committee and protects the information farmers and ranchers share as part of the program.

For these market to work, they must work for our farmers, foresters, ranchers, and landowners. In order to do that, they must be at the table. This bill provides our stakeholders that voice.

Finally, this bill epitomizes a great deal of bipartisan work, while addressing the pressing needs of farmers, ranchers, and foresters. I thank Senators BRAUN and STABENOW for helping us to make this the best bill possible.

Many farmers and stakeholders are excited about this legislation, as are many Members who cosponsored the bill and voted to report it out of committee.

The bipartisan nature of the work of the committee was exciting to see. We came together and accomplished something significant. I hope this spirit of cooperation continues as Congress considers new policies on climate change.

We need to ensure that any policies are farmer-friendly and farmer-focused, remain voluntarily, and avoid a one-size-fits-all approach.

Again, thank you to Chairwoman STABENOW and Senator BRAUN for their efforts. I look forward to the debate and very much support the bill through final passage.

With that, I yield to Senator BRAUN.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Madam President, in the Senate here, prior to getting here, I have been a tree farmer since the late eighties and have been involved in the agricultural part of farming, other than driving the tractor, for a long time. And farming has got to be one of

the most difficult things God ever created in terms of a complicated business that involves risk for a return that, in many cases, just isn't there. Thank goodness, currently, the markets are rewarding that effort and that great risk.

Environmental credits present an incredible opportunity for American farmers because that bottom line is so meager to begin with. And when you have got voluntarily markets out there that are wanting to reward good stewardship, it should be easy. But significant barriers still remain.

In today's market, if you are a small farmer, you are not able to connect with these markets. Only the large farmers, both tree and egg, can do it. This simplifies it; it democratizes it; and it does something, finally, that that small guy, the landowner, the American family farmer, can get some benefit for his or her good stewardship.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act creates a USDA certification program for third-party technical providers and verifiers. It allows the USDA to provide legitimacy to the trustworthy actors in the marketplace. And what is really unusual, in the short time I have been here in the U.S. Senate—it was a surprise yesterday, when I told some folks we are actually voting on something on the floor, and it has 55 cosponsors, almost evenly split between Democrats and Republicans.

More than 100 outside organizations back the bill. Farm bureaus, which are generally very conservative about doing anything where they are going to endorse, stick their neck out, across the board like it. I won't mention all the others. It also does it without adding a dime to our deficit. So it is doing something that has got bipartisan support, tapping voluntary markets, and just providing that portal that all farmers are familiar with to use as the way they take advantage of it.

We are demonstrating the right solution. We are making a statement that we need to be involved in addressing climate, and we are doing it in a place where, thank goodness, agriculture in this country is only 10 percent of the CO₂ emissions. The rest is spread among electric generation, transportation, industrial emitters.

What that says, when it is 25 percent emissions across the world due to agriculture, there is a lot to be learned from this as well.

A quick comment on the amendment that we are going to vote on. The key point is, under both the underlying bill and the Lee amendment, the USDA will publish a list of entities on a USDA website for farmers to use.

The Senate Ag Committee worked closely with the Agency, both Under Secretaries Perdue and Vilsack, to ensure the bill provided the necessary quality checks so that the folks certified under the program know what they are doing.

The Lee amendment keeps the website but strikes these requirements.

This is why groups like the American Farm Bureau write that Senator LEE's amendment would dilute farmers' influence in the composition of the bill's advisory panel and also removes critical protections in the base bill.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Lee amendment and to support the underlying bill.

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

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,
Washington, DC, June 23, 2021.

MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR, The American Farm Bureau Federation supports S. 1251, the bipartisan Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021, and urges its adoption by the Senate.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act would create a certification program at USDA to help solve technical entry barriers for farmers, ranchers and forest landowners who wish to participate in voluntary carbon credit markets. Lack of access to reliable information about markets, qualified technical assistance providers, and credit protocol verifiers has limited both landowner participation and the adoption of practices.

S. 1251 seeks to provide more clarity and guidance for farmers, ranchers and forest landowners who want to provide the ecosystem services that many consumers and businesses are desiring. This builds upon American agriculture's strong foundation of environmental stewardship.

Farm Bureau opposes the Lee amendment and any other amendments that would undermine the bill. The Lee amendment would replace the balanced, and widely supported, program outlined in the current bill with a haphazard alternative program that would undermine confidence in the private marketplace. Sen. Lee's amendment goes on to dilute farmer influence in the composition of the bill's advisory panel, and also removes critical protections in the base bill to ensure farmers and ranchers receive their fair share of proceeds under voluntary environmental credit markets.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021 is a carefully crafted bipartisan bill with over half the Senate supporting as cosponsors. Your vote in opposition to the Lee amendment and in support of final passage of the overall bill is key to Farm Bureau.

Sincerely,

ZIPPY DUVAL,
President.

JUNE 15, 2021.

Re Support Final Passage of S. 1251.

MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE, We write to lend our support for the Growing Climate Solutions Act without changes or amendments that would weaken the bill. Our organizations recognize that there is immense potential for agricultural and forestry-based natural climate solutions to meaningfully contribute to the fight against climate change. Farmers, ranchers, and foresters are on the front lines of severe weather events that are exacerbated by the changing climate. The Growing Climate Solutions Act will help producers remain resilient in the face of these threats and accelerate their contribution to a solution.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act is a thoughtful and nuanced piece of legislation that ensures that farmers are at the forefront in tapping into the potential benefits of a market-based revenue system that re-

wards climate-smart agricultural practices. The bill is also drafted to ensure that benefits and revenues realized under voluntary market regimes are designed to be equitably distributed among all farmers, including small and beginning farmers, historically underserved farmers, and socially disadvantaged farmers. The bill makes tangible progress in highlighting these important stakeholders throughout.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important legislation. We are proud to lend our support to the Growing Climate Solutions Act and encourage the Senate to the pass without changes or amendments that would weaken the bill and at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY,
ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
FUND,
THE EVANGELICAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
NETWORK,
NATIONAL AUDUBON
SOCIETY,
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
FEDERATION,
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY.

CORN REFINERS ASSOCIATION,
Washington, DC.

The Corn Refiners Association (CRA) strongly supports final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021. This bipartisan legislation reduces technical entry barriers for producers and forest owners interested in participating in voluntary carbon markets and supports our sector's role in delivering innovative climate solutions.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act reflects CRA's climate change principles, which guide our industry's advocacy to ensure a more sustainable future for corn refining, agriculture, and consumers. By lowering this barrier to entry, S. 1251 creates an easier way for landowners to be financially rewarded for the voluntary, sustainable steps they are taking through selling carbon credits.

Unfortunately, the amendment proposed by Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) would undercut the central function of this bill by removing most of the scientific and good governance requirements to become certified under the bill's central program by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Without these critical protections, many farmers and producers will not have access to reliable information, resulting in unrealistic cost estimates and loss of trust in the carbon markets. Lee's amendment would also remove protections for farmers already certified under the program and would remove the legislation's focus on equity that is intended to ensure farmers of color would benefit from the program and inform its creation.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to vote No on the Lee amendment and Yes on final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act. If there are any questions about our position, or interest in holding a brief discussion on the legislation or Lee's amendment, please contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ROBIN J. BOWEN,
Senior Vice President, External Affairs.

CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBLE
ENERGY SOLUTIONS,
Washington, DC, June 23, 2021.

Hon. MIKE BRAUN,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR BRAUN, On behalf of Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions

(CRES), I am writing to offer CRES' strong support for S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act (GCSA). This bill was reported by the Senate Agriculture Committee on a unanimous vote and has been cosponsored by 24 Republican Senators. CRES urges the Senate to pass this bipartisan legislation in its current form.

GCSA will break down barriers for farmers, ranchers, and landowners to participate in voluntary carbon credit markets. The bill directs the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish a program to certify third-party verifiers and technical assistance providers. This program will connect producers to the experts that will help them earn an additional stream of revenue by monetizing conservation practices, which already produce many soil, water, and air benefits.

This bill establishes a council comprised primarily of experienced farmers and ranchers to advise USDA on program implementation and standards, which will ensure that producers come first in this limited-government approach. GCSA also contains provisions guaranteeing that the program will remain voluntary, that third parties will provide accurate estimates of costs and revenues, and that revenues will be distributed fairly to farms of all types and sizes. These provisions are among the reasons the GCSA has the overwhelming support of agricultural leaders, including endorsements from the American Farm Bureau, National Corn Growers Association, and American Soybean Association.

Addressing climate change while strengthening our international competitiveness will require innovation across all sectors of our economy—including agriculture. CRES thanks you and Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Boozman, for your judicious, bipartisan work on this commonsense legislation that puts agriculture first while providing a real path for decreased carbon emissions. S. 1251, in its current form, should be expeditiously passed by the U.S. Senate.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

HEATHER REAMS,
Executive Director.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
CLIMATE ALLIANCE,
June 23, 2021.

Re Support Final Passage of S. 1251 and Oppose Lee Amendment.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE: The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA) strongly supports final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021. This bipartisan legislation reduces technical entry barriers for producers and forest owners interested in participating in voluntary carbon markets. FACA consists of nearly 80 organizations representing farmers, ranchers, forest owners, agribusinesses, manufacturers, the food and innovation sector, state governments, sportsmen and environmental advocates. We commend Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), Ranking Member John Boozman (R-Ark.) and Senator Mike Braun (R-Ind.) for crafting overwhelmingly bipartisan legislation that supports our sectors' role in delivering innovative climate solutions.

One of FACA's guiding principles states that federal climate policy must be built upon voluntary, incentive-based programs and market-driven opportunities. By fostering the growth of voluntary markets, S. 1251 does just that.

Unfortunately, the amendment proposed by Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah) undercuts the

central function of this bill by eliminating the scientific and good governance requirements that technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers would need to meet to become certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The certification program is critical to ensure that farmers are protected in the emerging marketplace and have access to reliable information.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to vote No on the Lee amendment and Yes on final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act.

Sincerely,

Agriculture & Applied Economics Association, Agriculture Retailers Association, Alabama Farmers Federation, American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges, American Biogas Council, American Farm Bureau Federation, American Feed Industry Association, American Mushroom Institute, American Seed Trade Association, American Society of Animal Science, American Soybean Association, American Sugar Alliance, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Association of Public & Land Grant Universities.

Biological Products Industry Alliance, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, California Farm Bureau Federation, Center for Rural Affairs, Colorado Farm Bureau, Composite Panel Association, Corn Refiners Association, Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau, Croplife America, Ducks Unlimited, Environmental Defense Fund, Evangelical Environmental Network, Farm Credit Council, Farm Journal Foundation, Florida Farm Bureau Federation.

FMI—The Food Industry Association, Global Cold Chain Alliance, Growth Energy, Illinois Farm Bureau, Indiana Agriculture Coalition for Renewable Energy, Indiana Farm Bureau, Iowa Farm Bureau, Kentucky Farm Bureau, Land Trust Alliance, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Michigan Farm Bureau, Minnesota Farm Bureau, National Alliance of Forest Owners, National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

National Association of University Forest Resource Programs, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Corn Growers Association, National Cotton Council, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, National Farmers Union, National Grange, National Milk Producers Federation, National Pork Producers Council, National Potato Council, New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, New York Farm Bureau, North American Meat Institute, North American Millers' Association, North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation.

North Dakota Grain Growers Association, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever, Produce Marketing Association, Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition, Society of American Foresters, Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation, The Federation of Southern Cooperatives, The Fertilizer Institute, The National Institute for Animal Agriculture, The Nature Conservancy, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Trout Unlimited, U.S. Durum Growers Association, USA Rice, Vermont Farm Bureau.

Mr. BRAUN. I yield the floor.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today in support of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act. I first want to thank my partner in this landmark legislation, Senator BRAUN, and

my partner and ranking member on the committee, Senator BOOZMAN, for his leadership and helping us improve this bill and getting it to where we are right now.

Our farmers and ranchers are battling the consequences of carbon pollution and other greenhouse gases every day. They are on the frontlines every day. Producers are having to deal with higher highs and lower lows more so than ever before.

Even as we speak, the Southeast is recovering from catastrophic flooding as a result of Hurricane Claudette, and the West is facing record heat that threatens the health of farmers and farmworkers in an unprecedented wildfire season. Nearly half of the country is in drought, including 90 percent of my home State of Michigan—90 percent. It could not be clearer that climate is in crisis.

The good news is that farmers and foresters are already leading the way on the climate crisis, as my colleagues have said, through their many conservation efforts. They work to reduce their impact every day through conservation practices that cut down on emissions and store carbon in their soil and trees.

According to the National Academies, scaling up these climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices in the United States could offset the annual emissions of nearly 110 million cars. And I am from the car State, Madam President. I still want you to buy an automobile. But this is very significant.

The Growing Climate Solutions Act is a key piece of the enormous potential that land-based solutions have to help solve this crisis. This bill gives producers even more effective tools to lead and new opportunities for economic successes as well.

The bill equips producers to succeed by doing three things. First, it sets up a network of trusted outside experts and third-party verifiers, certified by the USDA, to provide technical assistance and help producers generate and sell their voluntary carbon credits, which, by the way, Senator LEE's amendment would gut, which is why I do not support that amendment.

Then it creates a comprehensive online resource, a one-stop shop, to help our farmers get the information they need and create income by providing sustainable practices through voluntary carbon markets and traditional USDA conservation programs.

Finally, it sets up a very important advisory council made up of a majority of farmers and foresters with tremendous diversity, as well as representatives from the research community and the private industry, to help guide the USDA as they put this together.

The bottom line: It gives them the opportunity to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to design a carbon market that works for them, not Wall Street. In other words this, bill puts farmers and foresters first.

More than 175 advocates, organizations, and companies support this bill. They see it as a win-win for agriculture and the environment. That coalition is mirrored in the broad support we have here in the U.S. Senate, with now upwards of 55 cosponsors who have joined in this bill. Given today's politics, that says a lot about what this bill represents.

Solving the climate crisis is a critical challenge for all of us, and today we are taking landmark steps toward supporting agriculture and forestry leadership in addressing this.

I encourage all of my colleagues to vote yes on the Growing Climate Solutions Act, to vote no on the Lee amendment, which would essentially gut the bill, and allow us, in this tremendous bipartisan effort, to move forward on something very important.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2119

Madam President, I would ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 2119.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 11, nays 89, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 250 Leg.]

YEAS—11

Cotton	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Lankford	Sullivan
Hagerty	Lee	Toomey
Hawley	Paul	

NAYS—89

Baldwin	Graham	Portman
Barrasso	Grassley	Reed
Bennet	Hassan	Risch
Blackburn	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blunt	Hirono	Rounds
Booker	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Capito	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shelby
Carper	Leahy	Sinema
Casey	Lujan	Smith
Cassidy	Lummis	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Thune
Cornyn	Marshall	Tillis
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Tuberville
Cramer	Menendez	Van Hollen
Crapo	Merkeley	Warner
Daines	Moran	Warnock
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murray	Wicker
Feinstein	Ossoff	Wyden
Fischer	Padilla	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	

The amendment (No. 2119) was rejected.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 251 Leg.]

YEAS—92

Baldwin	Graham	Portman
Barrasso	Grassley	Reed
Bennet	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hassan	Romney
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Boozman	Hirono	Rubio
Braun	Hoeben	Sasse
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Burr	Johnson	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Kennedy	Shaheen
Carper	King	Shelby
Casey	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cassidy	Lankford	Smith
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lujan	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lummis	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Thune
Cotton	Marshall	Tillis
Cramer	McConnell	Toomey
Crapo	Menendez	Tuberville
Cruz	Moran	Van Hollen
Daines	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Ernst	Ossoff	Wicker
Feinstein	Padilla	Wyden
Fischer	Paul	Young
Gillibrand	Peters	

NAYS—8

Booker	Lee	Sanders
Hawley	Markey	Warren
Inhofe	Merkley	

The bill (S. 1251) was passed, as follows:

S. 1251

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. GREENHOUSE GAS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER AND THIRD-PARTY VERIFIER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to facilitate the participation of farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in voluntary environmental credit markets, including through the Program;

(2) to facilitate the provision of technical assistance through covered entities to farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in overcoming barriers to entry into voluntary environmental credit markets;

(3) to assist covered entities in certifying under the Program; and

(4) to establish the Advisory Council to advise the Secretary regarding the Program and other related matters.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term “Advisory Council” means the Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Certification Program Advisory Council established under subsection (g)(1).

(2) AGRICULTURE OR FORESTRY CREDIT.—The term “agriculture or forestry credit” means a credit derived from the prevention, reduction, or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or carbon sequestration on agricultural land or private forest land that may be bought or sold on a voluntary environmental credit market.

(3) BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER.—The term “beginning farmer or rancher” has the meaning given the term in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a)).

(4) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a person or State that either—

(A) is a provider of technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, or private forest landowners in carrying out sustainable land use management practices that—

(i) prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions; or

(ii) sequester carbon; or

(B) is a third-party verifier entity that conducts the verification of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets.

(5) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term “greenhouse gas” means—

(A) carbon dioxide;

(B) methane;

(C) nitrous oxide; and

(D) any other gas that the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council, determines has been identified to have heat trapping qualities.

(6) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means the Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Certification Program established under subsection (c).

(7) PROTOCOL.—The term “protocol” means a systematic approach that follows a science-based methodology that is transparent and thorough to establish requirements—

(A) for the development of projects to prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon that include 1 or more baseline scenarios; and

(B) to quantify, monitor, report, and verify the prevention, reduction, or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or carbon sequestration by projects described in subparagraph (A).

(8) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(9) SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER; SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUP.—The terms “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” and “socially disadvantaged group” have the meaning given those terms in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 203(e)).

(10) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The term “technical assistance” means technical expertise, information, and tools necessary to assist a farmer, rancher, or private forest landowner who is engaged in or wants to engage in a project to prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon to meet a protocol.

(11) VOLUNTARY ENVIRONMENTAL CREDIT MARKET.—The term “voluntary environmental credit market” means a voluntary market through which agriculture or forestry credits may be bought or sold.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—On the date that is 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and after making a positive determination under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall establish a voluntary program, to be known as the “Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Certification Program”, to certify covered entities that the Secretary determines meet the requirements described in subsection (d).

(2) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall establish the Program only if, after considering relevant information, including the information collected or reviewed relating to the assessment conducted under subsection (h)(1)(A), the Secretary determines that the Program will further each of the purposes described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a).

(3) REPORT.—If the Secretary determines under paragraph (2) that the Program would not further the purposes described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a) and does not establish the Program, the Secretary shall publish a report describing the reasons the Program would not further those purposes.

(d) CERTIFICATION QUALIFICATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) PROTOCOLS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—After providing public notice and at least a 60-day period for public comment, the Secretary shall, during the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the Program is established, publish—

(i) a list of, and documents relating to, recognized protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets that are designed to ensure consistency, reliability, effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency, including protocol documents and details relating to—

(I) calculations;

(II) sampling methodologies;

(III) accounting principles;

(IV) systems for verification, monitoring, measurement, and reporting; and

(V) methods to account for additionality, permanence, leakage, and, where appropriate, avoidance of double counting; and

(ii) descriptions of qualifications for covered entities that—

(I) demonstrate that the covered entity can assist farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in accomplishing the purposes described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a); and

(II) demonstrate proficiency with the protocols described in clause (i).

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Covered entities certified under the Program shall maintain expertise in the protocols described in subparagraph (A)(i), adhere to the qualifications described in subparagraph (A)(ii), and adhere to any relevant conflict of interest requirements, as determined appropriate by the Secretary, for—

(i) the provision of technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners for carrying out activities described in paragraph (2); or

(ii) the verification of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets that are used in carrying out activities described in paragraph (2).

(2) ACTIVITIES.—The activities for which covered entities may provide technical assistance or conduct verification of processes under the Program are current and future activities that prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon, which may include—

(A) land or soil carbon sequestration;

(B) emissions reductions derived from fuel choice or reduced fuel use;

(C) livestock emissions reductions, including emissions reductions achieved through—

(i) feeds, feed additives, and the use of by-products as feed sources; or

(ii) manure management practices;

(D) on-farm energy generation;

(E) energy feedstock production;

(F) fertilizer or nutrient use emissions reductions;

(G) reforestation;

(H) forest management, including improving harvesting practices and thinning diseased trees;

(I) prevention of the conversion of forests, grasslands, and wetlands;

(J) restoration of wetlands or grasslands;

(K) grassland management, including prescribed grazing;

(L) current practices associated with private land conservation programs administered by the Secretary; and

(M) such other activities, or combinations of activities, that the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council, determines to be appropriate.

(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In publishing the list of protocols and description of qualifications under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council, shall—

(A) ensure that the requirements for covered entities to certify under the Program include maintaining expertise in all relevant information relating to market-based protocols, as appropriate, with regard to—

(i) quantification;

(ii) verification;

(iii) additionality;

(iv) permanence;

(v) reporting; and

(vi) other expertise, as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) ensure that a covered entity certified under the Program is required to perform, and to demonstrate expertise, as determined by the Secretary, in accordance with best management practices for agricultural and forestry activities that prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon.

(4) PERIODIC REVIEW.—As appropriate, the Secretary shall periodically review and revise the list of protocols and description of certification qualifications published under paragraph (1)(A) to include any additional protocols or qualifications that meet the requirements described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3).

(e) CERTIFICATION, WEBSITE, AND PUBLICATION OF LISTS.—

(1) CERTIFICATION.—A covered entity may self-certify under the Program by submitting to the Secretary, through a website maintained by the Secretary—

(A) a notification that the covered entity will—

(i) maintain expertise in the protocols described in clause (i) of subsection (d)(1)(A); and

(ii) adhere to the qualifications described in clause (ii) of that subsection; and

(B) appropriate documentation demonstrating the expertise described in subparagraph (A)(i) and qualifications described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

(2) WEBSITE AND SOLICITATION.—During the 180-day period beginning on the date on which the Program is established, the Secretary shall publish, through an existing website maintained by the Secretary—

(A) information describing how covered entities may self-certify under the Program in accordance with paragraph (1);

(B) information describing how covered entities may obtain, through private training programs or Department of Agriculture training programs, the requisite expertise—

(i) in the protocols described in clause (i) of subsection (d)(1)(A); and

(ii) to meet the qualifications described in clause (ii) of that subsection;

(C) the protocols and qualifications published by the Secretary under subsection (d)(1)(A); and

(D) instructions and suggestions to assist farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in facilitating the development of agriculture or forestry credits and accessing voluntary environmental credit markets, including—

(i) through working with covered entities certified under the Program; and

(ii) by providing information relating to programs, registries, and protocols of programs and registries that provide market-based participation opportunities for working and conservation agricultural and forestry lands.

(3) PUBLICATION.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date on which the Program is established, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council and following the review by the Secretary for completeness and accuracy of the certification notifications and documentation submitted under paragraph (1), shall use an existing website maintained by the Secretary to publish—

(A) a list of covered entities that are certified under paragraph (1) as technical assistance providers; and

(B) a list of covered entities that are certified under paragraph (1) as verifiers of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets.

(4) UPDATES.—Not less frequently than quarterly, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council, shall update the lists published under paragraph (3).

(5) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary shall notify Congress of the publication of the initial list under paragraph (3).

(6) REQUIREMENT.—To remain certified under the Program, a covered entity shall continue—

(A) to maintain expertise in the protocols described in subparagraph (A)(i) of subsection (d)(1); and

(B) to adhere to the qualifications described in subparagraph (A)(ii) of that subsection.

(7) AUDITING.—Not less frequently than annually, the Secretary shall conduct audits of covered entities that are certified under the Program to ensure compliance with the requirements under subsection (d)(1)(B) through an audit process that includes a representative sample of—

(A) technical assistance providers; and

(B) verifiers of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets.

(8) REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may revoke the certification of a covered entity under the Program in the event of—

(i) noncompliance with the requirements under subsection (d)(1)(B); or

(ii) a violation of subsection (f)(2)(A).

(B) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary revokes a certification of a covered entity under subparagraph (A), to the extent practicable, the Secretary shall—

(i) request from that covered entity contact information for all farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners to which the covered entity provided technical assistance or the verification of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets; and

(ii) notify those farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners of the revocation.

(9) FAIR TREATMENT OF FARMERS.—The Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that covered entities certified under paragraph (1) act in good faith—

(A) to provide realistic estimates of costs and revenues relating to activities and verification of processes, as applicable to the covered entity, as described in subsection (d)(2); and

(B) in the case of technical assistance providers, to assist farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in ensuring that the farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners receive fair distribution of revenues derived from the sale of an agriculture or forestry credit.

(10) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Secretary to compel a farmer, rancher, or private forest landowner to participate in a transaction or project facilitated by a covered entity certified under paragraph (1).

(f) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) PROHIBITION ON CLAIMS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person that is not certified under the Program in accordance with this section shall not knowingly make a claim that the person is a “USDA-certified technical assistance provider or third-party verifier for voluntary environmental credit markets” or any substantially similar claim.

(B) PENALTY.—Any person that violates subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) subject to a civil penalty equal to such amount as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, not to exceed \$1,000 per violation; and

(ii) ineligible to certify under the Program for the 5-year period beginning on the date of the violation.

(2) SUBMISSION OF FRAUDULENT INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A person, regardless of whether the person is certified under the program, shall not submit fraudulent information as part of a notification under subsection (e)(1).

(B) PENALTY.—Any person that violates subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) subject to a civil penalty equal to such amount as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, not to exceed \$1,000 per violation; and

(ii) ineligible to certify under the Program for the 5-year period beginning on the date of the violation.

(g) GREENHOUSE GAS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER AND THIRD-PARTY VERIFIER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the Program is established, the Secretary shall establish an advisory council, to be known as the “Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Certification Program Advisory Council”.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Council shall be composed of members appointed by the Secretary in accordance with this paragraph.

(B) GENERAL REPRESENTATION.—The Advisory Council shall—

(i) be broadly representative of the agriculture and private forest sectors;

(ii) include socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and other historically underserved farmers, ranchers, or private forest landowners; and

(iii) be composed of not less than 51 percent farmers, ranchers, or private forest landowners.

(C) MEMBERS.—Members appointed under subparagraph (A) shall include—

(i) not more than 2 representatives of the Department of Agriculture, as determined by the Secretary;

(ii) not more than 1 representative of the Environmental Protection Agency, as determined by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(iii) not more than 1 representative of the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(iv) not fewer than 12 representatives of the agriculture industry, appointed in a manner that is broadly representative of the agriculture sector, including not fewer than 6 active farmers and ranchers;

(v) not fewer than 4 representatives of private forest landowners or the forestry and

forest products industry appointed in a manner that is broadly representative of the private forest sector;

(vi) not more than 4 representatives of the relevant scientific research community, including not fewer than 2 representatives from land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)), of which 1 shall be a representative of a college or university eligible to receive funds under the Act of August 30, 1890 (commonly known as the "Second Morrill Act") (26 Stat. 417, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 321 et seq.), including Tuskegee University;

(vii) not more than 2 experts or professionals familiar with voluntary environmental credit markets and the verification requirements in those markets;

(viii) not more than 3 members of non-governmental or civil society organizations with relevant expertise, of which not fewer than 1 shall represent the interests of socially disadvantaged groups;

(ix) not more than 3 members of private sector entities or organizations that participate in voluntary environmental credit markets through which agriculture or forestry credits are bought and sold; and

(x) any other individual whom the Secretary determines to be necessary to ensure that the Advisory Council is composed of a diverse group of representatives of industry, academia, independent researchers, and public and private entities.

(D) CHAIR.—The Secretary shall designate a member of the Advisory Council to serve as the Chair.

(E) TERMS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The term of a member of the Advisory Council shall be 2 years, except that, of the members first appointed—

(I) not fewer than 8 members shall serve for a term of 1 year;

(II) not fewer than 12 members shall serve for a term of 2 years; and

(III) not fewer than 12 members shall serve for a term of 3 years.

(ii) ADDITIONAL TERMS.—After the initial term of a member of the Advisory Council, including the members first appointed, the member may serve not more than 4 additional 2-year terms.

(3) MEETINGS.—

(A) FREQUENCY.—The Advisory Council shall meet not less frequently than annually, at the call of the Chair.

(B) INITIAL MEETING.—During the 90-day period beginning on the date on which the members are appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Advisory Council shall hold an initial meeting.

(4) DUTIES.—The Advisory Council shall—

(A) periodically review and recommend any appropriate changes to—

(i) the list of protocols and description of qualifications published by the Secretary under subsection (d)(1)(A); and

(ii) the requirements described in subsection (d)(1)(B);

(B) make recommendations to the Secretary regarding the best practices that should be included in the protocols, description of qualifications, and requirements described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) advise the Secretary regarding—

(i) the current methods used by voluntary environmental credit markets to quantify and verify the prevention, reduction, and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or sequestration of carbon;

(ii) additional considerations for certifying covered entities under the Program;

(iii) means to reduce barriers to entry in the business of providing technical assistance or the verification of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environ-

mental credit markets for covered entities, including by improving technical assistance provided by the Secretary;

(iv) means to reduce compliance and verification costs for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in entering voluntary environmental credit markets, including through mechanisms and processes to aggregate the value of activities across land ownership;

(v) issues relating to land and asset ownership in light of evolving voluntary environmental credit markets; and

(vi) additional means to reduce barriers to entry in voluntary environmental credit markets for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners, particularly for historically underserved, socially disadvantaged, or limited resource farmers, ranchers, or private forest landowners.

(5) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Advisory Council shall serve without compensation.

(6) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—The Secretary shall prohibit any member of the Advisory Council from—

(A) engaging in any determinations or activities of the Advisory Council that may result in the favoring of, or a direct and predictable effect on—

(i) the member or a family member, as determined by the Secretary;

(ii) stock owned by the member or a family member, as determined by the Secretary; or

(iii) the employer of, or a business owned in whole or in part by, the member or a family member, as determined by the Secretary; or

(B) providing advice or recommendations regarding, or otherwise participating in, matters of the Advisory Council that—

(i) constitute a conflict of interest under section 208 of title 18, United States Code; or

(ii) may call into question the integrity of the Advisory Council, the Program, or the technical assistance or verification activities described under subsection (d)(2).

(7) FACA APPLICABILITY.—The Advisory Council shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), except that section 14(a)(2) of that Act shall not apply.

(h) ASSESSMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall—

(A) conduct an assessment, including by incorporating information from existing publications and reports of the Department of Agriculture and other entities with relevant expertise, regarding—

(i) the number and categories of non-Federal actors in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors involved in buying, selling, and trading agriculture or forestry credits in voluntary environmental credit markets;

(ii) the estimated overall domestic market demand for agriculture or forestry credits at the end of the preceding 4-calendar year period, and historically, in voluntary environmental credit markets;

(iii) the total number of agriculture or forestry credits (measured in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent) that were estimated to be in development, generated, or sold in market transactions during the preceding 4-calendar year period, and historically, in voluntary environmental credit markets;

(iv) the estimated supply and demand of metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of offsets in the global marketplace for the next 4 years;

(v) the barriers to entry due to compliance and verification costs described in subsection (g)(4)(C)(iv);

(vi) the state of monitoring and measurement technologies needed to quantify long-term carbon sequestration in soils and from other activities to prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in the agriculture and forestry sectors;

(vii) means to reduce barriers to entry into voluntary environmental credit markets for small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners and the extent to which existing protocols in voluntary environmental credit markets allow for aggregation of projects among farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners;

(viii) means to leverage existing Department of Agriculture programs and other Federal programs that could improve, lower the costs of, and enhance the deployment of monitoring and measurement technologies described in clause (vi);

(ix) the potential impact of Department of Agriculture activities on supply and demand of agriculture or forestry credits;

(x) the potential role of the Department of Agriculture in encouraging innovation in voluntary environmental credit markets;

(xi) the extent to which the existing regimes for generating and selling agriculture or forestry credits, as the regimes exist at the end of the preceding 4-calendar year period, and historically, and existing voluntary environmental credit markets, may be impeded or constricted, or achieve greater scale and reach, if the Department of Agriculture were involved, including by considering the role of the Department of Agriculture in reducing the barriers to entry identified under clause (v), including by educating stakeholders about voluntary environmental credit markets;

(xii) the extent to which existing protocols in voluntary environmental credit markets, including verification, additionality, permanence, and reporting, adequately take into consideration and account for factors encountered by the agriculture and private forest sectors in preventing, reducing, or mitigating greenhouse gases or sequestering carbon through agriculture and forestry practices, considering variances across regions, topography, soil types, crop or species varieties, and business models;

(xiii) the extent to which existing protocols in voluntary environmental credit markets consider options to ensure the continued valuation, through discounting or other means, of agriculture and forestry credits in the case of the practices underlying those credits being disrupted due to unavoidable events, including production challenges and natural disasters; and

(xiv) opportunities for other voluntary markets outside of voluntary environmental credit markets to foster the trading, buying, or selling of credits that are derived from activities that provide other ecosystem service benefits, including activities that improve water quality, water quantity, wildlife habitat enhancement, and other ecosystem services, as the Secretary determines appropriate;

(B) publish the assessment; and

(C) submit the assessment to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives.

(2) QUADRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Advisory Council, shall conduct the assessment described in paragraph (1)(A) and publish and submit the assessment in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1) every 4 years after the publication and submission of the first assessment under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (1).

(i) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Program is established, and every 2 years thereafter, the Secretary shall publish and submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives a report describing, for the period covered by the report—

(1) the number of covered entities that—
 (A) were registered under the Program;
 (B) were new registrants under the Program, if applicable; and
 (C) did not renew their registration under the Program, if applicable;
 (2) each covered entity the certification of which was revoked by the Secretary under subsection (e)(8);
 (3) a review of the outcomes of the Program, including—
 (A) the ability of farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners, including small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners, to develop agriculture or forestry credits through covered entities certified under the Program;

(B) methods to improve the ability of farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners to overcome barriers to entry to voluntary environmental credit markets; and
 (C) methods to further facilitate participation of farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in voluntary environmental credit markets; and
 (4) any recommendations for improvements to the Program.

(j) CONFIDENTIALITY.—
 (1) PROHIBITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary, any other officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture or any agency of the Department of Agriculture, or any other person may not disclose to the public the information held by the Secretary described in subparagraph (B).

(B) INFORMATION.—
 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the information prohibited from disclosure under subparagraph (A) is—

(I) information collected by the Secretary or published by the Secretary under subsection (h) or (i);

(II) personally identifiable information, including in a contract or service agreement, of a farmer, rancher, or private forest landowner, obtained by the Secretary under paragraph (7) or (8)(B)(i) of subsection (e); and

(III) confidential business information in a contract or service agreement of a farmer, rancher, or private forest landowner obtained by the Secretary under paragraph (7) or (8)(B)(i) of subsection (e).

(ii) AGGREGATED RELEASE.—Information described in clause (i) may be released to the public if the information has been transformed into a statistical or aggregate form that does not allow the identification of the person who supplied or is the subject of the particular information.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not prohibit the disclosure—

(A) of the name of any covered entity published and submitted by the Secretary under subsection (i)(2); or

(B) by an officer or employee of the Federal Government of information described in paragraph (1)(B) as otherwise directed by the Secretary or the Attorney General for enforcement purposes.

(k) FUNDING.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to the amount made available under paragraph (2), there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

(2) DIRECT FUNDING.—

(A) RESCISSION.—There is rescinded \$4,100,000 of the unobligated balance of amounts made available by section 1003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2).

(B) DIRECT FUNDING.—If sufficient unobligated amounts made available by section 1003 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) are available on the date of enactment of this Act to execute the entire rescission described in subparagraph (A), then on the day after the execution of the entire rescission, there is appropriated to the Secretary, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$4,100,000 to carry out this section.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The bill clerk read the nomination of Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Iowa.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 831

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I am here with Senators Cornyn and Leahy to ask unanimous consent.

As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 831 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the Grassley amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; and that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I guess I am not surprised that we would have an objection like this because a program that has been corrupt and that we have been trying to reform for 8 years—every time we reach an agreement, there is big-moneyed interests in this town and around the country that keep it from happening.

So today's objection, unfortunately, represents another victory for those same moneyed, powerful, corrupt interests that have so often worked to kill reforms to a program that they love to abuse for nothing more than their own financial benefit.

It also means that Congress will not be able to pass legislation to reauthor-

ize the program in advance of its expiration on June 30. A narrow subset of big-moneyed and corrupt interests has now shown that they would rather kill the program altogether than have to accept integrity programs designed to clamp down on their bad behavior.

I thank all those groups who have been working with us for 8 years to get this program reformed. A lot of those people use that program. They were willing to make it an honest program.

All of this action today of this objection is unfortunate but not surprising.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, EB-5 investments are a major economic driver in Texas. EB-5 projects use merit-based immigration to create thousands of American jobs and bring billions of dollars in investment to major urban areas, like Dallas and Houston, as well as our rural communities across the State. These projects include investments in infrastructure for a wide variety of sectors, including energy, hospitality, residential, and commercial.

I am a supporter of the EB-5 Program and its resources for the community, but there is no question, as Senator GRASSLEY has said, that it could stand some reforms. As with any debate in Congress, there are a lot of different opinions on what those reforms should look like, but we can all agree that we need to strengthen this program and reauthorize it.

I am glad to join Senator GRASSLEY today in offering this legislation to improve the integrity and security of the EB-5 Program, while ensuring law-abiding Texas job creators aren't negatively impacted.

This bill would have reauthorized the EB-5 Program until 2023, with significant oversight and integrity measures. It will require regional centers to have policies and procedures in place to protect against fraud. It will give the Department of Homeland Security greater authority to terminate applications based on fraud, criminal misuse, or threats to public safety or national security. It would subject EB-5 projects to greater oversight. All of these changes come without skewing the framework of the program to benefit certain areas to the detriment of others.

This happens to be very similar to legislation that I introduced in 2015 with Senator SCHUMER and Senator Flake, which included recommendations from both the Department of Homeland Security and the Government Accountability Office.

I appreciate Chairman GRASSLEY's leadership on this legislation, and I hope at some point we can reauthorize the EB-5 Program and safeguard critical investments in communities across the country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I was happy to join with both Senators

GRASSLEY and CORNYN on the EB-5 reform bill. Senator CORNYN has worked very hard on this, Senator GRASSLEY has, and I have, and it was truly a bipartisan bill. It had widespread support of EB-5 stakeholders—those who responsibly welcomed changes to the program that would improve oversight and accountability.

Senator GRASSLEY and I have been working for years to reform the EB-5 visa program. We wanted to reduce the fraud that has occurred in several EB-5 projects, including one that occurred in my own State of Vermont.

This legislation—again, bringing Republicans and Democrats across the political spectrum together—reflects a careful and thoughtful compromise to both keep the EB-5 Program alive and curtail the worst abuses it has. There is actually only a small minority that wants to keep the program operating without these improved standards and oversight.

I wish they would be willing to come here and bring it up, vote it up or down, and be on the RECORD saying how they are going to vote, because opposing our effort on this is a vote that allows the EB-5 Program to lapse. It will have untold economic consequences throughout the communities that rely on the program for development projects, like those that the Senator from Texas just mentioned.

I wish that Senators had supported Senator GRASSLEY's consent request. But I will take a moment to say I thank Senator GRASSLEY for working with me over the years to find a bipartisan compromise to reform this. Hours have gone into that. He and Senator CORNYN and I and others have worked hard to have a compromise. I am sorry that the unanimous consent was objected to, especially as it means this will expire, and we won't have votes on improvements that could take place. I think it is a wasted opportunity.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, actually, if others are waiting, let me say something on another matter. It was 169 days ago that the world witnessed a violent insurrection take place in the seat of American democracy. All of us have the memory of rioters in combat gear who were armed with zip ties and smashing in the windows of the Capitol Building. Everybody in America remembers that. The images of the National Guard patrolling the Capitol grounds behind fences topped with barbed wire—those are going to be in the pages of textbooks of American history for generations to come.

Now, we didn't budget for an insurrection. In a democracy like ours, you should never have to. But the path of destruction from that day left the Capitol Police overburdened and underresourced. Purchases of critical equipment like respirators, ballistic helmets, protective gear, and training—those have been delayed to make up for these unanticipated costs. Efforts to implement the department's

wellness program to address mental health concerns following January 6 have been put on the back burner. And if we do nothing, the Capitol Police projects that doing nothing will deplete salary funds in August, and that would be a security crisis that we have created.

Now, 55 sworn officers have left the force since January 6. That is not counting those who died from January 6. That has depleted the force, which is already stressed. It is below what is needed to meet mission requirements. There is an urgent need to address the unanticipated costs associated with the attack on this building, including significant overtime pay, the need for hazard pay, and retention bonuses to keep dedicated officers from leaving the force.

The urgent need extends beyond the Capitol Police. Last week, the Secretary of Defense testified before the full Appropriations Committee and said that if we do not act, the National Guard will be forced to cut training in August as well. I met with the Green Mountain Boys, who came from Vermont to secure the Capitol after January 6. I thanked them for their service. I am sure many other Senators thanked the Guard from their States. But if we don't act, our visits and thanking them is nothing more than empty words for the men and women who put their lives on the line for our country.

And, finally, the trauma that day is shared by every member of the congressional community, from the Speaker of the House to the dedicated support staff in the Capitol—staff we rely on every day to do our work. It should not be lost on us that we weren't the ones who went to sweep up the shattered glass and scrub the floors and walls of this building on that day and throughout the night. It was the people who work here.

It should not be lost on us that during the darkest hours of the pandemic, following the insurrection, these public servants came to work, cleaned our offices, ensured our safety, the safety of our staff, and boarded up shattered windows and broken doors.

Now, we did not budget for both the pandemic and insurrection. We were forced to rob Peter to pay Paul to keep our congressional community safe and healthy. But now necessary legislative branch projects lack the funding to move forward. We ought to have the responsibility to address that.

It has been 169 days since January 6. It has been 169 days since Republicans and Democrats reconvened in this Chamber in bipartisan defiance of those who sought to overthrow democracy and the rule of law through mob violence.

But now, for 35 days, the House-passed emergency supplemental to address the security and the mental health needs of the January 6 insurrection and the lingering scars of the COVID pandemic has languished in the

Senate. And why? Because Senate Republicans have refused to begin negotiations on a bipartisan path forward.

So I am urging my colleagues: Begin these negotiations. The clock is ticking. My staff and I are—throughout the Fourth of July recess, we are—willing to meet and talk with anybody to get these negotiations going, because if we don't act, the Capitol Police is going to run out of funding in a very short time in August.

And what are we saying? We are turning our backs on those who fought and bled and died on that day to protect us and defend this building and everything it stands for. How can we possibly do that? We are going to be forcing the men and women of the National Guard to go without training that is necessary to achieve their mission, and we will be telling the women and men of the Capitol staff who support us: Thanks, but we don't support you.

That would be wrong. That goes against everything that I have learned in my years here in the Senate from both Republicans and Democrats.

The security supplemental would address the shortfalls. It would provide new resources for overtime, hazard pay, mental health services, retention bonuses, and new equipment and training for the Capitol Police, all of which is needed. It would fully reimburse the wounded men of the National Guard with costs incurred protecting the Capitol.

They were called. They came. They didn't say: Oh, are we going to get reimbursed?

They answered the call. Of course, they assumed that we would be responsible enough to reimburse them.

We also restored legislative branch funding that was taken to address the immediate needs of keeping our congressional community safe and healthy.

I have been ready to begin bipartisan negotiations. I believe if we begin these negotiations now, we could complete our work in the July session. My door is always open. It will be open throughout the July recess.

I yield the floor.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise once again in support of Jen Easterly's nomination to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, commonly referred to as CISA.

Yesterday, I came to the floor to urge my colleagues to swiftly confirm Ms. Easterly to lead CISA so she can get to work in strengthening our Nation's response to the recent onslaught of online attacks that have literally wrought havoc to our critical infrastructure, businesses, and even government.

With her more than three decades of service in the public and private sectors and her critical role in crafting vital cyber security recommendations as a member of the Cyber Solarium

Commission, Ms. Easterly is more than qualified to lead this critical Agency. Her leadership is needed now more than ever, after the damage and the chaos that recent cyber attacks have caused. We urgently need a qualified and Senate-confirmed leader in place before the next major breach, which could be even worse.

Yesterday, when I called on the Senate to immediately confirm this critical nominee, the Senator from Florida objected, not because he opposes Ms. Easterly's confirmation, and, in fact, he actually helped advance her nomination out of my committee just last week. Instead, he blocked the swift confirmation of this critical cyber security leader because he wants to extract a completely unrelated political concession from the Biden administration.

As we now know, Vice President HARRIS has announced that she will travel to El Paso tomorrow, along with Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas, to assess the situation on the southern border. The Biden administration and Secretary Mayorkas have worked hard to address our border challenges, and, as a result, we have seen a reduction in the number of unaccompanied children who are in DHS custody.

But this nomination is not about the border, as much as my Republican colleagues try to conflate these issues. This nomination is about cyber security. This nomination is keeping American families safe and our economy secure. That is what this nomination is all about. My Republican colleagues are continuing to stall the confirmation of Ms. Easterly at a time when we desperately need strong cyber security leadership.

The Senate is preparing to adjourn for Independence Day, which is a major travel weekend. As we have seen from recent cyber attacks, our transportation networks are vulnerable. Criminal organizations and foreign adversaries will continue their efforts to compromise our networks. We must be prepared for attacks that could disrupt trains or flights over the holiday weekend.

We must confirm Ms. Easterly as the CISA Director now, not in 2 weeks and not in 2 months. We must have a qualified Senate-confirmed leader in place to help us address these attacks.

If our Republican colleagues won't consent, they risk weakening and slowing our cyber defenses at a time when attacks could cause serious disruptions. These attacks risk the lives and livelihoods of countless Americans. Safeguarding against them should not be a partisan issue. Putting in place highly qualified cyber leadership should not hinge on whether Republicans in the Senate approve of the Vice President's travel schedule.

I urge the Senator from Florida to withdraw his objections so that we can do our job, confirm Ms. Easterly today, and help protect the American people

from this grave national security threat.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 176, Jen Easterly, of New York, to be the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, before I address this issue, I will take a moment of personal privilege to talk about the horrific tragedy that occurred in Surfside, FL, when an apartment building collapsed earlier this morning.

Miami-Dade fire and rescue, Miami-Dade police, and our other brave first responders rushed to the scene and have been working nonstop to rescue those trapped in the rubble. It looks horrible. I have talked to quite a few people down there, and we know of one confirmed death, and, hopefully, there won't be no more. But I know they are still trying to get people out of the rubble.

So I join all my Floridians in praying for strength for these first responders and all those impacted by this disaster.

First, I want to thank my colleague for giving me a few moments to speak on this difficult moment for my State.

My colleague raised this same issue yesterday. I am here fighting for accountability for the American people. So I will say the same in return.

I voted to support Ms. Easterly's confirmation in committee last week. If Senator SCHUMER filed for cloture, like he has done for dozens of other nominees this year, I would vote to support her confirmation here on the Senate floor. In fact, I don't understand why Senator SCHUMER didn't file for cloture on Tuesday night when my office first learned of my colleague's intention to raise this. We could be voting on her confirmation right now.

As my colleague has said, this isn't about Ms. Easterly, in my mind. This isn't about cyber security. Remember, we announced and confirmed the National Cyber Director last week. Just yesterday, the Senate confirmed the Administrator of the General Services Administration, which is a key Agency for modernizing and protecting the Federal Government's IT infrastructure. I am here today because families in my State of Florida and across our Nation deserve accountability, and President Biden has shown a total lack of accountability when it comes to addressing the border crisis. That is why I announced last month that I will be holding all of President Biden's nominees for the Department of Homeland Security from being approved through our expedited process until he and Vice President HARRIS visit the border and

see for themselves the crisis their failed policies of open borders and the amnesty have created.

As we all know, yesterday, the White House announced that the Vice President will be visiting the border tomorrow, and absolutely, I think we all hope that is true. The administration made a lot of promises they haven't kept. They promised not to raise taxes. They promised to reopen schools quickly. They promised to be tough on Communist China. There is quite a list.

So trust me—I am glad the Vice President seems to be taking my advice and finally listening to the American people and visiting the border. I truly hope she gets down to the border to see the crisis that this administration's failed policies have created.

I hope she meets with the National Border Patrol Council to hear from them what our brave CBP agents are going through every day to keep us safe.

I hope she meets with border community sheriffs who are responsible for keeping our families safe.

I hope she meets with our ICE and CBP section chiefs.

I hope she takes an aerial tour like I did and sees the gaps in the wall. I took a tour with Governor Ducey. You have the wall, and then all of a sudden, there are these openings where the fences weren't put up or the gates weren't put up.

A lot of people up here said: Oh, we don't need the wall; we need, you know, technology.

Well, there are the lights and cameras. I saw places where it just—it wasn't electrified. It just doesn't make sense.

I hope she meets with families who have been victims of trafficking and hears their horrific stories, what this has put people through.

I hope she visits some of the border communities and talks to the mayors and talks to people down there about how they are housing and caring for this historic number of people illegally crossing our borders. This is a tough crisis that has been created.

I hope she talks to families who have lost loved ones from massive, massive amounts of fentanyl that now our cartels are moving across the border.

I hope she talks to ranchers who are impacted by people illegally crossing the border onto their property.

I think all of us would hope that it is not just a political stunt. I hope she actually says: I want to see the crisis. I want to understand exactly what happened here.

When she does, I am going to lift all of my holds, as I told my colleague.

What is happening at the border is a crisis, and I don't think there is another word for it. You can look at this chart. Look at how many people have come across. This is the number of people who have been apprehended. We don't know how many people there are who haven't been apprehended.

More than 180,000 illegal aliens tried to cross our southern border last

month—the highest number in 21 years—threatening our national security and the safety of American families.

President Biden's immigration policies are putting unaccompanied minors at risk of human trafficking, violence, sexual abuse, and separation from their families. I mean, it is horrible. They are leading to an alarming increase in human trafficking and drug smuggling by cartels.

FBI Director Wray said there is “no question” that the cartel activity from Mexico is “spilling over” to the United States. We are seeing it in Florida. I talk to our sheriffs, and what they are telling me is that they are seeing a lot more deadly fentanyl coming into their counties, and it is showing up in their labs.

But instead of securing the border and finishing the wall construction projects—I don't get it. Why did President Biden terminate all the border wall projects? No one can—he has never had an explanation.

So this inaction of not going to the border by President Biden and Vice President HARRIS doesn't make any sense. Why can't they acknowledge that we expect and we deserve a secure border that is good for our Nation? Why can't they stand up against the radical left and say that open borders are dangerous for our families?

It should make every American furious. It is not something to laugh about. People are dying. Children are being exploited and abandoned in the desert.

This is a picture of two young 3- and 5-year-old Ecuadorian girls. You can see it. They were just dropped. Anybody who has been around little children, 3 and 5 years old—think about it. They were just dropped over the wall and just abandoned, just abandoned, hoping somebody was going to take care of them. Abandoned in the middle of the night. I mean, I have grandkids. I just can't imagine—I can't imagine anybody doing this.

The White House claims that Vice President HARRIS's last trip was to talk about the root causes of immigration. It doesn't make any sense. It seems like it was just a political stunt to me.

President Biden and Vice President HARRIS need to stop avoiding the crisis, stop laughing about the threat, get down to the border, and actually take real steps to really secure the border.

So if either of them goes to the border, I am lifting my holds, but as long as they refuse to help those risking their lives every day to keep us safe, as long as they refuse to visit the border and put an end to the humanitarian crisis they have created, I am going to keep my holds on.

Those two little girls, they deserve better. The millions of immigrants going through the legal immigration process, they deserve better. Our Border Patrol agents deserve better. Our local law enforcement agents deserve better. ICE deserves better. American families deserve better. Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—NO. S. 2216

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I think we are all aware President Biden has decided to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan in September. Now, some agree with his decision; some disagree with his decision. The bill that I am about to talk about has nothing to do with the merits of his decision.

There are about 18,000—not 1,800, 18,000—interpreters and members of their immediate families who helped our troops fight the war in Afghanistan against the Taliban and against ISIS. They are at risk.

There was an article in a leading newspaper yesterday. I will read you the headline. It says: “Afghan government could collapse 6 months after US withdrawal.”

These 18,000 interpreters and their immediate families, who have helped American troops, would like to get out. We have a visa process, which is going very, very slowly. We will not be able to get all of those 18,000 human beings out before the withdrawal in September. That much is clear.

Again, my bill has nothing to do with the merits or lack thereof of the war. My bill would direct the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to develop a plan to relocate the Afghan interpreters and their immediate families who want to get out and bring them to America.

Now, obviously, before we bring them to America, those who want to come, we have to vet them. That is part of the problem. The vetting process right now is very slow. Rather than try to put together a bill that would set forth a specific plan to address this—I consider it a crisis if you are 1 of those 18,000 human beings—my bill will just direct the Defense Department and the State Department to come up with a plan to present to us within 30 days.

Now, my guess, and it is only a guess, is that State and Defense are going to come up with some plan to move those of the 18,000 who want to leave Afghanistan to a safe third place other than America so that we can continue to properly vet folks before they come into America. And I suggest we do need to properly vet them, but I also suggest that, No. 1, this is about right and wrong. These people helped Americans, and they helped American troops. And we owe them. And we don't want to see them massacred. And, No. 2, if we allow them to be massacred, I think it is going to send a message to many people throughout the world that loyalty to America means nothing, absolutely nothing.

So, in a nutshell, this bill would ask our Defense Department and our State Department, in the next 30 days, to give a plan to Congress to properly vet and allow any of these 18,000 interpreters and their families who helped American troops come to America.

With that, Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2216, which was introduced earlier today; further, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, in the first two decades after the Revolutionary War, America was under siege and our Capitol was ransacked, but I don't recall in reading history that any of our Founding Fathers said that they would flee the country or leave and give up on the quest for liberty.

The quest for liberty requires fighting by the people who have been given their liberty, the people whom we have helped to get their liberty. You can say the people in Afghanistan helped us or you can also say we helped liberate them as well.

They have been free for 20 years. It seems like it might precipitate the overcoming of the Taliban if you take 18,000 of the most westernized, those who speak English, and you say: Flee, flee, flee. The end is coming. Well, guess what. The end comes quicker if they all leave. So I would encourage them, rather, to stay and fight. I think it would be good to have many English speakers in Afghanistan. The future of Afghanistan could be a bright future, but they are going to have to fight for it. And, ultimately, it is their fight. And if we offer easy escape and easy plans to leave the country, we are assuring the defeat of the people who are our friends in Afghanistan. So I object to this piece of legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I respect my colleague, and I certainly respect his right to object. I disagree.

We are all aware of what is going on in Afghanistan. The Afghan Government is in a bitter fight to the end with the Taliban. And the Taliban is winning. And the Taliban is ruthless. And they are going to murder these people. They are going to murder them. And the blood is going to be on American hands if we don't do something to help.

My proposal would not have required any of these 18,000 Afghans who stood with American troops to beat back the Taliban and to beat back ISIS—they stood with us at their own risk, at the risk of their own kids, and their own spouses.

Now, we decided to leave. I am not saying that is right or wrong. I have my own opinion, but that is not what this bill is about. And we owe it to these 18,000 people to offer them a chance to live. And if we don't do something, they are going to be butchered. They are going to be gutted like

a deer—like a deer—and the blood is going to on American hands. And the whole world is going to take notice.

There is right and wrong in this world. There is politics. There is a time for it. But there is a time to do the right thing, and the right thing is to help save these human lives who fought for America and their families and their children.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Arkansas.

MASK MANDATES

Mr. COTTON. There is a disturbing trend in the not-so-friendly skies these days—a big spike in confrontations, often violent, on American airplanes. It is all the more disturbing because it is totally unnecessary. In most cases, these disputes go back to one of the Biden administration's dumbest policies—the mask mandate at airports and on airplanes.

When the Wuhan coronavirus broke out in our country last year, confusion and uncertainty reigned, but within a couple of months, some commonsense standards had emerged: Protect the elderly and the frail. Outdoor activities are safer than indoor ones. Keep your distance. Wear a mask when you can't for prolonged periods inside. Be civil and kind to each other.

Thanks to Operation Warp Speed, these standards are largely a thing of the past. Americans are tired of it, and they want their freedoms back, and they are right. But too many Democratic politicians and know-it-all bureaucrats don't want to give up their newfound powers.

No single action captures this power grab by government busybodies better than the TSA's decision to extend its zero-tolerance mask mandates for planes, trains, and buses until September, through the summer travel season. This mandate applies to the vaccinated and the unvaccinated alike, as well as kids over the age of 2.

Passengers without a mask or accompanied by children without a mask can lose their seats and be banned from airlines and subject to a \$1,500 fine. This draconian and punitive policy has no basis in science. After all, airports typically have larger spaces and higher ceilings than, say, a grocery store and pharmacy. Planes have some of the most advanced air filtration systems available in the market today.

But this stupid mandate does have real-world consequences. Just last month, a Colorado mother and her family were removed from their flight because the plane's captain didn't believe that her 3-year-old son with autism would keep his mask on. This mother, unfortunately, was not the first to be

removed from a flight, and I am sure she won't be the last if this absurd mandate remains in place.

This policy discourages family travel after a year of separation and forces Americans with children, especially children with disabilities, to cancel travel or else live in constant fear that an untimely tantrum or a bad day could ruin their trip and cost them more than \$1,000 in fines.

As the father of two young boys, I can only assume the morons who cooked up this rule don't have children, or perhaps they outsource their kids to nannies and au pairs during flights, just as they do during their dinner parties and fancy retreats. Young kids, especially when they are in a new location surrounded by strangers, tend to act out and misbehave, as any parent will tell you. That entirely predictable behavior shouldn't result in their whole family being kicked off planes, trains, and buses far from home or their destination.

I must also observe—although I know that facts have nothing to do with this mandate—that young kids are also the least likely to get the coronavirus and the least likely to spread it.

Now, I concede that it is not only young kids who sometimes cause problems on planes. There are too many instances of grownups refusing to wear masks or berating flight attendants merely trying to do their job. These unruly adults should know better, of course, but so should the politicians and the bureaucrats who imposed this idiotic mandate in the first place.

Millions of Americans are flying again, and to say simply that “they should follow my rules” is impractical and ignores all we know about human nature.

The mandate, therefore, hurts not only passengers but also flight attendants. In our line of work, we probably fly more than most Americans these days. Over the last couple of months, I have personally seen so many flight attendants set up for failure by the Biden administration. They usually don't want to boss around their passengers or kick them off an airplane and cause a scene that will go viral on social media, but they are also told they have to enforce this stupid mask mandate, and it is all for no good reason.

It would be one thing if there was scientific evidence that suggested that these masks in airports and on airplanes or buses or trains actually slowed the spread of the virus among the unvaccinated, but that is not the case. Even the Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, can't defend these mandates on the merits. He doesn't even try. The only rationale he could give when recently asked about the mandate was, “They're a matter of respect,” to which I would respond, how about some respect for Americans and their common sense?

If you can't defend a policy on the merits, you shouldn't have the policy,

and the Biden administration should therefore immediately rescind its mask mandates for airports and airplanes and buses and trains. Vaccinated Americans and their young kids should not be forced to wear face coverings on airplanes or anywhere else, for that matter. It is unnecessary, it is unscientific, and in the case of children, it is cruel.

I think I speak for millions of Americans when I say: Mask mandates have long since outlived their usefulness and their welcome. We have all but won the war against the Wuhan coronavirus. It is time for us to act like it, to reclaim victory and reclaim our freedom.

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

Mr. BROWN. Object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. BROWN. Object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill clerk continued with the call of the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

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

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

VOTE ON JACKSON-AKIWUMI NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Jackson-Akiwumi nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted “nay.”

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 40, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 252 Ex.)

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—40

Barrasso	Grassley	Rounds
Blackburn	Hagerty	Rubio
Blunt	Hawley	Sasse
Boozman	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Braun	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Capito	Kennedy	Shelby
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Toomey
Cruz	Paul	Wicker
Daines	Portman	Young
Ernst	Risch	
Fischer	Romney	

NOT VOTING—7

Burr	Johnson	Tuberville
Cramer	Marshall	
Hyde-Smith	Moran	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). 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.

The Senator from Michigan.

FOURTH OF JULY

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about how far our Nation has come in the past 6 months.

Just for a moment, think back to where we were in January. Every day, hundreds of thousands of Americans were being diagnosed with COVID-19, and on many days, more than 3,000—or even 4,000—of our moms and dads and brothers and sisters and children and friends and neighbors were dying of this horrible disease. Meanwhile, millions of Americans were out of work just 6 months ago, and small businesses were unsure whether or not they could reopen safely. During these cold, dark days, it was easy to wonder if things would ever get better.

But something else happened in January. On January 20, President Joe Biden and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS were sworn into office, and with their inauguration came a laser focus on defeating this horrific disease and getting our country moving again.

They had some amazing tools in their arsenals: vaccines that proved to be more effective than anyone could have hoped—thank goodness. And I am so proud that Michigan workers at Pfizer have played a big role in producing these lifesaving vaccines and getting them shipped all over the country.

When President Biden and Vice President HARRIS took office, only 5 percent of American adults had re-

ceived at least one shot. Now, only 6 months later, 70 percent of Americans over age 30 have received at least one shot. That is a total of 300 million vaccine shots in only 150 days, and we are seeing the results.

This week, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer was able to drop our State's pandemic restrictions. That is great news for our small businesses and our restaurants and our entertainment venues, just in time for peak travel season in beautiful Michigan.

Nationwide, more than 2 million jobs have been created since President Biden took office—2 million jobs since he took office just 6 months ago. Half as many people are applying for unemployment each month as were in January. And, next month, families will begin to receive advance child tax credits that are going to lift half of the poor children in our country out of poverty—incredible. These monthly payments of \$250 or \$300 per child will help families pay for the things they need to care for their children, and it will also boost the economy.

We have made amazing progress, and it wouldn't have been possible without leadership from the White House, around \$20 billion in funding for vaccines from Congress, the dedication of our medical professionals, the hard work of our small businesses that have done so much to keep their employees and their customers safe, and the willingness of so many Americans to literally roll up their sleeves to protect themselves and each other.

It is true that we have a lot more to do, of course. Many families and communities are still struggling to get back on their feet. We need to continue to support our small businesses that have been through so much.

We know that some States and regions are lagging behind on vaccinations for a number of reasons. That is so unfortunate because we know that these vaccinations are safe, they are free to receive, and they are amazingly effective. The numbers prove it.

On January 23, 3,322 Americans died of coronavirus in a single day, and, yesterday, 370 people died of coronavirus in the United States. Of course, that is still 370 too many lives lost. Each one of those lives was precious, and our hearts are with everyone who is grieving.

There is still a risk that variants will spread and cases could rise again, especially in areas with low vaccination rates, which is why it is so critical that people get vaccinated. It is so important to get vaccinated, not only for yourselves but for your friends, for your neighbors, and for your children.

We have come a long way—a really long way—in the last 6 months. It is really amazing, and it is just in time for the Fourth of July. Americans have a lot to celebrate this Independence Day. It is a day when we give thanks for our Nation and for the freedoms we enjoy as Americans, and this year we have a few extra freedoms to celebrate:

the freedom to get together with friends again, the freedom to eat dinner at a favorite local restaurant, the freedom to attend a live music event or go to a movie, the freedom to live our lives with a lot less fear—a lot less fear—and the freedom to give our loved ones a hug. And I know I am cherishing every hug I can give my 95-year-old mom.

All of these freedoms are thanks to science and an administration that believes in science, and the willingness of Americans to trust the science.

To my fellow Americans, thank you for that.

Thank you to our President, and happy Fourth of July.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The majority leader is recognized.

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. 67.

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 Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights).

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. 67, Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights).

Charles E. Schumer, Jon Ossoff, Margaret Wood Hassan, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Ron Wyden, Robert Menendez, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jacky Rosen, Cory A. Booker, Tammy Duckworth, John Hickenlooper, Jon Tester, Edward J. Markey, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith.

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. 63.

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 Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

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. 63, Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Jacky Rosen, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Raphael Warnock, Benjamin L. Cardin, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Bernard Sanders, Jeff Merkley, Margaret Wood Hassan.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 24, be waived.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

I yield the floor to Mr. CHRISTOPHER COONS, D., Delaware.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER A. COONS?

Mr. COONS. CHRISTOPHER A. COONS. Thank you, Mr. CHARLES E. SCHUMER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware is recognized.

GROWING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ACT OF 2021

Mr. COONS. Madam President, today has been great day for the American

people, a great day for our democracy and for bipartisanship. Some of you may know that just hours ago, over at the White House, a determined group of Republicans and Democrats, led by Senator KYRSTEN SINEMA, Senator ROB PORTMAN, Senator JOE MANCHIN, Senator SUSAN COLLINS, and a number of others, announced a deal on an infrastructure package with the White House that represents the largest investment in infrastructure in a generation.

This is a big accomplishment that I will talk about in a few moments, but I also want to bring attention to something that happened earlier today on the floor here that may just go overlooked because of the other important news of the day.

By a vote of 92 to 8, this Senate passed the Growing Climate Solutions Act, introduced by my friend and colleague from Michigan Senator DEBBIE STABENOW, the chair of the Agriculture Committee, and my friend and colleague from Indiana Senator MIKE BRAUN, who is my cochair of the Climate Solutions Caucus.

This bill, the Growing Climate Solutions Act, is a great example of how we can bring everyone to the table to find common ground on solutions that will protect our environment, help create jobs, and combat climate change.

It will help farmers and foresters in Delaware, in Michigan, in Texas, across our whole country, and we will benefit from changes in the way that they care for their land or forests, and it will help them to participate in carbon credit markets. It will provide a framework for rewarding America's farms and forests, and those who tend them, for climate-smart practices.

This is a commonsense, broadly bipartisan bill that will help us create a more sustainable future for our communities, our country, and our planet, with our farmers and our agriculture community taking the lead.

It reminds me of another signature moment that happened just at the very end of last year when, in December, the bipartisan Energy Act of 2020 was passed. Senators MURKOWSKI and MANCHIN shepherded that into law late last year, and it modernizes our country's energy policies across a dozen different major areas.

Each of these bills—the Growing Climate Solutions Act and the Energy Act of 2020—were, in part, fostered by the bipartisan Senate Climate Solutions Caucus. Founded in 2019, this caucus has held more than 30 events and meetings, including many focused on natural climate solutions such as the Growing Climate Solutions Act.

Every Member, all 14 Members, of this bipartisan caucus cosponsored the Growing Climate Solutions Act, and I applaud Senators STABENOW and BRAUN for building a significant coalition here in the Senate to support it, a coalition that ranged from some of the most engaged and active environmental groups to the American Farm Bureau, one of

the strongest voices for America's agricultural community.

Our work on climate is far from done. Members of the Climate Solutions Caucus have introduced a whole series of bipartisan bills that would promote natural climate solutions. Senator PORTMAN and I have the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act; Senator SHAHEEN is leading the Forest Incentives Program Act; Senator RUBIO, the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act; and many more.

We should advance these and many other bipartisan bills that every Member of our caucus supports and on which we are taking the lead. Let me be clear. I support bold action on climate. I support President Biden's climate agenda. And there are many more things we can and should do, but I think it is possible for us to both move ahead on those things that have enduring bipartisan support in this Chamber and across the country and to move ahead on those things that perhaps do not yet enjoy bipartisan support but where the need to act is urgent.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. COONS. Madam President, let me also, if I can, speak for a few more moments about the historic deal reached earlier today on infrastructure.

This is about creating jobs. This is about investing in our economy and our communities and our country, and this is about strengthening the United States globally against our adversaries and competitors.

I need not remind you that just 1 year ago public health and economic crises created by the COVID-19 pandemic were ravaging communities all over our Nation. And today, under the leadership of the Biden administration, COVID-19 cases and deaths are down by over 90 percent. More than 70 percent of adults over the age of 30 have been vaccinated. As a result, businesses are opening, communities are opening, States are opening, our unemployment rate has come down significantly, and our economy is recovering at a robust pace.

But if our economy is going to be sustainable, if it is going to be long term, if it is going to be robust, we have to make long-overdue investments in infrastructure. Globally, the United States now ranks 13th in infrastructure. In every State, we have roads, bridges, tunnels, and water systems that are crumbling or aged. Just in my little State of Delaware, we have more than 200 miles of highway deemed in poor condition.

And as the climate continues to change, low-lying States like mine are particularly susceptible to increased damage. We had more than 10 extreme weather events causing up to \$2 billion of damage in the last decade, and a lot of that damaged our infrastructure because it is built right up against the waterways, the coasts, the bays.

We have one of the most important rail lines in the entire country, the

Northeast corridor, that runs right through Wilmington, DE. One day without service on this Northeast corridor costs our economy \$100 million. And that day isn't hypothetical; it happened during Superstorm Sandy, the hurricane that pummeled the east coast a few years ago.

Across our State and every State, infrastructure is in dire need of repair, of resiliency, and of upgrade, and doing that can help create jobs and strengthen our country.

We are losing our competitive edge, and our global competitors, like China, are outpacing us. That is why I was so encouraged to see the bipartisan U.S. Innovation and Competition Act pass this body just a few weeks ago. A key piece of it was the bipartisan CHIPS Act that recognizes we need to invest in cutting-edge R&D, in semiconductors, and in the industries of the future.

But we can't move people, capital, products, and ideas if we don't invest in our infrastructure—in the broadband, the highways, the ports, and the roads that make us competitive globally.

The \$559 billion in new Federal spending on infrastructure that is the core of the deal announced today is a downpayment on rebuilding our roads and bridges, fixing our lines of public transit, and expanding port and airport capacity. It also includes \$47 billion toward climate resiliency, critically needed work to make sure that our infrastructure can sustain the growing storms all across our country.

I think this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to put America on the right track and exactly at a moment when the leaders of China and Russia are telling the world that American democracy can't work; that the riot that occurred in this building on January 6 is foreshadowing the collapse, the failure of American democracy. It is important for us to show our citizens here at home and our competitors abroad that American democracy still works and that we can deliver meaningful solutions for our States, for our country, and for the world.

There is a lot more for us to accomplish on President Biden's agenda—the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan—and we will have to move that forward, but I think this is a day for us to celebrate legislating together and finding a pathway to the House and to the President's desk for the biggest investment in infrastructure of my lifetime.

This is a great day for this institution and our country.

TRIBUTE TO LYNNE TERRY PHIFER

Mr. COONS. Madam President, I rise today in this Chamber to pay tribute to a dedicated Delawarean, a friend who is wrapping up 36 years of public service to our State and our Nation.

Lynne Terry Phifer of Newark, DE, a valued member of my Senate staff, is

retiring at the end of this month. She has been a high-spirited, pure-hearted presence for us as long as I have known her, and I am deeply grateful to Lynne for her service and grateful for her significant contributions.

Before I say farewell, though, it is only fitting to highlight her long career and offer up some thanks and some thoughts from her friends, family, coworkers, and well-wishers.

Her story didn't start and doesn't end with her more than 8 years serving in my offices for the Senate and for Wilmington, DE. She grew up in a community along the banks of Naamans Creek, where it empties into the Delaware River. It is known as Claymont, DE, an area that has become better known, perhaps, because of Claymont's favorite son, our President, Joe Biden.

Lynne graduated from Claymont High School in 1972, the same year Biden was first elected to this Chamber. It was at Claymont High School where, some members of my staff report, in good humor, Lynne made a name for herself "playing a mean clarinet." I didn't know clarinets could be mean.

Lynne's public service career began shortly thereafter. She started a 10-year run with Delaware's Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Social Services, and the Division of Personnel. After that, her career continued across city, county, State, and Federal governments.

From 1988 to 1992, she worked for well-known Mayor Dan Frawley of Wilmington. She later took on similar responsibilities for our Lieutenant Governor and now-Governor, John Carney, and later for Paul Clark, my successor as county executive in New Castle County. Paul said it was his good fortune to have hired Lynne.

She was a shining light in the field of government service—

County Executive Clark said—

and an absolute joy to work with. I am privileged to call Lynne my friend and wish her the best in retirement.

Governor Carney offered similar sentiments, saying:

When I was Lieutenant Governor, Lynne helped make our office run smoothly and always offered a helping hand to constituents. She is a compassionate, hardworking colleague and a good friend, and I am personally grateful for Lynne's many years of dedicated service. . . . I wish her and her family all the best in retirement.

For more than 8 years in my office in Wilmington, Lynne has seamlessly managed my front office and my college internship program. And I can't tell you how hard a job it is to be the person who answers the phone, day in and day out, particularly when serving a Senator like me who seems to draw all sorts of attention and angry phone calls.

So Lynne, thank you in particular for handling all the calls and complaints and concerns of Delawareans who call in day in and day out.

Lynne has remained our beloved gatekeeper, the first person to greet

visitors, the familiar voice on the main telephone line, someone who has handled sometimes literally hundreds of calls a day. She is known for being reliable and trustworthy. She is highly regarded by my whole team and recognized for her breadth of knowledge of our State, who is who, which call needs to be answered first, who are the movers and shakers.

She is known for always staying calm and professional when helping constituents. And, trust me, some of these calls can be incredibly emotional and difficult, whether assisting someone needing a vaccination appointment or dealing with a veterans benefit question.

She has run my internship program flawlessly, and that is a true testament to Lynne. During her more than 8 years of running that, she has interviewed, hired, trained, mentored, and supported more than 150 college interns—a good number of whom have gone on to join our full-time professional staff.

She is, as Brendan Mackie would say, a true force multiplier. Several of our interns, as I have mentioned, have gone on to be staff, both in Wilmington and in Washington, and many others have gone on to executive branch Agencies or to be activists, attorneys, nonprofit leaders, mentors, and volunteers.

It is a profound understatement to say that my team and I, and my wife Annie and I, will deeply miss Lynne. Annie and I have known Lynne going all the way back to their time together in the Women's Democratic Club of Delaware, when we were young couples and looking forward to someday both being parents of twins.

On my current staff, Marcus Wright, who is my outreach coordinator, added:

Lynne is always at the top of her game. As her counterpart in DC, I [learned to] lean on her knowledge and followed her example. She helped me be a better staffer, and I owe her an enormous debt of gratitude.

Desiree Burritt, one of my most seasoned and capable caseworkers, said:

Lynne is ever-present and incredibly dependable.

Jessica Glass, my deputy scheduler said:

Lynne not only helped me through the intern program . . . but I'm learning so much . . . sitting on the other side [now] and getting to interview interns with her! She . . . [has] watched me go full circle during the past four years.

Brian Cunningham, a beloved former staffer, said:

I always appreciated Lynne's warm greetings to the littlest guests in the office—

He means his kids—

when [my] kids came to visit, or sit with their parent to help finish out the workday, it was Lynne who . . . had a stash of snacks [and always a kind word].

Among her coworkers, she has earned a lot of good-natured nicknames: Lynney, Lynney-Boo, Lynne-yrd Skynyrd, and others I won't repeat, but she is clearly omnipresent in the hearts and minds of those who served alongside her in Delaware.

Her dedication goes far beyond government service. She has volunteered her time with so many groups. I mentioned the Women's Democratic Club. She has also served as chair of the 22nd Representative District Committee, serving Hockessin, Pike Creek, North Star, and Newark for many, many years.

And she was honored with the Distinguished Service Award from the New Castle County Democrats in 2008 for her tireless service.

On the homefront, her pride and joy include Dennis Phifer, her husband, and their twin sons, Matthew and Christopher.

We can't forget the beloved family canine, Elle. In her retirement, Lynne will have more time to spend with Dennis, Matt, and Chris, and her network of friends, going all the way back to her Claymont days. She looks forward to spending her mornings with Dennis, she says, making him coffee, reading the paper together, and staying up late, as Dennis dozes off, trying to finish the daily crossword.

She surely will have more time with Elle, walking her around the neighborhood and spoiling her with treats. Dennis said of Lynne, who absolutely loves animals, that she wants to use her newfound time to volunteer to help service dogs and other support animals.

Alice Paul, the famous suffragette, in speaking about the fight for women's rights, said: "I always feel the movement is a . . . mosaic. Each of us puts in [our own] little stone, and then" at the end, you see a beautiful mosaic.

When looking back at Lynne's years of public service—36 years—this analogy seems apt. Lynne has been a hardworking and headstrong person, someone who has done incredible things, often behind the scenes, and helped create her own great mosaic through her decades of dedication and service to our community, our city, our county, our State, and this Senate.

Whether it was throwing her support behind Joe Biden amid a Senate reelection run or helping constituents in my office or the hundreds of folks she has trained and recruited and mentored, Lynne's mosaic will last long and reach far, leaving her mark on Delaware for many, many years to come.

Lynne will undoubtedly continue to accomplish good and meaningful things, finding those moments in small pieces of colored stone or glass or ceramic and putting those in place, adding to her ongoing mosaic of life.

In closing, through her career, her volunteerism, and her civic activism, Lynne has made a real difference. I can't thank her enough for her first-class dedication and her friendship. Lynne will be deeply missed in the Senate, and filling her shoes will be near impossible.

Lynne, thank you. Best of luck in all your future endeavors. You are treasured, and we will cheer you on your way as you celebrate this next chapter of your life.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, dating back to his time as a Member of the Senate, President Biden—then-Senator Biden—frequently shared a piece of advice from his dad:

Don't tell me what you value. Show me your budget, and I'll tell you what you value.

He is not wrong. We have heard countless iterations of the same message from President Biden. Actions speak louder than words. Talk is cheap. Or, as we say in Texas, sometimes someone is all hat and no cattle.

So I want to take President Biden up on his advice. We have spent plenty of time hearing what his values are. He has talked about the importance of rebuilding our economy following the pandemic. We all agree with that—restoring public trust in government, check; protecting low- and middle-income families from tax hikes, check; and standing up to Russia and China, the two greatest threats to the world order. These are priorities shared by Americans with diverse political views, and they are critical goals that any President—Republican or Democrat—should have.

But we don't have to take the President at his word when he talks about the importance of each of these things because we have his budget. We have a written plan from the President of the United States, outlining how his administration wants to turn his spoken intentions into concrete action.

So based upon President Biden's budget, what does he value? It just takes a quick glance to see that responsible spending is not one of the things that he values. The overall pricetag of the President's budget is a whopping \$6.4 trillion. Even with the President's massive tax hikes, the United States would still be running more than a trillion dollar deficit each year.

It would only take 2 years for our debt burden to reach the highest level in American history, surpassing even World War II-era debt.

As a reminder, the government has spent a massive amount of money over the last 15 months, as we know. Much of it was a necessary investment in our fight against COVID-19.

On top of that funding, though, our Democratic colleagues circumvented the bipartisan legislative process and added an additional \$2 trillion on a host of partisan pet projects, only about 10 percent of which related to COVID-19, even though that was the caption on the bill—a COVID-19 relief bill that was only 10 percent COVID-19.

Now, perhaps nobody expected the President to dramatically cut spending and solve our national debt problems in one go, but this is not a time, after trillions of dollars of necessary COVID-

19 spending, to go on another unrelated spending spree, especially once you see where all the money is going. Once again, this is his budget; these are his values.

One of the most critical lines in any President's budget is discretionary spending. For a decade, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have pined for parity between defense and nondefense spending. But as soon as they get unified government—majority in the House, majority in Senate, and the White House—what do they do? Well, they abandon that parity argument and provide a measly 2-percent increase to defense spending while providing a 16-percent increase in the President's budget to domestic spending—hardly parity.

The Federal Government simply cannot provide for the common defense without the resources to do so. In the face of growing threats, which we all have acknowledged—China, Russia, Iran, North Korea—you would think that the President would propose a substantial increase in defense spending, but he proposed a whopping 2 percent.

Now, compare that to the Department of Education, where the President's budget calls for a 41-percent increase, a 28-percent increase for the Department of Commerce, and a 22-percent increase for the Environmental Protection Agency. Well, when you adjust for inflation, the small increase for defense spending actually represents a decrease.

The Department of Defense isn't the only national security Agency that the Biden budget expects to do with less. Even with a humanitarian crisis on our border, the budget for the Department of Homeland Security remains flat. Once again, after inflation, that will represent a decrease in spending over the current year.

Customs and Border Protection personnel are working overtime to take care of unaccompanied children, to stop dangerous drugs from crossing our border, and to enforce the laws that we in Congress have passed. They need more support to handle the situation in a fair and humane way. Cutting already thin resources for the entire Department will only make the circumstances at the border more dangerous—for law enforcement, for local communities that are being overrun by the huge numbers of people coming across the border—and a danger to the migrants themselves.

If this \$6.4 trillion budget doesn't support our most urgent priorities, what does it support? What priorities are so critical that they supersede the need to support our national security and protect our borders?

Well, for one, the administration would double the size of the Internal Revenue Service. I am sure that is good news to every taxpaying American. The President has called for increasing the number of IRS agents by 15 percent a year for the next decade.

We have previously seen the damage that a politically motivated IRS can do. We saw the apparent leaking of taxpayer information recently, which is supposed to be confidential by law. And we can remember the IRS targeting controversy under the Obama administration.

Bureaucrats at the IRS subjected conservative groups that they disagreed with politically or ideologically to a different level of scrutiny than left-leaning groups. And, unfortunately, with this sort of huge investment in the IRS, it looks like the Biden administration simply wants to weaponize the IRS once again.

But that is just the start of it. A massive portion of the President's budget stems from two of the programs he has already told us about—one being the \$2.6 trillion American Jobs Plan, which relies on a very generous interpretation of the word “infrastructure,” and it reads like the Green New Deal 2.0: more than \$200 billion to build or retrofit more than 2 million affordable and sustainable places to live; a civilian climate corps; and an unrealistic 100-percent renewable-generated electricity by 2035.

His budget includes a range of other spending to address climate change, including over \$1 billion to help other countries—not Americans, not the United States, but other countries—to lower their emissions.

I am sure China will be glad to take our money while continuing to build coal-fired powerplants to meet the demands of their growing economy.

Then there is a broad range of spending from President Biden's \$1.8 trillion so-called American Families Plan—you have got to love the names of these pieces of legislation—which includes everything from universal preschool and free community college to mandatory paid leave policies and using the Tax Code to disguise more Washington spending.

If you read through the President's budget, which, as he said, reflects his values, you see the incredible way that President Biden is simply caving in to the radical left. Mothers are no longer called mothers. They are now called “birthing people”—unbelievably.

Well, it is one thing for far-left activists to use these kinds of terms on Twitter, but it is entirely different to diminish the role of women in an official government document. Women are more than “birthing people,” and I think it is insulting to women to characterize them or define them by that.

The President doubled down on the woke ideology by proposing taxpayer funding for abortion. We know abortion is enormously controversial in our society, but this is a jarring break from a decades-long bipartisan, consensual ban provided by the Hyde amendment. It is also stands in stark contrast in the views of most Americans. The majority of Americans say they oppose using taxpayer dollars to support abortions because they are morally or religiously opposed to the practice.

Adding to the list of absurdities is a massive expansion of welfare. We already know that under the COVID-19 relief bills, the administration has argued in favor of paying people more not to work than they would earn if they did work.

A number of Governors—more than 20 of them now—have refused the \$300 weekly supplement because of their concern that this was actually discouraging people from returning to work.

We are hearing from employers all across the country that it is hard, if not impossible, for them to find the workforce they need to get the economy growing again. Business owners in my State—and I would bet across the Country—are already struggling to find a reliable workforce following the overly generous pandemic-related unemployment benefits that our Democratic colleagues insisted upon.

We can't continue to discourage Americans from going back to work, because our economy will never recover if we stay on that path.

Overall, the President's budget would dramatically increase the size of government and the role it plays in our everyday lives, especially with education—as my friend Senator TIM SCOTT has said, putting Washington even more in the middle of Americans' lives, from the cradle to college. Is that really what the American dream is all about—more and bigger government intervening in our lives, denying us the freedom to make our own choices and to seek our own way?

It is no wonder that the White House rolled out the President's budget so quietly. Frequently, a lot of this happens on Friday afternoons after the press has left and nobody is paying much attention.

While President Biden has told us what he values over and over again, his budget actually speaks to much more. This is not the plan of someone who is fighting for a strong national defense and a swift economic recovery. This budget prioritizes climate justice over American military servicemembers. It further hampers our economic recovery at the expense of hard-working taxpayers, and it prioritizes the restriction of wealth over the prospect of economic growth, which would lift all boats. It digs the United States deeper and deeper into debt, creating a massive financial pit that our children and grandchildren will have to dig their way out of. We are writing the checks, but they will pay the bills, and that, I believe, is immoral.

It is all well and good to tell the American people that you value the same things they value—freedom, security, prosperity—but this, which in President Biden's own words reflects his values, this is not a blueprint to rebuild America. This is, indeed, strong evidence that President Biden has bowed down to the woke political left in his own base and is ready to bury the United States and future generations with unprecedented debt.

When he released his budget, President Biden said, “Where we choose to invest speaks to what we value as a Nation.” The President of the United States has made clear what he values. The Nation? Its future? Its prosperity? Its security? Not much.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Oklahoma.

FOURTH OF JULY

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I often come to this floor to be able to speak about news of the day, disagreements that we have, ways that we can solve a problem we have as a nation. Today, I come to tell a story.

In 1774, an Englishman met Benjamin Franklin. They spent a lot of time together in conversations, and Franklin convinced this young sailor and writer and young friend to move to America, to move to his hometown, to Philadelphia. A few months later, 1774, he did.

Franklin saw something in this young man that no one else saw. That Englishman who loved freedom and who saw the glaring injustice of the British Crown, 2 years later, on January 10, 1776, wrote a short pamphlet that changed the course of history.

The man's name was Thomas Paine, and the short work that he wrote was called “Common Sense.” It was the first publication that declared we should call for independence for these 13 Colonies. It didn't include his name because if it included his name, it would have been a certain death warrant from the King, but it made the case for freedom for each person, for an elected government rather than a monarchy, and the case for religious liberty. In short, he made the case for the United States of America.

He wrote these words:

The cause of America is, in great measure, the cause of all mankind. Many circumstances have, and will arise, which are not local, but universal, and through which the principles of all lovers of mankind are affected, and in the event of which, their affections are interesting.

He wrote about the rule of law and how that would be different than living under a monarchy, and he challenged the young colonists to be able to pursue more.

He wrote:

But where says some is the king of America? I'll tell you Friend, he reigns above, and doth not make havoc of mankind like the Royal Brute of Great Britain. Yet that we may not appear to be defective even in earthly honors, let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter; let it be brought forth placed on the divine law, the word of God; let a crown be placed thereon, by which

the world may know, that so far we may approve of monarchy, that in America the law is king. For as in absolute governments the king is law, so in free countries the law ought to be king.

He wrote:

As to religion, I hold it to be the indispensable duty of [every] government, to protect all conscientious professors thereof, and I know of no other business which government hath to do therewith.

Suspicion is the companion of mean souls.

He wrote and he said:

It affords us a larger field for our Christian kindness. Were we all one way of thinking, our religious dispositions would want matter for probation; and on this liberal principle, I look to the various denominations among us, to be like children of the same family, differing only, in what is called, their Christian names.

He shared a lot of great ideals in "Common Sense." He challenged the colonists to dream of an America that would set the example for the world.

Thomas Paine's ideas weren't all great, and we didn't accept all of his ideas. In fact, he wrote a long section in "Common Sense" saying that when we form our own Constitution, we should take these 13 Colonies and we should elect a President and alternate among each State, so each State would, in turn, have a different President for the whole group. It is a fairly terrible idea that we never implemented. But this passion about the law being king, we did; this passion about religious liberty, we did; this passion that America would be an example to all mankind, we did.

One hundred fifty thousand copies of "Common Sense" were printed. That is an enormous number for that time period. On that January day when the first printings of "Common Sense" started being passed around the Colonies, it fanned the flame of that spark of freedom in the hearts of the colonists.

By June 11, 1776, Congress had appointed a committee of five to draft the Declaration: John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, Robert Livingston of New York, and Robert Sherman of Connecticut—by the way, I think two redheads in that group.

The Declaration ended with this simple paragraph. We are familiar with that Declaration. It said:

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name and by the Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States.

It ended with this:

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

And they gave their all. John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration,

from New Jersey, ended up hiding in the woods that December of 1776, just a few months later, while the Hessian soldiers hunted him across the countryside. He died before the war's end.

Richard Stockton, also of New Jersey, wasn't so lucky. He was dragged from his bed, thrown into prison, and treated like a criminal. His home was looted, his fortune stripped away.

Thomas Nelson of Virginia: He commanded the militia and served as a Governor during the Revolution. He had to instruct the artillerymen to fire at his own house when the British started using it as their headquarters. Nelson had used his personal credit to raise money for the cause. The Revolution left him in distress, and he was unable to ever recover what he had lost.

Thomas Heyward, Arthur Middleton, and Edward Rutledge were three South Carolina signers who served in their State's militia and were captured when the British seized Charleston. They spent the rest of the time in prison. They pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

By that December, when all of this was going on to all of these signers of the Declaration, Thomas Paine wrote again, and this time, he wrote directly to the patriots serving with George Washington. In the freezing winter, on December 23, 1776, Thomas Paine wrote these words:

These are the times that try men's souls; the summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of [their] country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: It is dearness only that gives every [living] thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated.

It is a good thing for us to be able to stop and reflect on these simple words: What we obtain too cheap we esteem too lightly. Sometimes I am afraid that, as we approach the Fourth of July each year, we will have forgotten the sacrifices of previous generations. In our time period and in this wealthy moment in our Nation's history, we seem to esteem too lightly what was obtained too cheaply, and we forget the great sacrifices of the past.

Generation after generation of American history has set an example of how we have worked for a more perfect Union. Generation after generation has served each other and the children who have come after them so that they could have a better future. It is our generation's turn. The generation that I speak of could have never dreamed of the Capitol that stands on this hill. The generation that I speak of could have never dreamed of the 50 States that would cover this continent, but they did dream this, because it is in Thomas Paine's introduction: "The

cause of America is in great measure the cause of all mankind."

This Fourth of July, we should recommit ourselves to the cause of freedom, the future of our Nation, and the service to our children and the children not yet born. We are still a great nation, conceived in liberty, born to greatness if we are willing to work and sacrifice and give for each other. No generation in the history of the world has inherited more than we have—no generation. We should not receive it too cheaply or hold it too lightly.

Ironically, as I end my story of an Englishman who became a writer and the inspiration of a nation, I must tell you the end. Thomas Paine died a bitter and broken man. He remained a revolutionary in the fight. He could never stop searching for the next revolution. He went off to France to support the French Revolution and almost lost his head for it. He ended up in prison there. He came back to America and determined that George Washington wasn't as loyal as he was. He spent his last years writing against President Washington: that he was the real traitor and that he wasn't strong enough. He ended up dying alone, isolated, rejecting his faith—and a bitter man.

My fellow Senators and fellow Americans, the war has been won. Freedom, that gift, has been passed on to us. Let's protect it. Let's cherish it. Let's pass it on.

Each generation should be passionate about passing that on to the next generation. That is why, on this Fourth of July, it is not just a day off; it is not just a day to be at the mall; it is not just a great day to be at a lake—it is a great day to contemplate how you will serve our Nation in the days ahead in this generation and how you can pass on the freedom that we have to our children.

Our Nation still needs people who will build on the foundation of liberty. We need writers and soldiers and farmers and moms and dads. We still need people who will run for city council and the school board, people who will pick up trash in the neighborhood, people who will march in a protest and then intentionally go love people and work for the reconciliation of broken relationships. We need people who will start new businesses, give to non-profits, get involved in their churches, and love their neighbors as themselves.

We are free, but as the Bible says in 1 Peter 2, we should live as free people but not use our freedom as a coverup for evil.

Those of us who have freedom should help others to live in the same freedom we have and to serve with joy. That is the legacy that was passed on to us. That is the legacy we should pass down.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO LYDIA JACOBY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, it is Thursday, and it is my favorite time

of the week. I get to come down to the Senate floor typically every Thursday and talk about Alaskans who are doing something amazing for their communities, their State, maybe even their country. Heck, this one is kind of doing something for the world, whom I refer to as the Alaskan of the Week. I love doing it.

We have a really special Alaskan of the Week this week whom I am going to talk about, Lydia Jacoby—a very special 17-year-old who is from Seward, AK. We are so excited about this.

Those of you who have been following our Alaskan of the Week speeches might notice that this is the first new poster board we have had ever. So this is the poster board of the Alaskan of the Week for Lydia because we are so excited about her.

Before I talk about Lydia, I always like to say a little bit about what is going on in Alaska.

A lot of people always ask about the light. They are curious about the light in the summer, particularly as we just had our summer solstice. If you want to come up and really see it, come on up. We are open. We would love to have you—a trip of a lifetime. If you are thinking about coming to Alaska, come to see it yourself this summer. Every American should come on up, but I will give you a hint. On the light that is happening right now, if you were in Seward, AK, where Lydia is from, the Sun will rise at 4:33 a.m. and set at 11:26 p.m., with a loss of just 36 seconds from the summer solstice, which occurred a few days ago. That is a lot of sunlight, and it doesn't really even get dark when the Sun goes down. It does just for a little bit.

So it is a great time to be in the State. Come on up. It is a great time to be in Alaska, and I can't wait to get home for the recess, our Fourth of July—lots of Sun, lots of excitement.

There is particularly a lot of excitement around this young, intrepid Alaskan, Lydia, who on Tuesday, in Omaha, NE, swam the second fastest time in the world in the women's 100-meter breaststroke finals in the Olympic trials. She is the second fastest breaststroker in the world, and she is only 17. This cinched her spot to represent the United States in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo. This is an incredible and—I will admit it—a rather unlikely story that we are all so proud of in Alaska.

With regard to the Olympics, Alaskans typically punch way above our weight. In the Winter Olympics, we really, really punch above our weight, with many, many Alaskans making the Olympic team for the Winter Olympics every 4 years. We have done well in the Summer Olympics as well. Olympic veteran, rugby player Alev Kelter, from Eagle River, will be competing this year. Shortly, will we will be learning if Allie Ostrander, who is a really amazing young woman, steeplechase champion and another incredible athlete, will be in the Olympics this

year. We will learn soon. But we have never sent a swimmer to the Olympics. You don't always equate Alaska and swimming. She will be the first, and Alaskans across the State are cheering on Lydia. So let me tell you a little bit about this remarkable young woman.

Her parents, Leslie and Richard, are both boat camp captains. Leslie is the educational coordinator for the Marine Science Explorer Program at the Kenai Fjords Tours. Rich is a maritime instructor at the Alaska Vocational Technical Center, what we call AVTEC.

By the way, a little aside: AVTEC does great work. I have really enjoyed my visits there.

So, Rich, keep up the great job there. He is also a guy for Arctic and Antarctic trips.

So that is Mom and Dad. They moved to Alaska when Lydia was 9 years old. Richard came to the State in 1992 when he was fresh out of college, and like so many, they fell in love with the State and stayed. They raised their daughter, as I mentioned, in the town of Seward, AK. There are a little under 3,000 people there, and it is just an hour south of Anchorage. It is nestled between Resurrection Bay and soaring mountains. Its motto is "Alaska starts here."

I love Seward, AK. I get there as much as I can. I am going to be there in a couple of weeks, actually. It is known for stunning landscapes, a strong, generous community, and amazing people. So if you are visiting Alaska, you have to go to Seward.

Leslie and Richard signed Lydia up for swim classes when she was just a toddler. She joined the swim club when she was 6 years old. When she was 10, she was selected for the Alaska Swim Zone Team. State qualifying meets allowed her to go on trips. In between all of this, she was a musician, learning to play the guitar. She played at folk festivals. She was also in theater and in track—an all-around great athlete and an all-around great young woman.

As she excelled at swimming, her parents continued to be, in their words, "surprised and amazed." Obviously, she has a deeply competitive streak, but you would not know it when you meet her. Her parents were surprised. "In the right setting, that streak can really be turned on," Rich said. When she has a lousy race, she just shrugs it off. Her dad remembered one of her first swim meets when, halfway across the pool, she inhaled some water. She jumped out and didn't want to get back in. Well, she is back in. As her dad said, she has come a long way.

One of her coaches, Solomon D'Amico, describes her as "kind, quiet, confident." He says she has an "intense fire," and when she sets her mind to something, like the Olympics, she goes for it.

Now, neither of her parents pushed her too hard—they wanted the drive to come from her, not them—but it certainly did come from her.

Solomon, her coach, is a former marine and athlete. Alaska is full of in-

tense runs—marathons, ultra-marathons—but one of the most challenging is in Seward, AK. It is called the annual Mount Marathon Race, the Fourth of July, in Seward, a grueling 1.5-mile climb almost straight up and straight back down Mount Marathon. He has run this 24 years in a row. That is tough—Solomon, her coach.

Solomon really didn't know much about swimming when he started coaching the small Seward swim team. In fact, Seward, AK, doesn't even have an Olympic-size swimming pool, but they all worked hard. He encouraged them to be the best that they could be—to enjoy life but to also lift weights. Strength, Solomon said, is needed to excel in swimming, particularly at the breaststroke.

Lydia took to the weight rooms. She swims between 5 to 7 days a week, 1-hour to 90-minute sessions. She lifts weights about 3 hours a week. And as Solomon has said, "You want . . . athletes to be more process than outcome driven."

Lydia fell in love with all the hard work. No one was ever going to give her a hard time if she missed a practice or a session, but every single opportunity she had to swim, she would be there.

Well, on Sunday, Lydia will head to Hawaii to train with Team USA. Then, a few weeks later, she will head to Tokyo.

Now, because of COVID restrictions, unfortunately, her parents won't be there to watch in person. Her father said: "It's a [bit of a] weird thing to send your kid across the world. But she's an experienced traveler and there are great people involved with USA swimming."

"We are over the moon proud of her," her dad said.

So are we. We are so proud of you, Lydia. You are a role model for so many aspiring swimmers, not just across Alaska but across the country. So thank you for representing Alaska and our Nation so well.

Good luck in the Olympics. Congratulations on your success and congratulations on being our Alaskan of the Week.

DEFENSE BUDGET

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, as my colleague from Oklahoma Senator LANKFORD just gave a wonderful speech on the Fourth of July, we are all focused on heading home for the Fourth of July, celebrating freedom, celebrating our independence, celebrating liberty.

And we all know that that freedom is not free. There is a saying at the Korean War Memorial, etched in stone, that says those very words: "Freedom is not free."

The sacrifices of our military are something that all of us are going to be thinking about over the course of the Fourth of July week, weekend, as we

celebrate and commemorate American liberty, American independence, and American freedom.

Our military has helped us provide that, both here at home but also, importantly, abroad.

I had the opportunity to go on a congressional delegation—Senate delegation with two of my Senate colleagues, Senator COONS and Senator DUCKWORTH, a couple weeks ago to Korea—South Korea and Taiwan.

And it doesn't matter where you are from in America, whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, when you go overseas and you go to countries like that, countries and places that literally exist because of the sacrifice of the American military, it makes you humble, and it makes you proud.

South Korea and Taiwan—vibrant economics, vibrant democracies. And if you know the history, those two places wouldn't be that way if it weren't for the sacrifice, literally, of tens of thousands of Americans.

It is no exaggeration to say—whether it is in those places or in places at home or in Europe or in Asia—that the United States has been one of the most powerful forces for liberating humankind from oppression and tyranny than any other force in the world.

Think about it. Hundreds of millions of people across the world and in our own country, over the decades, have been liberated by men and women wearing the uniform of the United States.

As we contemplate the Fourth of July week, weekend, that is something every American can take pride in and should take pride in.

But as we all know, freedom is not free. Many of us think that defending our Nation should be our priority No. 1 as part of our job in the U.S. Senate. Budgets are a reflection of an administration's values and priorities.

And if you look at this budget—this is the \$6 trillion blowout budget of the Biden administration, where up here you have every single Federal Agency with double-digit—20-percent increases, 40-percent increases, 15-percent increases across the board.

The two Agencies charged with the national security of our Nation, the Department of Defense and Homeland Security, in terms of priorities for this administration, are dead last.

Actually, if you adjust the budgets for inflation, these are cuts—almost 3 percent cut in our military budgets and probably close to 4 to 5 percent for Homeland Security.

Budgets reflect values of administrations and priorities, and this administration, right now, is prioritizing our military and our national defense dead last.

We had the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in front of the Armed Services Committee last week, and I showed them this chart, and I asked them: How can you tell the troops that you lead that this administration

prioritizes our military and national defense over other missions of the Federal Government?

They couldn't give a really good answer because there is no good answer. If you look at this chart, if you look at the Biden administration's budget, they are prioritized at the bottom.

This is a battle of ideas, and when we come back from the Fourth of July recess, we are going to have this battle. I know I have colleagues, Democrats and Republicans—I have spoken to many on both sides of the aisle—who fundamentally disagree with this—fundamentally disagree with this.

You might remember last summer we had a debate when Senator SANDERS brought forth his defund the Pentagon amendment. That is what he called it. At the height of defunding the police, we had Senators saying we are going to now defund the Pentagon—15 percent across-the-board cuts to the military. That is what Senator SANDERS wanted.

By the way, Senator SCHUMER was a cosponsor of that.

And now they are in charge here, the majority leader, the chairman of the Budget Committee, and in many ways they are getting what they wanted—almost 3 percent cut to our military.

I guarantee it is not what the American people want; it is not what my constituents want; and I don't think it is what the vast majority of U.S. Senators want.

So we are going to battle this. We are going to battle this, and I am going to ask my Senate colleagues on both sides of the aisle to work with me to reject this. We need to reject this. We shouldn't prioritize our military dead last, which is what the Biden administration and, unfortunately, some of my colleagues here are doing.

I would like to end by just noting that tomorrow is actually another anniversary. We were talking about the Fourth of July, but June 25 is the 71st anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war, which was June 25, 1950.

Unfortunately, not enough Americans, in my view, have a lot of knowledge of the Korean war. It is even called the forgotten war. I don't think it should be called the forgotten war. It should be called the noble war because Americans went to a place they didn't even know to defend freedom, which they did after a hard, difficult, violent struggle.

But in the summer of 1950, we lost thousands and thousands of young Americans, young American soldiers, young American servicemen. Why?

Because they were not prepared to fight. We went from 1945, having probably the most formidable military in the history of the world, to 5 years later—because of defense cuts, because of lack of leadership by civilian and military leaders in the United States—a military that could not fight, a military where we lost thousands of young American soldiers because they weren't ready because budgets had been gutted.

We can never allow that to happen again, and as we head into the Fourth

of July weekend to celebrate the Fourth of July and our hard-fought freedoms and liberty, we need to look at this budget, come back here and say to the President and others: We are not—we are not going to prioritize the national security of our Nation last.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. KING. Madam President, I rise to talk about a moral obligation and a national security obligation.

We are leaving Afghanistan after 20 years, the longest war in the country's history. During the entirety of that 20 years, there were brave people in Afghanistan—Afghanistan people—who helped us, who were translators, who were guides, who assisted us in the struggle against terrorism and in the struggle against the Taliban.

And as we leave, those people are in grave danger. The Taliban has made no secret of the fact that they are in grave danger. They have already started killing them.

If we leave without providing for the safety of those people, providing them a way to maintain their lives, it will be a stain on this country that will exist for generations.

Not only is it a moral and ethical obligation, though, it is a national security obligation because if we don't take care of the people who took care of us, who is going to come to our aid the next time? Who is going to come to the aid of the Americans who turn their backs on those that risk their lives on behalf of this country? The answer is no one.

So this is not only an ethical and moral obligation, this is a matter of national security in terms of our standing in the world and our ability to work with allies and others against adversaries of this country and other countries in the world.

The average time, I am told, it now takes to process the paperwork for one of the people whom we are trying to get out of Afghanistan through the special visa program is 600 days. We are going to have a military presence in Afghanistan less than 90 days. There is a mismatch there.

We have got to take steps to protect these people. Now, maybe its surging—we have talked about military surges; let's surge some paperwork people to get this work done faster. But I don't believe we are going to be able to do that.

Now, by the way, I am not saying we open the door to everyone—there are 18,000 people on their list; that is not to mention their families—that we just open the door and say everybody come here because, as we know, Afghanistan has been the home to very dangerous terrorist groups, al-Qaida, ISIS, and others.

So we do have to have some processing, but we have to be able to process these people in a way that protects

us in terms of our national security but also gets them out of harm's way. One possibility—and I am delighted that just a few hours ago, the President mentioned that he is going to be working with other countries to find a safe place to move these people while we are doing the processing. I think that is exactly what we have to do. We can't just hope that when we leave in August or September 11, as the deadline the President has established, that we just hope that the Taliban won't take over Kabul, that the Taliban won't take over other regions of the country and start murdering people who helped us.

This isn't a speculative problem. This isn't something we think may happen. They have told us it is going to happen. And I have learned all my life, believe people when they tell you what they are going to do, and this is one of those situations. We know what is coming. If what ends up coming is a bloodbath, that blood is on our hands.

I have talked about the national security, but I think, more important, this is a moral and ethical obligation to meet the safety needs of those people who have helped us. I have friends who have fought in Afghanistan, and they are agonized about this. They are agonized about what is going to happen to people that they know, that they have worked with, and that have put their lives on the line for America. What is going to happen to those people when we leave?

This is a moment of test for this country. This is a trial for us, and history is going to judge us as to how we meet this test. This isn't something—we are not talking about landing a man on the Moon or some kind of terrible technological challenge; this is just putting resources in the right place and making the arrangements to take care of these people. It can be done. It can be done. And if it isn't done, shame on us.

I know that is a phrase that is often used, but it fits in this case. If we don't protect those who protected us, shame on us.

On December 1, 1862, Abraham Lincoln came to this Capitol to talk about the course of the Civil War and what was happening. And he was trying to move the Congress out of the politics as usual as they dealt with this extraordinary crisis. His final words echo over the last 100-plus years, and I think they apply exactly today. Here is what Abraham Lincoln said:

Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration, will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance, or insignificance, can spare one or the other of us. The fiery trial which we [now] pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation.

This is a test of the moral integrity of this country. We must—we must—defend those who have defended us from a peril that we know is imminent.

This fiery trial through which we pass this summer, will light us down—we in the Congress and the administra-

tion, as Lincoln said, “will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, let me commend the stirring and thought-provoking words of my colleague from Maine, Senator KING, about our responsibility with respect to those who aided and assisted us in Afghanistan and the status of this Special Immigrant Visa Program.

I think we have to begin with the decision to leave, which puts these individuals at risk. In many respects, President Biden's hands were tied from the outset with regard to our policy in Afghanistan. He inherited a flawed agreement from the Trump administration, which required the United States to withdraw all military forces by May 1 in exchange for the Taliban's agreement not to attack the U.S. and coalition forces and to constrain al-Qaida from using Afghanistan as a safe haven.

It does not appear that the Taliban has observed many of the conditions of this agreement, but we have observed the condition of leaving promptly. The President originally set a date of September 11, but military personnel have been able to rapidly redeploy, and within weeks, we should be moving all of our military personnel.

The manner in which this agreement was reached was also deeply flawed. It was negotiated exclusively between the Trump administration and the Taliban, keeping our allies, even the Afghan Government, out. President Trump's go-it-alone, rush-to-the-exits mentality led to a deal where the Taliban emerged as the key benefactor while the United States and our allies won very little. And while the Taliban has held the condition of not attacking the United States or its allies, as I indicated before, the remaining conditions were virtually unenforceable. By any measure, the Taliban has clearly violated the spirit of the agreement as overall violence inside Afghanistan has steadily increased over the last year. The Taliban has also not made clear that it will constrain al-Qaida as required by the agreement.

During this transition period, the Taliban has gained enormous momentum on the battlefield. As the Washington Post recently reported, Taliban commanders, motivated by their battlefield gains, have “overrun a number of Afghan bases, even as U.S. air support for the Afghan army has dwindled, and set up numerous checkpoints along the main highways leading in and out of Kabul.”

At least 24 Afghan commandos and police officers were killed in an ambush by the Taliban in northern Afghanistan just last week.

It appears that the Taliban's tactics will only continue to intensify as the transition of U.S. and coalition per-

sonnel continues, especially as our airstrikes decline. According to the New York Times, there have been multiple instances where the Taliban, taking advantage of the situation, has been able to negotiate the surrenders of Afghan forces. By their count, since May 1, at least 26 outposts and bases have surrendered after such negotiations.

Violence has increased against the civilian population as well, including a horrific attack against a school outside of Kabul, chillingly timed to target teenage girls leaving class.

The Taliban's steady gains are contrasted with peace talks in Doha that appear to be going at a glacial pace. With these dynamics, the Taliban has no strategic interest to sit down and discuss power sharing. The government of Afghanistan appears to hold a much weaker hand in these negotiations, having proven unable to govern in a way that earns the confidence of the people.

These concerning political and security developments are playing out against the backdrop of regional players that should have high incentives to cooperate to ensure stability and security of Afghanistan. However, nations like Iran, Russia, and China may in fact be working at cross-purposes to the U.S. interests, and others, such as Pakistan, could be using their influence in a much more constructive manner than they are today.

Taken together, these dynamics create a highly challenging landscape. If not addressed deliberately, they could cause a cascade of instability both inside Afghanistan and across the region. To mitigate such an outcome, we must exercise caution and plan prudently.

And again, echoing the comments of Senator KING, this brings me to one of the most immediate and pressing consequences of the situation. How do we help those whose lives were put on the line because they assisted the United States?

There are many press reports of the Taliban threatening Afghan civilians who helped us. USA Today profiled one Afghan interpreter who explained: “If the U.S. forces leave Afghanistan . . . I cannot guarantee for one minute what's going to happen with me, with my family.”

These threats cannot be ignored. We must demonstrate that we have the capacity to protect those who have a target on their backs because of their association with the United States. More than that, we must ensure that we continue to secure the irreplaceable assistance of the people who willingly risk their lives to help the United States the next time our servicemembers are in a conflict in a distant land. If we set the example of leaving those who assisted us behind, who will assist us in the future?

Currently, the processing of Afghan candidates through Special Immigration Visas or SIVs, which the State Department says is the primary focus, may prove too little, too late. While

the backlog of candidates is 18,000 today, it is unclear how many potential SIV candidates will feel compelled to apply as conditions change on the ground. Processing applications has been further complicated by a long vetting process, declining security conditions, and a recent spike in COVID cases across Afghanistan, which has forced the Embassy to shut down visa interviews. In order to handle the demand, we must add at least 20,000 additional visas for the next fiscal year and do so immediately and find other ways to further streamline the process, as Senator KING described.

We may also come to find that the SIV category does not encompass all those Afghans who would likely be targeted by the Taliban. We should be identifying others who may be at risk and start planning to ensure the safety of those who would seek asylum as a consequence of a potential Taliban takeover or if control of the country fractures.

Now is the time to think about creative solutions and, importantly, understand what will be necessary to ensure that we live up to our moral obligations. I know full well that the United States is capable of this. We have been publicly assured by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Milley, and Commander of Central Command, General McKenzie, that the military can carry out such an evacuation, if directed to do so. We have successfully conducted evacuations of refugee populations in the past, including a significant number of Vietnamese refugees in 1975, Iraqi Kurds in 1996, and Kosovo Albanians in 1999. It is imperative that we deliver upon our promises now.

Providing safe harbor for these Afghans who are most vulnerable is front of mind, but we must also ensure that there is a farsighted planning process across the board to ensure success following the transition of our military forces. And I would like to quickly highlight several key questions.

First, can the United States and its allies and partners continue to constrain the threat from terrorist groups like al-Qaida and ISIS that would seek to use Afghanistan as a base for operations?

The Biden administration has discussed its intent to conduct over-the-horizon operations, but we need to ensure that we have accounted for this complexity and are postured for success.

Second, how will the United States continue to distribute and oversee aid to the Afghan Government and Afghan security forces? The Afghan Government remains unable to generate enough revenue to independently fund its military operations, instead relying almost solely on foreign contributions.

We must have robust mechanisms in place to ensure the aid is provided and goes to the intended places.

Third, how can the international community assist the Afghan security

forces with maintaining readiness, particularly air power—after all international contractors depart the country? Again, that is another term of the Doha agreement. After 20 years, we have not created a cadre of individuals inside Afghanistan who can independently conduct high-level maintenance on its aircraft, which raises serious questions about how the Afghans can continue air operations without international contracting support.

Fourth, does the international community have real leverage to affect Taliban behavior through political and diplomatic channels? Now is the time to understand what levers are available to mitigate a potentially disastrous situation for the people of Afghanistan, and particularly that of women and girls.

Fifth, will NGOs be able to continue activities to benefit the people of Afghanistan? There appears to be a lack of coordination, including by the Department of Defense, to ensure deconfliction methods are appropriately transitioned to the Afghan Government, which puts humanitarian at risk and could delay the delivery of lifesaving assistance to populations living in hard-to-reach areas.

The time to address these challenges is now. I urge the Biden administration to continue to work through these pressing issues, and I call upon Congress to assist where we can. The consequences of inaction are too great to risk. We must rapidly increase the number of SIV visas, and we must, along with the administration, plan for all the contingencies that I have outlined.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST— S. 1520

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise for the 15th time, today, to call for every Senator to have the opportunity to consider and cast their vote for the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act. This bill would move serious crimes like sexual assault out of the chain of command and put them in the hands of the most capable people in the military: independent, impartial, highly trained prosecutors.

I began calling for the full floor vote on May 25. That was about a month ago. In that month, an estimated 1,736 servicemembers will have been raped or sexually assaulted. More will have been victims of other serious crimes. Many will not even report those crimes because they lack faith in the system where cases are decided by their commanders, not by trained lawyers. And yet this vote continues to be delayed and denied day after day, week after week.

I have heard proponents of this bill argue that we can't make this change because the military lacks the lawyers

necessary to carry out the work. Today, I would like to address this one unfounded claim.

Let's look at the numbers. The Navy, for example, has an Active Duty population of just over 330,000 members. Their military justice system has 935 military lawyers, or judge advocates known as JAGs. That number includes more than 100 special litigators and 85 at the 06-level JAG, which means the colonel or above commanders. And last year, they completed just 78 general courts martial, which are usually cases involved in serious felonies that our bill discusses.

Now, let's look at the civilian counterpart. Take the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. San Diego County has a population of 3.3 million people. To serve that population, the DA's office has just 300 prosecutors who handle 40,000 cases a year.

So the Navy has one-tenth of the population but three times the lawyers. In total, our armed services have just over 1.3 million members and more than 4,000 JAGs. The issue with our military justice system is not that it lacks the lawyers. It is that it does not entrust the most serious crimes to the people who are most professional and trained to address them.

In fiscal year 2020, the armed services completed 720 general courts martial, and in fiscal year 2019, they completed 895 general courts martial. If 300 prosecutors in San Diego County can handle 40,000 cases a year, I trust that more than 4,000 JAGs in our military, some of our Nation's best and brightest, can handle 895 general courts martial.

I have trust in those military lawyers' ability to handle these cases because they are in fact already working on them. This reform would not give them more work. Instead, it would relieve them of the time-consuming work it takes to get a commander properly briefed on cases and allow them to make decisions on those cases instead of just making recommendations to commanders.

In short, making this reform would not require finding a host of new lawyers to do this work or to overtax the lawyers our military already has. Any claims otherwise are nothing more than a delay tactic.

The Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act will deliver results our servicemembers and their families deserve. It is supported by the experts, by servicemembers, and by a bipartisan, filibuster-proof majority of Senators, and it is time we bring this to the floor.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1520 and the Senate proceed to its consideration; that there be 2 hours for debate equally divided in the usual form; and that upon the use or yielding

back of the time, the Senate votes on the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, once again, I object to the Senator's request for reasons I have previously stated. But in addition, on Tuesday night, Secretary of Defense Austin released a statement stating that he had received the Independent Review Commission's recommendations and that the administration will work with Congress to remove the prosecution of sexual assault and related crimes from the military chain of command, a recommendation I agree with. I made that clear for weeks now.

And this statement makes it clear that the argument before us is not about removing sexual assault or crimes connected to sexual misconduct from the chain of command. The argument is about removing felonies like barracks larceny, destruction of government property of a significant value, and crimes that have been handled by the military chain of command effectively for years and years and years.

In addition, Secretary Austin notably praised the comprehensive nature of the IRC's assessment across all four lines of effort, not just military justice reforms, but, as importantly, prevention, climate and culture, and victim care.

The necessity to approach this issue in a holistic and comprehensive manner is vitally important if we want to actually reduce the incidence of sexual assault in the ranks. We would be naive to believe we can simply prosecute ourselves out of this problem. That isn't how this will work.

Accountability is important, but it must be part of a larger reform, and I hope we can all agree that it is far preferable to prevent a sexual assault than simply to prosecute one.

Finally, I want to highlight Secretary Austin's statement that the Department will need new resources and authorities to implement these recommendations. It must work with Congress to secure additional authorities and relief where needed, as well as additional personnel, funding, and sufficient time to implement them.

And so, as I have said a number of times already, I intend to include the administration's recommendations that derive from the President's Independent Review Commission in the markup of the defense bill, subject to amendment.

Colleagues who have dedicated themselves for many years to issues of national defense and are knowledgeable of the UCMJ will have an opportunity to make amendments, to make suggestions, to debate this bill in detail, and then the result will be reported to the floor of the Senate, and all Senators will have such an opportunity. That is

what we have done traditionally, particularly when it comes to significant changes in the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

And with that, I would reiterate my objection to the Senator from New York's request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I also commend General Austin on his recommendations. He is the first Secretary of Defense in the last 10 years—in the last real 100 years—that has said that sexual assault and related crimes should be taken out of the chain of command, of which I agree completely. He has also acknowledged that it is not necessary for good order and discipline or command control that the convening authority be the commander. The convening authority can be the prosecutor, which is our bill.

The reason why we advocate for a bright line is that while sexual assaults are handled poorly within the military, so are other crimes when it comes to racial disparity. We have evidence that has been detailed and reported by the Department of Defense that if you are a Black servicemember, you are up to 2.61 times more likely to be prosecuted or punished for crimes due to racial bias within the military justice system.

So if we want a military justice system that is fair for everyone, both plaintiffs and defendants, we need a bright line around all serious crimes. I believe that if you allow trained military prosecutors the ability to review the case files for all serious crimes, more cases of sexual assaults will go forward and end in conviction, and then the bias that is seen in other cases will also be reduced.

So for the chairman to say that there is no evidence that the command hasn't been doing a good job in other crimes, I would say that is not true. There is a great deal of evidence that there is racial bias in how our military justice system is used at the detriment to Black and Brown servicemembers.

Second, I would like to say that the commission's recommendations are expansive and excellent, and we look forward to receiving those recommendations. Those recommendations may well require additional personnel and additional resources because they are across many lines, not just about prosecution.

My bill, the Military Justice Improvement and Prevention Act, does not require more resources or more personnel because it is literally creating a bright line of felonies, and while those prosecutors are normally prosecuting those cases, the only change is they get to see the case file first. They get to make a judgment about whether there is enough evidence, and if there is not, it goes right back to the commander where it was.

So I agree that General Austin's statements are important and meaningful. I agree that the commission's

work is excellent, and I look forward to supporting them and turning them into law. But I disagree strongly that the broader reform of a bright line around felonies isn't needed because it is, and it shows in the prosecution of sexual assaults, and it shows in the racial disparity of convictions and prosecutions and nonjudicial punishment for Black servicemembers.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday, President Biden announced that his administration would attempt to combat the alarming rise of violent crime unfolding in cities across our country by making it harder for law-abiding Americans to exercise their constitutional right to keep and bear arms. And today our colleagues on the Judiciary Committee voted on the nomination of a person the President intends to lead the effort. David Chipman was tapped to be Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

If he is confirmed, this nominee would bring to the job a dangerous and unprecedented hostility to the Second Amendment. We know it from his record as an anti-gun extremist, and we know it from the reputation he earned among ATF veterans as an "activist" and "a rabid partisan."

It should go without saying that these are exactly the wrong motivations to encourage at the helm of the Agency charged with firearms enforcement. Then again, it should also go without saying that responsible gun owners don't cause surges in violent crime; they actually prevent them.

Unfortunately, Democrats' latest bout of cognitive dissonance on crime didn't begin just this week. Let's consider what has unfolded over the past year. Last summer, across America, peaceful protests were overtaken by lawless rioters. For nights on end, violence and looting left cities in flames, and in too many State capitals and city halls, local officials froze under pressure from the left and failed to protect their citizens, their homes, and their businesses.

In fact, at every level of government, elected Democrats instead rapidly embraced radical calls to "defund the police." To the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars, they succeeded in gutting local law enforcement budgets and

validating the worst instincts of the anti-police agitators.

The president of the Minneapolis City Council called on her colleagues to “imagine a future without police.” And sure enough, in Los Angeles, police were told to make do after a cut of \$150 million. In Seattle, the police department budget shrank by nearly 20 percent. Defunding efforts here in Washington were passed by committee unanimously.

The Biden administration has amplified these efforts by appointing avowed supporters of defunding the police, like Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke, to high-ranking positions at the Justice Department, the Agency charged with enforcing Federal criminal law.

Now, we didn't have to imagine the consequences of betraying the brave officers charged with keeping the peace. Millions of Americans have been living this dangerous new reality literally for months. Last year closed with the Nation's sharpest 1-year increase in homicides in decades. In New York City, the murder rate jumped nearly 45 percent, and in my hometown of Louisville, it is already on pace this year to exceed last year's all-time record.

New fears arose in communities across the country, and as Democrats flirted with their imagined future without police, Americans did exactly what you would expect of a free people: They looked to their own defense and exercised their Second Amendment rights in record numbers. The FBI processed nearly 40 million background checks on gun purchasers last year, shattering previous records. And, nationwide, 40 percent of the guns sold last year were purchased by—listen to this—first-time buyers. In particular, members of racial minority groups joined the ranks of gun owners in record numbers.

So let's review. In city after city, powerful Democrats vocally refused to uphold their responsibilities to protect public safety. Violent crime filled the void. Against this backdrop, the American people chose to defend themselves by exercising a core constitutional right.

But now, as Democrats at the State and local level play politics with public safety, Democrats here in Washington want to make gun ownership in America more burdensome than ever. Prominent voices on the left, including some of our colleagues, fanned the flames of a dangerously misguided experiment, and law-abiding Americans are paying the price.

Here in the Senate, Republicans have been focused all along on making American communities actually safer. It is why we supported TIM SCOTT's efforts to pass police reform that empowered law enforcement to do their jobs very well rather than federalizing and defunding the police.

It is the reason that Chairman LINDSEY GRAHAM and 46 other Republican Senators joined me today to demand publicly that the Department of Justice cease its efforts to restrict the

use of common pistol-brace devices by lawful gun owners. We are talking about a plan that would turn millions of law-abiding Americans into criminals with a stroke of the pen. It would be an outrageous violation, and we expect DOJ to withdraw this attempted confiscation. Federal law enforcement should focus on the criminals committing violent crimes in American cities, not on law-abiding gun owners.

So Republicans will continue to stand for Americans' Second Amendment rights, as a matter of public safety and of basic freedoms.

DEMOCRATIC AGENDA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, as the Senate headed into the June work period, the Democratic leader laid out an agenda that was transparently designed to fail, a string of far-left proposals that were not intended to become law or to make a difference in the lives of the American people. They were designed to fail and provide political theater for liberal activists.

And sure enough, the Senate did reject Democrats' brazen attempt to rewrite the rules of American elections, permanently, to their own advantage. We did reject their bid to exploit the cause of paycheck fairness to fill the pockets of the trial bar. And other radical proposals, like the one to impose crushing legal penalties on organizations that failed to conform to leftwing social preferences, didn't make it to the floor.

But, let's remember, this was never just about policy. If our colleagues actually believed that the substance of their plans were viable, they would have submitted more to scrutiny in committee. We know how things work in this body when a narrow majority actually wants to make a law. That is not what we have actually seen.

So Senate Democrats weren't out to pass any legislation this month. Their designed-to-fail agenda was supposed to indicate that the institution of the Senate itself was somehow broken. And on this count, our friends across the aisle failed spectacularly.

See, the Framers designed the upper Chamber, our Chamber, to be a proving ground, a place where good ideas would rise to meet high standards and bad ones would actually fall flat. So this month our Senate colleagues proved that the Senate is working quite well.

We turned away an underhanded attempt to open American employers to a new form of unlimited predatory liability and a hostile takeover of our election system. And the whole time, productive work continued on bipartisan proposals that are actually—actually—intended to become law. From infrastructure to agriculture, many of our colleagues have been hard at work demonstrating the right way to go about legislating. In the Commerce and EPW Committees, they approved smart legislation with wide bipartisan votes.

This morning on the floor, we considered another bill from Senator BRAUN that more than half of our colleagues actually cosponsored.

So as we head back to our home States and take time to celebrate our Nation's founding, let's double down on efforts like these and leave designed-to-fail partisan antics in June.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, now on one final matter, earlier today, a bipartisan group of infrastructure negotiators took the results of their efforts down to President Biden. It was an encouraging sign of progress after leading Democrats had gone out of their way to slow the process.

Remember, at the first sign of an agreement last night and then again this morning, both the Democratic leader and the Speaker of the House made it clear they would hold a bipartisan agreement hostage, demanding trillions of dollars in wasteful spending and job-killing tax increases in return for even considering it. The top two Democrats literally pulled the rug out from under their bipartisan negotiators with these unserious demands before they had even made it down to the White House.

So President Biden's show of support earlier today appeared to be a major breakthrough for earning Democrats' support, but, alas, that optimism was short-lived. Less than 2 hours after publicly commending our colleagues and actually endorsing the bipartisan agreement, the President took the extraordinary step of threatening to veto it. It was a tale of two press conferences—endorse the agreement in one breath and threaten to veto it in the next. Less than 2 hours. It almost makes your head spin. Less than 2 hours. As I said, it almost makes your head spin—an expression of bipartisanship and then an ultimatum on behalf of your leftwing base.

I have no doubt the President is under enormous pressure from some on the left to deliver on a laundry list of radical climate demands. The Democratic leader and the Speaker have already made clear they will do whatever it takes to keep their runaway spending train chugging along all summer, and more and more Members of their party are having to contort their positions to keep pace with the expectations of the Green New Deal fringe. But, really, caving completely in less than 2 hours? That is not the way to show you are serious about getting a bipartisan outcome.

So, look, I hope our colleagues can recover and get their good-faith efforts back on track.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip is recognized.

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week marked the official start of summer, and by all means, it should be a

season of renewal in our Nation. But as we begin to emerge from this public health crisis of COVID-19, we find ourselves facing another crisis: an epidemic of gun violence in America.

The gun violence we are seeing in America today is devastating, and it is the direct result of generations of underinvestment, policy failure, and cycles of trauma.

Yesterday, President Biden spoke to the Nation about this challenge and laid out a clear strategy to keep our communities safe from the scourge of gun violence. The President has called for important reforms to crack down on gun trafficking and gun dealers who willfully violate the law. I agree with this strategy, and I will do everything in my power as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee to support it.

Already, the administration has worked to rein in the proliferation of untraceable ghost guns. What are these guns? They are guns that can be ordered on the internet. They can be made in component parts with no serial numbers and are impossible to trace. The administration has also worked to issue regular reports on firearms trafficking patterns and trends and to promote model legislation to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

These are all important steps, and so is the President's call for a major commitment of Federal resources to support community violence intervention programs, programs like READI Chicago, which supports members of the community who are most at risk for gun violence with job training and other support. These programs help save lives in our city of Chicago, and they desperately need Federal support. President Biden made it clear yesterday that he is committed to this.

Every Monday, as sad as it is, the people of Chicago awaken to read the heartbreaking headlines about the toll gun violence has taken over the weekend. What was last weekend like in the city of Chicago? Fifty-two people were shot, five fatally.

Young children and babies don't escape this violence. More than 50 children under the age of 15 have been shot in Chicago this year: Kayden Swann, 1-year-old, shot in the head while riding in a car on Lake Shore Drive; 7-year-old Jaslyn Adams was shot and killed at a McDonald's drive-through on the West Side in April; 14-year-old Savanna Quintero, who was shot and killed earlier this month by gang members in the Back of the Yards neighborhood. These children are just a few of the more than 1,500 people who have been shot in Chicago this year.

Our city isn't alone in facing gun violence. We are seeing it across the Nation. And don't believe it is just a problem in blue States; red States face it too.

While a shooting can happen anywhere, the fact is gun violence has disproportionately claimed the lives of Black and Brown Americans living in communities where it is often easier to find a gun than a good-paying job.

I have visited schools across Chicago, and I have asked the students if they know someone who has been shot. In some neighborhoods, nearly every child's hand goes up. In fact, 90 percent of Chicago's homicides occur in neighborhoods where 60 percent of the city's youngest kids live and learn. And when their parents or siblings are shot, it causes damage that, unlike a bullet wound, cannot heal with time alone. Science shows us that trauma rewires children's brains and produces changes that can last a lifetime.

I often ask audiences: Think about your youth. Think about one event in your life that you still remember to this day. I hope it was a happy one. I hope it wasn't a sad one. But think about the fact that no matter how old you are, something that happened when you were a tiny kid is still very fresh in your memory.

Now think about a child who has witnessed a shooting or been the victim of a shooting. That is going to be with them for a lifetime unless we do something. Childhood trauma can make it harder for kids to learn and to form healthy relationships, and it can do serious harm to a child physically, mentally, and emotionally—harm that can change their lives.

But with the right care and support, kids and victims of gun violence can deal with trauma and rise above it. Across Illinois, I have seen programs in schools, hospitals, community centers, and churches that provide the nurturing environments and treatments our children who experience trauma need to thrive.

If we want to end the epidemic of gun violence, we need to invest in community-based solutions that end the cycles of trauma. Last week I joined Senators CAPITO, DUCKWORTH, and MURKOWSKI in introducing a bipartisan bill that will invest in those solutions: the RISE from Trauma Act. This bill would invest billions of dollars over the next 8 years in community-based efforts to support children and families who have endured trauma.

This aligns directly with what President Biden said yesterday and what he requested in his American Jobs Plan. It would help end violence where it begins—in environments where kids are neglected, abused, and left to fend for themselves.

This legislation would fund counseling for gunshot victims and expand our trauma-informed workforce—doctors, teachers, social service professionals, community leaders—to help kids who have experienced trauma.

I believe the RISE from Trauma Act will help offer a long-term solution to the epidemic of gun violence, but we also need to protect our families and neighborhoods in the short term.

In addition to immediate steps it has taken, the administration is asking us to address violent crime. I have been working with leaders in my State to make additional resources available. Earlier this week, Senator DUCKWORTH

and I sent a letter to Governor Pritzker highlighting effective strategies for how to use more than \$120 million in American Rescue Plan funds to help support targeted violence intervention efforts. These funds, which will help protect Illinois from violent crimes, are available now to help the police, to help the victims, to help the neighborhoods.

When we talk about really caring and really wanting to do something to make a difference, I am sorry that I have to remind the Senate that this bill, the American Rescue Plan, passed the U.S. Senate without a single Republican supporting it, not one—not one Republican vote.

To most effectively address the spike in gun violence, the Senate must also confirm the Director for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

I couldn't help but listen to the Republican leader who came to the floor to talk about David Chipman. He is a man who will be reported out of the Judiciary Committee and brought to the floor. He was considered today, in the Judiciary Committee—11 Democrats and 11 Republicans split along party lines on his vote. It was expected. But Senator SCHUMER can still bring his nomination to the floor.

It is no surprise that the Republicans opposed him, but let's put it in context for a moment. How many times have you heard a gun debate and you heard someone say, "We don't need any new laws, we just need to enforce the laws we have. Don't dream up some new law that's going to burden someone who is an innocent, law-abiding gun owner, enforce the laws we have."

So what Agency do we look to for that enforcement? Well, certainly, the Department of Justice. And where do they turn? They turn to ATF. That is the Agency that is supposed to keep an eye on how guns are being sold and whether the wrong people are buying them.

Well, let's look at the leader of the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Agency under President Trump. I would like to give you his name or her name, but I can't because there was no leader. In 4 years, President Trump and Senate Republicans never put in place any single person to head this Agency. Was it an oversight, an accident? Far from it. Those who are on the side of increased gun rights at the expense of safety don't want anyone to lead this Agency. They want this Agency to go away.

David Chipman, a man with over 20 years' experience in the field, who worked for this law enforcement agency and risked his life in doing so, has been nominated by President Biden to head the Agency. And the Republicans can't stand the idea. The fact that an actual law enforcement agency person who has this experience would lead the Agency just drives them wild to think about it, and they are opposed to it.

Yes, it is true, he is for gun safety, and he has made it clear.

Let me tell you about a couple of radical ideas he had. He believes that we should keep guns out of the hands of felons and people who are mentally unable. Well, there is a radical idea when it comes to gun safety, so radical that 84 percent of the American people—some say 90 percent of the American people, including a majority of gun owners—support this idea, and so does Mr. Chipman. That makes him a radical in the eyes of some of our colleagues. To me, he is as mainstream as they come.

When it comes to assault weapons, for example, he believes there are some guns that really have no place in the ordinary self-defense, sporting, and hunting world and can only be used as machines for killing. Over half the American people happen to agree with him. I do too. For that reason, many Republicans oppose him. They say, "He's a radical, he's a zealot." I have heard all these words.

He is a man who has lived his life through the ATF for more than 20 years. He has the support of law enforcement and deserves a chance to lead this Agency.

These ideas that he has—wouldn't it be wonderful if the U.S. Senate—think about that—the U.S. Senate could pass legislation to require background checks to keep guns out of the hands of convicted felons? The American people want it. We can't touch it.

You ask people on the committee, on the Republican side: Well, what should we do about gun violence? They have got an answer. What is their answer? We need more guns in America. We need more people carrying guns in America. Two or three of the members of the committee today on the Republican side, Senate Judiciary Committee, were proud to speak about this issue of concealed carry. One actually said she carries a gun. I don't know if she does it in the Capitol Building. That is her business. But that is how far it has come, this notion that the solution to gun violence is more guns when 109 people a day are dying in America from gun violence. This isn't happening in other nations around the world. We are unique, and we should be embarrassed by this unique situation that we have so much gun violence and gun death in America.

President Biden made it clear yesterday as well that this notion that he is for defunding the police is ludicrous. He called yesterday for billions of dollars to our police to do their job more effectively, and I support it. I want to make sure that the police who receive these funds are well trained and administer justice in a fair way and without the abuses that we have seen with the death of George Floyd and other instances.

Yes, invest in that, but have the wisdom to understand that the police need helping hands as well. The police would gladly give the issue of domestic violence over to social workers and psychologists, who really could get into

this situation and find an effective solution that doesn't risk lives and doesn't endanger the lives of the police. They need a helping hand, and we should give it to them.

When it comes to law and order, I hear the Republican leader come to the floor and talk about the need for law and order, and I can't help but think it was just 2 weeks ago when he was given a chance to support a bipartisan commission to look into the worst lawlessness we have seen in the U.S. Capitol since 1813.

On January 6, 2021, thousands coming from the speech by President Trump formed an insurrectionist mob and descended on this Capitol. I will never forget that day as long as I live, and, yes, we ought to get to the bottom of it. Who financed that? Who planned that? Who was behind that? There are serious questions to be asked and answered. Who stopped the bill with the filibuster for a bipartisan commission asking and answering those questions? The same Senator who was coming here a few minutes ago giving a speech on law and order. It doesn't follow.

If Senator MCCONNELL believes we should have law and order, it should start with the Senate Chamber and the Capitol Building. Isn't that our first responsibility as elected Members? Of course it is. What happened January 6 cannot and should not be swept under the rug.

It is interesting to me, as I consider the nominees of the Biden administration and the reaction on the Republican side. Mr. Chipman was the latest victim of their attacks. Some on the political extreme even went so far as to doctor films so that it reflected the presence of Mr. Chipman at events he didn't even attend, events he had no business with as a member of ATF. That is the extent they will go to undermine the Biden administration's nominees.

And I can't help but notice that when it comes to assertive women of color, that really drives many Republicans to a level of rage. Vanita Gupta. Kristen Clarke. These women are extremely talented, professional women with amazing resumes who are now luckily serving this Nation because of a vote in the Senate, but the opposition to them went way beyond anything that was rational or explainable.

Senator MCCONNELL said we shouldn't make ownership of guns more burdensome. I think that is generally right, but if making sure that convicted felons don't own guns is a slight burden on those who are legally entitled to own guns, I think it is not too much to ask.

I am all for people exercising their Second Amendment rights to use guns safely, respectfully, follow the law, and store them, as well, in that same fashion, and to ask them to go through a background check to make sure they are qualified is not too much, and it saves lives in the process.

The gun lobby tries to stop the Senate from confirming the Director of the

ATF, but we are going to move forward and do it. There wasn't a Senate-confirmed Director under President Trump. In fact, there hasn't been one since 2015. This man, Mr. Chipman, is extremely well qualified—25 years of experience. He worked in the field in Virginia, Texas, and Michigan. He knows the Agency inside and out. He is the right person.

Background checks—is that too much to ask? I don't think so. We should pass the bill. In March, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 8, a bipartisan bill to close the gaps in the background checks system. We ought to do the same.

Addressing gun violence is a top priority of the Senate Judiciary Committee. In fact, the committee has already held four hearings on the topic. The first was the day after the mass shooting—the most recent mass shooting in Boulder, CO, that left 10 people dead. Sadly, unimaginably—listen to this number, Mr. President—that was just one of 299 mass shootings in America so far this year. That is more than one mass shooting every single day. What is going on? How can we tolerate that situation in our country?

Yet, during the first hearing on gun violence in our committee, one of the Republican members of the committee described the hearing as "ridiculous theater." Ridiculous theater. Do you want to know what ridiculous theater really looks like? It is filibustering a piece of gun safety reform like universal background checks supported by 90 percent of the people. It is calling for an enforcement of gun laws already on the books and blocking anyone from being confirmed who will do it. Ridiculous theater is tweeting slogans in response to a spike in gun violence rather than coming up with solutions.

The Presiding Officer knows as well as I do and maybe even better that there have been too many funerals, too many lives lost to the scourge of gun violence. Can we get serious for one moment on a bipartisan basis and dedicate ourselves to reducing gun violence and saving lives in America? We have a President who is ready to lead us in that direction. I hope my other colleagues on the other side of the aisle will join Democrats in enacting legislation to keep America safe.

I yield the floor.

REMEMBERING FATHER RAY DOHERTY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, there are some people who leave an indelible mark on your life, from the moment you meet them. On June 7, the Saint Michael's College community lost one such person with the passing of Father Raymond Doherty. As an alumnus of Saint Michael's College, I was shaped by the academic experience and lasting tight-knit community that a small college provides and will always feel a deep connection to the school. As a fellow alumnus, Father Doherty was a

pillar of the Saint Michael's community and played a fundamental role in guiding and molding not only the College but its students for decades.

Raymond J. Doherty was born and raised in Newton, MA, and in 1948 he enrolled as a student at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, VT, a journalism student and skilled pitcher on the varsity baseball team. Upon his graduation in 1951, Father Doherty served his country as a staff sergeant and combat correspondent in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean war.

In 1953, Father Doherty returned to Vermont and joined the Society of Saint Edmund at the Edmundite Novitiate in Putney, where he took his first vows in 1954. Father Doherty was ordained into the priesthood in 1958 at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception in Burlington, VT. As an Edmundite priest, Father Doherty spent the subsequent decades working throughout Vermont, New England, and across the South during the civil rights era, where he preached, served the community, and worked to further the cause of social justice.

Although his assignments pulled him to different corners of the globe, his home was always Saint Michael's. After many terms as a member of the staff and Campus Ministry at Saint Michael's throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Father Doherty returned permanently to Saint Michael's in 1985. His career at Saint Michael's spanned a variety of roles in the admissions office, athletics department, and as campus chaplain. Until his passing, Father Ray, as he was affectionately known, remained deeply involved on the Saint Michael's campus and in the surrounding community.

He leaves behind a life and legacy that should be an inspiration to many. Father Ray, through his compassion, humility, and commitment to serving his community, exemplifies what it means to be a Vermonter and a true leader. He led by example and inspired his students and those around him to strive to understand and address the needs and circumstances of all, to lead with grace, and to tirelessly work to improve the lives of others.

Father Ray once told me that when the time came for him to be called home, he hoped to fall asleep here and wake up there. That stuck with me. It is a comfort to know that wish came true. Like the extended Saint Michael's College community, I will miss Father Doherty. His legacy will live on in the students he taught, the lives he impacted, and the words he preached. Father Ray will be deeply missed.

TRIBUTE TO BOB GRAY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of a longtime friend and advocate for dairy farmers in Vermont and across the country, Bob Gray. As he retires later this month, he leaves an enduring im-

print on Vermont's bedrock agricultural sector.

I first met Bob in 1978 when he joined the staff of Vermont Senator Jim Jeffords, who passed away in 2014. Bob and Jim were an unstoppable force, pushing in the late seventies for Federal legislation that eventually became the 1981 federal Farmland Protection Policy Act. Bob understood the growing urgency of protecting the Nation's working landscapes from development, fragmentation, and speculation—and especially for rural States like Vermont. He also understood that, so long as farmers had a voice and a seat at the table, conservation and agriculture could be mutually reinforcing, not adversarial.

Bob's love for the land and those who steward it comes naturally, having been raised on a dairy farm in Cayuga County, NY. After earning his bachelor of science degree in animal science at Cornell University, he served the Nation as an Army officer in the First Infantry Division out of Fort Riley, KS, before joining the New York National Guard and serving for 3 more years, rising to the rank of captain.

Since 1990, Bob has led the Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives, a trade association representing dairy farmers in Vermont and the region. Throughout the decades of challenging policy discussions and many farm bills, I could always count on Bob to provide me with sound counsel, always keeping the interests of Vermont's dairy farmers first and foremost. That counsel has always been especially important to me during challenging years for dairy, like this one has been. Dairy farmers across the United States are much stronger than they would now be were it not for Bob Gray's work.

Bob's immeasurable contributions to the dairy industry and our decades-long friendship are strong enough that I have welcomed him to join me at farm shows and agricultural fairs in New England, despite his unmitigated and puzzling cheerleading for the New York Yankees.

When Bob announced his retirement, I made sure to join his final board meeting with the Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives. The farmers whom he has worked with and industry leaders who have relied on his expertise, including myself, will certainly feel his absence and miss his kindness. Beyond his advocacy, Bob has always been a good friend to Marcelle and me for so many years—something we will always cherish. As he embarks on this next and exciting part of his life, I want to acknowledge Bob's work and thank him for his decades of support for Vermont's dairy farmers and the U.S. dairy industry and wish him the best of luck.

RECOGNIZING WDEV RADIO

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, lost in the continuously emerging world of social media is the iconic bedrock of

community news: radio. I would like to take a moment to celebrate a milestone in Vermont radio: 90 years on the air for WDEV. At 5:50 in the morning of Thursday July 16, 1931, the broadcasters at WDEV turned on their microphones for the very first time. Ninety years later, WDEV remains a Vermont institution, bringing colorful conversation, sports commentary, and great music to thousands of listeners every day. Growing up in Central Vermont, I have always enjoyed tuning in to WDEV. Throughout my time in the Senate, I have spoken to anchors and morning show hosts at WDEV more times than I can recall.

WDEV has been independently owned and operated by Radio Vermont since 1935. Radio Vermont was founded by Lloyd Squier, who ran the company for 44 years, until his death in 1979. From then until 2017, Lloyd's son, Ken, has been at the helm. Beginning in 1966, Ken has hosted the Saturday morning classic and a personal favorite: "Music To Go To The Dump By." Ken still cohosts the program—what he calls the "children's program for adults." "Music To Go To The Dump By" provides a fun, thoughtful and light-hearted weekly digest of the goings-on throughout the State, with commentary from its panel of hosts and their wide array of guests.

Whether it is "Music To Go To The Dump By," the "Vermont Viewpoint," or a race at Thunder Road, we Vermonter can always turn to WDEV for fresh and interesting programming that keeps us all smiling, engaged, and informed. While it is certainly challenging to catch a broadcast from here in the Nation's Capital, I am eager to listen in once I am back home in a few weeks' time. Congratulations to WDEV and the team at Radio Vermont on 90 years of community radio. Keep up the great work, and I look forward to calling in soon.

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN274, the nomination of David H. Chipman, of Virginia, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, having been referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

(1) on the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed, 11 ayes to 11 noes.

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the RECORD pursuant to the resolution.

PRIDE MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, as we celebrate Pride Month, I want to take a moment to acknowledge some of the trailblazers and pioneers in the LGBTQ+ community who have led the fight for equality.

Our Nation—and the world—has come a long way since the first Pride parade was organized more than half a century ago. But that progress didn't come about on its own. It demanded sacrifice, from activists like Marsha P. Johnson, who led the Stonewall Uprising in New York City, and leaders like Harvey Milk, who gave his life to advance LGBTQ+ equality. And it also demanded courage, courage that we see on display every day.

Just this week, a defensive lineman for the Las Vegas Raiders, Carl Nassib, became the first active NFL player to come out as gay. In a video he posted, Mr. Nassib said he hopes that “one day videos like this and the whole coming-out process are just not necessary . . . but until then I'm going to do my best and my part to cultivate a culture that's accepting, that's compassionate.” That is really what Pride Month is all about, joining together to embrace our friends and loved ones exactly as they are and cultivating a culture that is more accepting and compassionate.

Carl Nassib's announcement this week is yet another reminder of how far the movement for LGBTQ+ equality has come, in my lifetime and even during my time in Congress. The year I was elected to the U.S. Senate, Congress passed the Defense of Marriage Act, a shameful piece of legislation that outlawed same-sex marriage. But less than two decades later, the Supreme Court corrected that mistake by making marriage equality the law of the land. The sixth anniversary of that decision, *Obergefell v. Hodges*, is coming up this Saturday, the same day as Chicago's Pride in the Park festival in Grant Park. It is a remarkable trajectory, and it is one nobody could have predicted when I first entered Congress. It also begs the question: What progress will our Nation achieve over the next 20 years?

Earlier this year, as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I was honored to gavel in the Senate's first-ever hearing on the EQUALITY Act. It is a crucial piece of legislation that would strengthen civil rights protections for LGBTQ+ Americans and would explicitly prohibit discrimination in education, employment, housing, and other facets of everyday life. The EQUALITY Act has already passed the House, but it is currently languishing in this Chamber. Will we allow this Senate to once again stand as a bulwark against the tides of progress? Or will we join Carl Nassib—and others before him—in acting with courage?

This Pride Month, I hope we follow Mr. Nassib's lead, and I hope we do our part to cultivate a culture that embraces all of our Nation's children, exactly as who they are.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA, June 24, 2021.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-36, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Philippines for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$120 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures:

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-36

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Philippines.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$45 million.

Other \$75 million.

Total \$120 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twelve (12) AGM-84L-1 Harpoon Block II Air Launched Missiles.

Two (2) ATM-84L-1 Harpoon Block II Exercise Missiles.

Non-MDE: Also included are containers; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (PI-P-AAZ)

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 24, 2021.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Philippines—AGM-84L-1 Harpoon Air
Launched Block II Missiles

The Government of the Philippines has requested to buy twelve (12) AGM-84L-1 Harpoon Block II air launched missiles; and two (2) ATM-84L-1 Harpoon Block II Exercise missiles. Also included are containers; spare and repair parts; support and test equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$120 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner that continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in South East Asia.

The proposed sale will enhance the Philippines' interoperability with the U.S. and other allied nations, making it a more valuable partner in an increasingly important area of the world. It will improve the Philippines' capability to meet current and future threats by providing flexible solutions to augment existing surface and air defense. The Philippine Air Force is modernizing its fighter aircraft to better support its own maritime security needs. This capability will provide the Philippine Air Force the ability to employ a highly reliable and effective system to counter or deter maritime aggressions, coastal blockades, and amphibious assaults. The Philippines will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be The Boeing Company, St. Louis, MO. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require travel of U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Philippines on a temporary basis for program technical support and management oversight.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-36

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Harpoon missile is a non-nuclear tactical weapon system currently in service in the U.S. Navy and in 29 other foreign nations. It provides a day, night, and adverse weather, standoff air-to-surface capability and is an effective Anti-Surface Warfare missile. The AGM-84L incorporates components, software, and technical design information that are considered sensitive, to include:

The Radar Seeker.

The Radar Altimeter.

The GPS/INS System.

Operational Flight Program Software.

Missile operational characteristics and performance data.

These elements are essential to the ability of the Harpoon missile to selectively engage hostile targets under a wide range of operations, tactical and environmental conditions.

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

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

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

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-14, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Philippines for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$2.43 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-14

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Philippines.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$1.12 billion.

Other \$1.31 billion.

Total \$2.43 billion.

Funding Source: National Funds

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Ten (10) F-16C Block 70/72 Aircraft.

Two (2) F-16D Block 70/72 Aircraft.

Fifteen (15) F100-PW-229EEP Engines or F110-GE-129D Engines.

Fifteen (15) Improved Programmable Display Generators (iPDG).

Fifteen (15) AN/APG-83 Advanced Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Scalable Agile Beam Radars (SABR).

Fifteen (15) Modular Mission Computers 7000AH.

Fifteen (15) LN-260 Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with SAASM and PPS.

Twenty-four (24) Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM) AIM-120C-7/C-8 or equivalent.

One (1) AIM-120 Guidance Section.

Forty-eight (48) LAU-129 Missile Launchers.

Three (3) KMU-572 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition (LJDAM) Tail Kits.

Six (6) Mk-82 500lb Bombs.

Six (6) Mk-82 500lb Inert Training Bombs.

Six (6) FMU-152 or FMU-139 Fuzes.

Six (6) Sniper Advanced Targeting Pods (ATP) or Litening ATP.

Fifteen (15) Multifunctional Information Display System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS-JTRS) Aircraft Terminals.

Fifteen (15) M61A1 Vulcan Anti-Aircraft 20mm Guns.

Non-MDE: Also included are AN/ARC-238 radios; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe with Combined Interrogator Transponder and Mode 5; Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems II (JHMCS II) or Scorpion Hybrid Optical-based Inertial Tacker (HOBIT); Integrated Electronic Warfare (EW) Suite; Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP) support; AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispenser Systems (CMDS); Joint Mission Planning Systems (JMPS) or equivalent; AIM-120 CATM; LAU-118 launchers with Advanced Launcher Interface Computer (ALIC); LAU-117 missile launchers; DSU-38 Precision Laser Guided Sensor for LJDAM; Harpoon interface adapter kits; PGU-28 High Explosive Incendiary (HEI) ammunition; PGU-27 ammunition training rounds (non HEI); Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); ARD-446 impulse cartridges; ARD-863 impulse cartridges; BBU-36/B impulse cartridges; BBU-35/B impulse cartridges; MK-124 smoke flares; MJU-7/B Flare Cartridge L463; BRU-61 Bomb Racks; BRU-57 bomb racks; MAU-12 bomb racks and TER-9A triple ejection racks; weapons support, test equipment, and missile containers; chaff and flare; Night Vision Devices (NVD) and support equipment and spares; secure communications; cryptographic equipment; aircraft and personnel support and test equipment; integration and test; weapons, ammunition, pylons, launcher adaptors, weapons interfaces, fuel tanks, and attached hardware; travel pods, precision measurement equipment laboratory, calibration, and simulators; spare and repair parts, repair and return services; maps, publications, and technical documentation; studies and surveys; classified/unclassified software and software support; personnel training and training equipment; facilities and facility management, design and/or construction services; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (PI-DSAF).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 24, 2021.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Philippines—F-16 Block 70/72

The Government of the Philippines has requested to buy ten (10) F-16C Block 70/72 aircraft; two (2) F-16D Block 70/72 aircraft; fifteen (15) F100-PW-229EEP engines or F110-GE-129D engines; fifteen (15) Improved Programmable Display Generators (iPDG); fifteen (15) AN/APG-83 Advanced Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Scalable Agile Beam Radars (SABR); fifteen (15) Modular Mission Computers 7000AH; fifteen (15) LN-260 Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with SAASM and PPS; twenty-four (24) Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM) AIM-120C-7/C-8 or equivalent; one (1) AIM-120 Guidance Section; forty-eight (48) LAU-129 missile launchers; three (3) KMU-572 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition (LJDAM) tail kits; six (6) Mk-82 500lb bombs; six (6) Mk-82 500lb Inert training bombs; six (6) FMU-152 or FMU-139 fuzes; six (6) Sniper Advanced Targeting Pods (ATP) or Litening ATP; fifteen (15) Multifunctional Information Display System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS-JTRS) aircraft terminals, and; fifteen (15) M61A1 Vulcan Anti-Aircraft 20mm guns. Also included are AN/ARC-238 radios; Advanced Identification Friend or Foe with Combined Interrogator Transponder and Mode 5; Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems II (JHMCS II) or Scorpion Hybrid Optical-based Inertial Tacker (HOBIT); Integrated Electronic Warfare Suite; Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Program (ECISAP) support; AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispenser Systems (CMDS); Joint Mission Planning Systems (JMPS) or equivalent; AIM-120 CATM; LAU-118 launchers with Advanced Launcher Interface Computer (ALIC); LAU-117 missile launchers; DSU-38 Precision Laser Guided Sensor for LJDAM; Harpoon interface adapter kits; PGU-28 High Explosive Incendiary (HEI) ammunition; PGU-27 ammunition training rounds (non HEI); Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); ARD-446 impulse cartridges; ARD-863 impulse cartridges; BBU-36/B impulse cartridges; BBU-35/B impulse cartridges; MK-124 smoke flares; MJU-7/B Flare Cartridge L463; BRU-61 Bomb Racks; BRU-57 bomb racks; MAU-12 bomb racks and TER-9A triple ejection racks; weapons support, test equipment, and missile containers; chaff and flare; Night Vision Devices (NVD) and support equipment and spares; secure communications; cryptographic equipment; aircraft and personnel support and test equipment; integration and test; weapons, ammunition, pylons, launcher adaptors, weapons interfaces, fuel tanks, and attached hardware; travel pods, precision measurement equipment laboratory, calibration, and simulators; spare and repair parts, repair and return services; maps, publications, and technical documentation; studies and surveys; classified/unclassified software and software support; personnel training and training equipment; facilities and facility management, design and/or construction services; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$2.43 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner that continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in South East Asia.

The proposed sale will improve the Philippines' capability to meet current and future threats by enabling the Philippines to

deploy fighter aircraft with precision munitions in support of counterterrorism operations in the southern Philippines, increasing effectiveness and minimizing collateral damage. The Philippines is committed to modernizing its military forces and will have no difficulty absorbing this aircraft and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Lockheed-Martin, Greenville, SC. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of U.S. Government and contractor representatives (fewer than 20) to the Philippines to provide technical support for maintenance operations and to conduct flight and maintenance training.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-14

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The F-16 Block 70 weapon system is a fourth generation single-engine supersonic allweather multirole fighter aircraft and features advanced avionics and systems. It contains the General Electric F 110-129 engine, AN/ APG-83 radar, digital flight control system, embedded internal global navigation system, Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (JHMCS) II or Scorpion Hybrid Optical-based Inertial Tacker (HOBIT) with Night Vision Device (NVD) capability, internal and external Electronic Warfare (EW) equipment, Advanced IFF, LINK-16 datalink, operational flight trainer, and software computer programs.

2. General Electric F 110-129 engine is an afterburning turbofan jet engine which delivers 29,400 lb_f (131 kN) thrust.

3. Improved Programmable Display Generator (iPDG) and color multifunction displays utilize ruggedized commercial liquid crystal display technology that is designed to withstand the harsh environment found in modern fighter cockpits. The display generator is the fifth generation graphics processor for the F-16. Through the use of state-of-the-art microprocessors and graphics engines, it provides orders of magnitude increases in throughput, memory, and graphics capabilities.

4. Scalable Agile Beam Radar (SABR) APG-83 is an Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar upgrade for the F-16. It includes higher processor power, higher transmission power, more sensitive receiver electronics, and Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), which creates higher-resolution ground maps from a greater distance than existing mechanically scanned array radars (e.g., APG-68). The upgrade features an increase in detection range of air targets, increases in processing speed and memory, as well as significant improvements in all modes.

5. Modular Mission Computer (MMC) 7000AH is the central aircraft computer of the F-16. It serves as the hub for all aircraft subsystems and avionics data transfer.

6. The Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) with Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Module (SAASM) is a self-contained navigation system that provides the following: acceleration, velocity, position, attitude, platform azimuth, magnetic and true heading, altitude, body angular rates time tags, and coordinated universal time (UTC) synchronized time. SAASM enables the GPS receiver ac-

cess to the encrypted P(Y) signal providing protection against active spoofing attacks.

7. The AIM-120-C7 Advanced Medium Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept, guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature solid-state electronics. The missile employs active radar target tracking, proportional navigation guidance, and active Radio Frequency target detection. It can be launched day or night, in any weather, and increases pilot survivability by allowing the pilot to disengage after missile launch and engage other targets. This sale will include AIM-120 Guidance Section spares. AMRAAM capabilities include lookdown/shootdown, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high- and low-flying maneuvering targets.

8. LAU-129 Guided Missile Launcher is capable of launching a single AIM-9 (Sidewinder) family of missiles or AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM). The LAU-129 launcher provides mechanical and electrical interface between missile and aircraft.

9. Laser Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM) (GBU-54/56) converts existing unguided freefall bombs into precision-guided "smart" munitions by adding a new tail section containing Inertial Navigation System (INS) guidance/Global Positioning System (GPS) guidance and adds a Semi-active laser seeker. This allows the weapon to strike targets moving at up to 70 mph. The LJDAM weapon consists of a DSU-38/40 sensor, a JDAM guidance set installed on a bomb body; and fuze. The DSU-38/40 consists of a laser spot tracker (same size and shape as a DSU-33 proximity fuze), a cable connecting the DSU-38/40 to the basic JDAM guidance set, a cable cover, cable cover tie-down straps, modified tail kit door and wiring harness, and associated modified JDAM software that incorporates navigation and guidance flight software to support both LJDAM and standard JDAM missions. FMU-152A/B, FMU-139 (all variants) and dummy fuzes are the standard fuzes to be used with this weapon. The quantities in this notification are for testing and integration effort.

10. Mk-82 Inert General Purpose (GP) bomb is a 500lb, inert, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon.

11. FMU-152 or FMU-139 fuzes are multi-delay sensors compatible with weapon guidance kits, tail kits, high-explosive bombs, and reduced collateral damage weapons, which provide all arming and detonation event functions combined in a single fuze system.

12. Sniper Advanced Targeting Pods (ATP) or Litening ATP is a single, lightweight targeting pod for military aircraft that provides positive target identification, autonomous tracking, Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinate generation, and precise weapons guidance from extended standoff ranges. It incorporates a high definition, mid-wave, Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR), dual-mode laser, visible-light, High Definition television (HDTV), laser spot tracker, video data link (VDL), and a digital data recorder.

13. Multifunction Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS-JTRS) is a four-channel software programmable radio for Link-16 digital voice communications and datalink, Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN), and advanced waveforms. Link-16 is a command, control, communications, and intelligence (C3I) system incorporating highcapacity, jam-resistant, digital communication links for exchange of near real-time tactical information, including both data and voice, among air, ground, and sea elements.

14. M61 20mm Vulcan Cannon is a six-barreled automatic cannon chambered in 20x

120mm with a cyclic rate of fire from 2,500-6,000 shots per minute. This weapon is a hydraulically powered air cooled Gatling gun used to damage/destroy aerial targets, suppress/incapacitate personnel targets, and damage or destroy moving and stationary light material targets.

15. AN/ARC-238 radio with HAVE QUICK II is a voice communications radio system that is equipped with HAVE QUICK II, which employs cryptographic technology. Other waveforms may be included as needed.

16. Advanced Identification Friend or Foe (AIFF) Combined Interrogator Transponder (CIT) is a system capable of transmitting and interrogating Mode V. Mode IV and Mode V anti-jam performance specifications/data, software source code, algorithms, and tempest plans or reports will not be offered, released discussed, or demonstrated.

17. Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System II (JHMCS II) or Scorpion Hybrid Optical-based Inertial Tacker (HOBIT) is a device used in aircraft to project information to the pilot's eyes and aids in tasks such as cueing weapons and aircraft sensors to air and ground targets. This system projects visual targeting and aircraft performance information on the back of the helmet's visor, enabling the pilot to monitor this information without interrupting his field of view through the cockpit canopy. This provides improvement for close combat targeting and engagement.

18. Integrated Electronic Warfare (EW) Suite provides passive radar warning, wide spectrum Radio Frequency (RF) jamming, and control and management of the entire EW system. This system is anticipated to be internal to the aircraft, although mounted pod variants are used in certain circumstances.

19. AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispenser Set (CMDS) provides an integrated threat-adaptive, computer controlled capability for dispensing chaff, flares, and active radio frequency expendables. The system is internally mounted and may be operated as a stand-alone system or may be integrated with other on-board Electronic Warfare (EW) and avionics systems. The AN/ALE-47 uses threat data received over the aircraft interfaces to assess the threat situation and determine a response. Expendable routines tailored to the immediate aircraft and threat environment may be dispensed using one of four operational modes.

20. Joint Mission Planning System (JMPS) or equivalent is a multi-platform PC based mission planning system that uses a set of developed applications built from a Framework, common components, and Unique Planning Components for a particular aircraft allowing aircrews to conduct detailed mission planning to support the full spectrum of missions, ranging from simple training to complex combat scenarios. Aircrews save the required aircraft, navigation, threat, and weapons data on a data transfer device that they load into their aircraft before flight.

21. The highest level of classification of information in this potential sale is SECRET.

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

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

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-23, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Philippines for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$42.4 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

AARON HARDING,
(For HEIDI H. GRANT, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-23

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Philippines.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$27.8 million.
Other \$14.6 million.

Total \$42.4 million
Funding Source: National Funds.

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

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Twenty-four (24) AIM-9X Sidewinder Block II Tactical Missiles.

Twenty-four (24) AIM 9X Block II Captive Air Training Missiles (CATMs).

Six (6) Tactical Guidance Units.

Ten (10) Captive Air Training Missile (CATM) Guidance Units.

Non-MDE: Also included are containers, support and test equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical data, software delivery and support, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and other related support; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (PI-P-AAY).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 24, 2021.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Philippines—AIM-9X Sidewinder Block II Tactical Missiles

The Government of the Philippines has requested to buy twenty-four (24) AIM-9X Sidewinder Block II tactical missiles; twenty-four (24) AIM-9X Block II Captive Air Training Missiles (CATMs); six (6) Tactical Guidance Units; and ten (10) Captive Air Training Missile (CATM) Guidance Units. Also included are containers, support and test equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical data, software delivery and support, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and other related support; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$42.4 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner that continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in South East Asia.

The proposed sale will improve the Philippines' capability to meet current and future threats by enabling the Philippines to deploy fighter aircraft with a short range air-to-air missile defense capability. The Philippines Air Force is modernizing its fighter aircraft to better support its own air defense and maritime security needs. The Philippines will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

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

The prime contractor will be Raytheon Missile Systems Company, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require travel of U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Philippines on a temporary basis for program technical support and management oversight.

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

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-23

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

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AIM-9X Block II Sidewinder Missile represents a substantial increase in missile acquisition and kinematics performance over the AIM-9M and replaces the AIM-9X Block I Missile configuration. The missile includes a high off-boresight seeker, enhanced countermeasure rejection capability, low drag/high angle of attack airframe and the ability to integrate the Helmet Mounted Cueing System. The software algorithms are the most sensitive portion of the AIM-9X missile. The software continues to be modified via a pre-planned product improvement (P3I) program in order to improve its countermeasure capabilities. No software source code or algorithms will be released.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services in-

cluded in this potential sale is CONFIDENTIAL.

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

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

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

CONFIRMATION OF DAWN O'CONNELL

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I would like to talk about the HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. The HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, or ASPR, is in charge during a public health emergency and serves as the principal adviser to the Secretary on these matters. This is not a political or a personal choice for any administration; it is the law. I know because I helped write it. It is a national security position, responsible for keeping Americans safe from public health threats, like COVID-19. It is a role that we envisioned with two types of responsibilities. The ASPR serves an operational role. During an emergency, the ASPR coordinates the public health and medical response—whether that threat is a hurricane, a novel virus, or a chemical attack. The ASPR has the responsibility of overseeing the development, purchase, and deployment of lifesaving countermeasures, like the COVID-19 vaccine. The ASPR is also a policy job, assessing the threat landscape and adjusting our strategies to best position the United States for the threats we face today and in the future.

I am glad that today the Senate was able to confirm, by unanimous consent, Dawn O'Connell to be the ASPR. During Ms. O'Connell's nomination process for the job, she repeatedly agreed that she is ready to serve both roles and that the ASPR is in charge during public health emergencies. I believe her current role as a Senior Counselor to the HHS Secretary for COVID Response and her previous roles at HHS and in Congress have provided her with the skills necessary to fulfill the role of the ASPR. I was disappointed that it took the administration so long to nominate someone for this critical role, but I am pleased that they picked someone of Ms. O'Connell's qualifications. The ASPR is critical to the Nation's response and recovery to the COVID pandemic and preparing us against whatever comes next.

I helped orchestrate Ms. O'Connell's confirmation today when I am also releasing a white paper from my role as lead Republican on the Senate HELP Committee about the role of the ASPR. We have learned from two responses under two different administrations—Ebola under Obama and COVID under Trump—that despite Congress's bipartisan intent that the ASPR be in charge in an emergency, that hasn't worked quite the way we envisioned. So I have a series of recommendations to bolster the role of the ASPR and bring greater clarity to our government's response for future emergencies. The ASPR needs to have strong, effective leadership and play a key role in coordinating the Federal Government response. The ASPR needs to have the authority and resources to strengthen public-private partnerships in our medical countermeasures, medical supply chain, and healthcare system. And the ASPR needs to leverage innovation to expand our preparedness infrastructure. Senator MURRAY, the chair of our HELP Committee, and I are working together on bipartisan legislation to address the response to the pandemic, and these recommendations will see their way into that legislation this fall.

MASK MANDATE

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, if you have flown in the past year, you have heard the announcement at the beginning of every flight that says Federal law requires that passengers wear a mask. Well, the last I checked, we have a constitutional system, and Congress makes laws. Something is not required by Federal law unless Congress passes such a law and the President signs it. That is the only way something becomes a federal law in this country.

We are coming through a pandemic, and we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Over 150 million people in the United States are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Any American adult who wants to be vaccinated against COVID-19 can get vaccinated at this point, and the science should drive our decisions on how to open up. That is why today I introduced a resolution to encourage the CDC to review and update its guidance on wearing masks in confined spaces to clarify that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 no longer need to wear a mask on public transportation in the United States, including at airports, on commercial flights, and on buses and rail systems, and for the Transportation Security Administration to update its travel guidance to track with the latest science. I was joined in this effort by Senators COLLINS, LUMMIS, WICKER, MORAN and BLACKBURN, and I appreciate their support.

The CDC has been quite clear that masks are not needed for people who are fully vaccinated. Science matters, and vaccines work. The mandate to wear masks on planes and on other

modes of transportation—when they are no longer required in many businesses and restaurants for vaccinated people—is hurting the aviation industry.

If the objective is to encourage people to be vaccinated, one way to do that is for there to be a real difference in what you can do after being vaccinated. Repealing this requirement to wear masks on airplanes, at airports, and on public transportation would increase demand, increase travel, and would tie the policy to science. It is a commonsense step to take, and I hope more of my Senate colleagues will join us in encouraging the CDC to follow the science.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAN HENDRIX

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dan Hendrix, who is retiring as president and chief executive officer of the World Trade Center Arkansas and associate vice chancellor of the Division of Economic Development at the University of Arkansas after a remarkable career dedicated to economic growth in the Natural State.

Dan is a proud Arkansan who has spent his life demonstrating his commitment to the State and developing opportunities to help businesses grow and flourish. He learned the tools that helped him succeed at the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University, where he earned a bachelor of science in business administration with minors in marketing and management.

He started his career at ABF Freight System, where he established the subsidiary Container Carrier Corporation to transport ocean containers to and from major ports in the United States and throughout the world. Under his guidance, the company expanded import and export operations to U.S. ports of entry, and he served in several leadership positions within the company. He brought his skills to an Oklahoma Transportation Company in 1998.

In 2001, Dan joined the University of Arkansas and established the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations, where, among other successes, he led efforts to raise more than \$1 billion for the university as part of the institution's Campaign for the Twenty-First Century.

As president and CEO of World Trade Center Arkansas, Dan has used his talent and experience to help connect businesses in the State with international partners since its creation in 2007. His efforts have resulted in significantly increased exports of Arkansas goods and job growth. Today, businesses from all over Arkansas export products to nearly 200 countries and support 350,000 jobs in the State.

During Dan's tenure as leader of the World Trade Center Arkansas, he has also educated university students in global commerce through the center's

student intern program. The center has hosted dignitaries from more than 50 countries and enhanced diplomatic relations between the State of Arkansas and the United States with a variety of nations and economic partners.

I applaud Dan for his outstanding leadership and accomplished career. He has led a life of service and deserves our thanks for his military service and vision for expanding Arkansas's footprint around the globe. Dan is leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit future generations of Arkansans. I have been honored to work with him, and I appreciate his friendship. I know his wife Marilyn, children and grandchildren, who are very proud of him, are looking forward to spending more time together. I wish him the best on his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO DAN SEWELL

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career and service of a proud Ohioan, Dan Sewell, who will retire at the end of June, bringing an end to his 44-year career in journalism.

Dan spent 39 of those years with the Associated Press, serving Americans, both by bringing them the news and by telling their stories—in Buffalo, Miami, San Juan, Atlanta, and Chicago, where he has worked as a writer, editor, assistant bureau chief, and most recently in our home State, in Cincinnati, OH.

A native of Middletown, OH, Dan graduated from Edgewood High School. He got his start in journalism as a student journalist at Ohio University's student newspaper, The Post. That is where Dan and I first met, when he interviewed me as the youngest member of the Ohio State Legislature.

Journalists like Dan play a vital role in our democracy—they ask tough questions, they challenge special interests and uncover corruption, and they connect Americans with their communities and with the world. Whether it was the Grenada Invasion in 1983, Hurricane Andrew in 1992, Hurricane Katrina in 2005, or the mass shooting in Dayton's Oregon District in 2019, Dan has done vital work on the frontlines, covering stories that matter to people.

Not only has he made a difference through his writing, Dan also teaches as a part-time instructor of journalism at Miami University in Oxford, OH, helping mentor the next generation of journalists.

Dan is a devoted husband to Vickii, father of five, and grandfather of nine, and plans to spend time with them during retirement. And he will have more time to partake in his favorite hobby—attending Cincinnati Reds' games.

On behalf of grateful readers in Ohio and around the country, I thank Dan Sewell for nearly four decades of service in journalism, doing work that is important to the fabric of our communities and our country.●

TRIBUTE TO JEFF KIGHTLINGER

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the long career of public service provided to the people of Southern California by Jeffery Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, who is retiring after a 15-year tenure.

I would like to take a few moments to reflect on what an extraordinary leader Jeff has been not just for Southern California but for the whole State. Like Jeff, I care deeply about our water future. For years I have turned to him for his always wise counsel on how to solve the next challenge. Over these many years, I have come to view Jeff as a friend and to value our friendship. I have also learned to value equally his leadership abilities.

The treacherous politics of California water and the immense obstacles to getting anything done are legendary, but Jeff has always been up to the task. Jeff is not only one of the smartest people I know, but he has unparalleled ability to strategize how to approach a complex water negotiation. He has built deep and trusting relationships with many of the key players, not only in California but throughout the Colorado River Basin. Knowing the other parties as well as he does, Jeff is able to map out where there is the possibility of an agreement. He then is able to work steadily and patiently over months and years, gradually removing the obstacles until the parties can finally come together.

Many of Jeff's greatest accomplishments have come in guiding major changes within the Colorado River Basin, helping to collaboratively negotiate landmark pacts among a truce among 7 States, two countries, and 10 Native American tribes. These include the Quantification Settlement Agreement, the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, significant revisions to the U.S.-Mexico water treaty, innovative storage programs in Lake Mead, and the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan. This has laid a solid foundation for longer term solutions to be negotiated over the next several years. Jeff has helped forge Metropolitan's partnerships with agricultural districts that have replaced litigation with cooperation.

If you evaluate a leader by the results they accomplish, what Jeff has achieved in preparing Southern California for drought is extraordinary. In a time when much of the California and the West is desperate for water, Southern California stands out for how well it is prepared. Millions of acre feet of water in storage ensures that the region can weather this drought even if it lasts for several more years.

It took a whole suite of actions for Jeff and Metropolitan to get to this place. Knowing that the climate is changing and droughts will worsen, Metropolitan has invested, planned, and prepared, resulting in record water storage, reduced water usage in the re-

gion, and unprecedented drought resiliency. This didn't happen by itself. Metropolitan's conservation programs, including \$350 million in turf removal incentives, transformed the Southern California landscape as Southern Californians embraced conservation as a way of life and permanently lowered water demands. Metropolitan has also launched the Regional Recycled Water Program Advanced Purification Center, a 500,000-gallon-per-day demonstration facility that could ultimately serve as one of the largest recycled water projects in the Nation.

Under Jeff's leadership, Metropolitan weathered the great recession and stabilized its finances while investing billions in restoring its aging conveyance system and improving its water treatment methods, setting a national example for how an agency can meet its infrastructure challenges. His record of environmental stewardship includes installing solar power at Metropolitan's water treatment plants and leading the organization's first efforts to address climate change. Through apprenticeships, recruitment, and promotions, Metropolitan was able to transfer the specialized knowledge of graying workforce to a new, diverse generation of water leaders.

No history of 21st century water in California and the West would be complete without acknowledging his contributions. Jeff has been an invaluable resource to myself, my staff, and those of numerous other Members with his expert analysis and advice that has informed our legislative work. His knowledge and counsel will be greatly missed. I ask our colleagues to join me in congratulating Jeff Kightlinger on his retirement and thanking him for his long career of public service to the people of Southern California.●

RECOGNIZING RUSTIC ROOTS ON SECOND

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I will recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize a woman-owned small business, Rustic Roots on Second of Pikeville, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Located in downtown Pikeville, Rustic Roots on Second opened its doors in 2015. After graduating from the University of Kentucky, founder and owner, Maura Minix, wanted to provide a place for Kentucky artisans to showcase and sell their work. Maura, who grew up in Prestonsburg, KY, saw an opportunity to set up a shop in neighboring Pikeville. She established Rustic Roots on Second, providing a retail outlet for Kentuckian and Appalachian artisans.

Today, Rustic Roots on Second continues supporting and promoting small businesses and artisans in eastern Kentucky. Over 30 local vendors sell their

goods at the store, ranging from food and textile goods to artwork and furniture made from used bourbon barrels. Maura's mother, Brenda Minix, is a key part of the operation, working as store manager and serving as the "face" of the business around town. Customers are regularly greeted by name and treated according to the golden rule. Rustic Roots on Second also serves as an event venue, renting out its shop for celebrations, fundraisers, and business events. The store works with local artisans to host classes and workshops, rotating offerings to meet community interest. From painting to dulcimer playing, teaching and celebrating the arts is a priority.

Notably, Rustic Roots on Second is a leader in downtown Pikeville's business community. They regularly participate in local and regional events, including the Appalachian Vintage Street Market, Wine-Tasting & Retailgating, and Pikeville's famous Hillbilly Days festival. Rustic Roots on Second is a member of the Southeast Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and is involved with Shaping Our Appalachian Region—SOAR—Kentucky, which fosters entrepreneurship and innovation in the region. They are committed to revitalizing and promoting downtown Pikeville through their support of the Pikeville Main Street Program, Inc.

Like many small businesses, Rustic Roots on Second actively supports charitable and civic organizations. For several years, Maura and Brenda have teamed up with local businesses to host picnics and decorate their storefronts to thank police officers, firefighters, and first responders for their service. They regularly support fundraisers for clubs, churches, and sports teams and have sponsored silent auctions to benefit local schools. Rustic Roots on Second's advocacy and community leadership has been recognized in local and regional publications.

When the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, Pikeville rallied together to support Rustic Roots on Second. As a nonessential business, Rustic Roots on Second was impacted by the lockdowns. Maura and Brenda adapted, overhauling and expanding their online store to continue serving customers nationwide. As Kentucky reopened, Maura and Brenda worked with local small businesses to ensure downtown Pikeville reopened safely, welcoming locals and visitors alike to their vibrant community.

Rustic Roots on Second is an outstanding example of the critical role small businesses play in uplifting and advocating for their communities. Congratulations to Maura, Brenda, and the entire team at Rustic Roots on Second. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

TRIBUTE TO JASON SUSLAVICH

• Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I would like recognize an important

member of my staff, my former director of national security policy, Jason Suslavich. I, along with the rest of my team was saddened to have Jason leave our office this February.

While born in Winchester, MA, Jason was quick to embrace the Alaskan spirit. Up north, Jason traded his beach walks for hikes and his golf clubs for a fishing rod. Like a true Alaskan, he loved his wild Alaska seafood and overall good cooking and could talk for hours about his favorite dishes at his favorite restaurants throughout the State. One of his favorites was the osso bucco at Orso—and could speak tirelessly about it. And did.

In high school, Jason was the all-State wrestling champion and was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. His dedication and tenacity expanded beyond the wrestling mat into his academics. At John Hopkins University, Jason majored in international studies, which he has applied throughout his career.

Jason's work in Alaska politics began over a decade ago in Congressman Don Young's office. As the Congressman's legislative assistant, Jason laid the foundation for his career in the Senate, building productive coalitions and facilitating bipartisan collaboration.

One year into my first term, Jason joined our office. At this time, I was still learning the ropes in the Senate. His work ethic, experience, and dependability made my life a lot easier and made him an irreplaceable asset to my team.

Jason was good-natured, a team player, and a legendary prankster. From day-to-day tricks to years-long plots, Jason was committed to the craft of mischief—just ask his nemesis, Mike Anderson.

Jason's contributions to our office—and to the State of Alaska, particularly building on our three pillars of military might—were enormous. His leadership lives on with Team Sullivan. He is greatly missed.

If this past year has taught us anything, it is the importance of trusting our intuition. After 13 years working for Alaska's delegation, Jason has decided to chart a new journey—working in the aerospace sector. He has loved space since he was a child. In this next chapter, Jason can dedicate time to his great passions: space exploration, the strength of our Nation, the Boston Red Sox, and most importantly, his beautiful and brilliant wife Sarah.

Jason may not be working in my office, but he will always have a home in the Last Frontier. His dedication to the State has forever solidified him as a welcome friend and honorary Alaskan.

Please join me in wishing Jason much success and happiness in the future.●

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I rise today in appreciation of a lifelong Rhode Islander and a healthcare trailblazer, Dr. Al Puerini. We wish him well in the next chapter of life.

Al Puerini was born, raised, and trained in Rhode Island. After graduating from his beloved Providence College and training in family medicine at Brown University, Al began his practice in Cranston, RI, in the early eighties. He excelled in his work. He soon began teaching family medicine at Brown's Warren Alpert School of Medicine and was elected a fellow at the American Academy of Family Physicians.

But his revolutionary work began in the mid-1990s, when Al helped to found and then lead the Rhode Island Primary Care Physicians Corporation as it embarked on an important mission: to reimagine the way we deliver healthcare. Al and his RIPCPC colleagues combined the talents of over 150 primary care physicians and over 200 specialists and negotiated new contracts with local health insurers. Instead of following the fee-for-service treadmill that encourages doctors to shuffle as many people through their offices as possible, these new contracts rewarded providers for the health of their patients. They also aimed to increase collaboration and communication among specialists, providers, and hospitals to improve health outcomes.

As these contracts proved effective, Al and his board decided to think bigger. In 2014, they joined with Care New England to help form Integra Community Care Network, the largest accountable care organization, ACO, in Rhode Island. The Affordable Care Act's accountable care organizations take the principle Al had pursued for years—paying providers based on the health of their patients—and put it to use in the Medicare Program. At Integra, primary care providers, hospitals, specialists, extended care providers, and others all work together to achieve more coordinated, accountable care. As someone who fought for ACOs in the ACA, I was thrilled to see Rhode Islanders step up to that challenge.

Integra now serves more than 1 in 10 patients in Rhode Island. It has been a national success. Beyond Medicare patients, it works with major private insurers and Medicaid. It has earned a 95-percent quality rating from the Federal Government and saved over \$20 million in healthcare costs since 2015. Integra now stands a model for ACOs across the country.

Even as he built a new national model of care, Al never stopped serving his patients, his community, and his beloved alma mater, Providence College. He maintained his Cranston private practice for over three decades. He was recognized as Rhode Island's "Top Doc" twice over that span. He was named a Rhode Island Academy of Family Physicians Physician of the Year in 2017. And he sustained a passion for sports medicine, which he cultivated as the Friars' head team physician from 1988 on. He even earned a spot in the Providence College Hall of Fame 2 years ago.

Dr. Puerini, congratulations on your well-deserved retirement. You have

shown us how to change the way health care is delivered and proven to the Nation that the triple aim of better care, lower costs, and happier and healthier patients is achievable. Thank you for everything you did to improve the care of Rhode Islanders and for the care you personally provided to so patients through the years. You made a tremendous difference.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:22 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 409. An act to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1340. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to redefine the eastern and middle judicial districts of North Carolina.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 482. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes.

H.R. 704. An act to amend section 708 of title 17, United States Code, to permit the Register of Copyrights to waive fees for filing an application for registration of a copyright claim in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

H.R. 961. An act to exempt juveniles from the requirements for suits by prisoners, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1314. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2062. An act to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal employment discrimination and retaliation claims, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2571. An act to include Portugal in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 and E-2 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Portugal and to otherwise modify the eligibility criteria for E visas.

H.R. 2679. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

H.R. 2694. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for transportation and subsistence for criminal justice defendants, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2922. An act to amend the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to authorize the Elder Justice Initiative, to require that online resources of such initiative are made available in Spanish, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3182. An act to provide that inclined sleepers for infants and crib bumpers shall be considered banned hazardous products under section 8 of the Consumer Product Safety Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3239. An act to make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code.

H.R. 3241. An act to make improvements in the enactment of title 54, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code.

H.R. 3723. An act to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and digital tokens, respectively.

H.R. 3752. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products and to direct the Secretary of Commerce to study and report on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States.

H.R. 3841. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 482. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 961. An act to exempt juveniles from the requirements for suits by prisoners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1314. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2062. An act to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal employment discrimination and retaliation claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2571. An act to include Portugal in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E-1 and E-2 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Portugal and to otherwise modify the eligibility criteria for E visas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2679. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2694. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for transportation and subsistence for criminal justice defendants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2922. An act to amend the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act to authorize the Elder Justice Initiative, to require that online resources of such initiative are made available in Spanish, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3182. An act to provide that inclined sleepers for infants and crib bumpers shall be considered banned hazardous products under section 8 of the Consumer Product Safety Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3239. An act to make improvements in the enactment of title 41, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3241. An act to make improvements in the enactment of title 54, United States Code, into a positive law title and to improve the Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3723. An act to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and digital tokens, respectively; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3752. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products and to direct the Secretary of Commerce to study and report on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3841. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 704. An act to amend section 708 of title 17, United States Code, to permit the Register of Copyrights to waive fees for filing an application for registration of a copyright claim in certain circumstances, 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-1273. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Appropriations, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to Congress from the Chairman of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Policies; to

the Committees on Appropriations; and Foreign Relations.

EC-1274. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, four (4) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of State, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 21, 2021; to the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; and Foreign Relations.

EC-1275. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of State (Intelligence and Research), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 21, 2021; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-22. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Missouri applying to the United States Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and members of Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, the Founders of our Constitution empowered state legislators to be guardians of liberty against future abuses of power by the federal government; and

Whereas, the federal government has created a crushing national debt through improper and imprudent spending; and

Whereas, the federal government has invaded the legitimate roles of the states through the manipulative process of federal mandates, most of which are unfunded to a great extent; and

Whereas, the federal government has ceased to live under a proper interpretation of the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, it is the solemn duty of the states to protect the liberty of our people—particularly for the generations to come—to propose amendments to the United States Constitution through a convention of states under Article V to place clear restraints on these and related abuses of power; and

Whereas, the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly of Missouri, First Regular Session, adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, which contained an application for an Article V Convention to propose constitutional amendments identical to those proposed in this resolution, but provided that the application would expire five years after the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby apply to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the United States Constitution that impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and members of Congress; and be it further

Resolved that the General Assembly adopts this application with the following understandings (as the term "understandings" is used within the context of "reservations, understandings, and declarations"):

(1) An application to Congress for an Article V convention confers no power on Congress other than to perform a ministerial function to "call" for a convention;

(2) This ministerial duty shall be performed by Congress only when Article V applications for substantially the same purpose are received from two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states;

(3) The power of Congress to "call" a convention solely consists of the authority to name a reasonable time and place for the initial meeting of the convention;

(4) Congress possesses no power whatsoever to name delegates to the convention, as this power remains exclusively within the authority of the legislatures of the several states;

(5) Congress possesses no power to set the number of delegates to be sent by any states;

(6) Congress possesses no power whatsoever to determine any rules for such convention;

(7) By definition, a Convention of States means that states vote on the basis of one state, one vote;

(8) A Convention of States convened pursuant to this application is limited to consideration of topics specified herein and no other;

(9) The General Assembly of Missouri may recall its delegates at any time for breach of their duties or violations of their instructions pursuant to the procedures adopted in this resolution;

(10) Pursuant to the text of Article V, Congress may determine whether proposed amendments shall be ratified by the legislatures of the several states or by special state ratification conventions. The General Assembly of Missouri recommends that Congress specify its choice on ratification methodology contemporaneously with the call for the convention;

(11) Congress possesses no power whatsoever with regard to the Article V convention beyond the two powers acknowledged herein;

(12) Missouri places express reliance on prior legal and judicial determinations that Congress possesses no power under Article I relative to the Article V process, and that Congress must act only as expressly specified in Article V; and be it further

Resolved That this application hereby repeals, rescinds, cancels, renders null and void, and supercedes the application to the Congress of the United States for a convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States by this state in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 as adopted by the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session; and be it further

Resolved That the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation, and the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states requesting their cooperation.

POM-23. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Missouri urging the United States Congress to resist any attempt to increase the number of Justices on the United States Supreme Court; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Whereas, an independent United States Supreme Court is an essential element of America's system of checks and balances that protects our constitutional rights; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has been composed of nine Justices for more than 150 years; and

Whereas, the President of the United States and Congress should be prohibited from undermining the independence of the Supreme Court by changing the number of Justices on the Supreme Court: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Missouri Senate, One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge the United States Congress to resist any attempt to increase the number of Justices on the United States Supreme Court; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the members of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federal Republic of Somalia.

Nominee: Larry E. André Jr.

Post: Mogadishu.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, Amount:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: Ouroukou Younoussi André, None.
3. Child: Isidore Dieudonné André, None.

Elizabeth Moore Aubin, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Nominee: Elizabeth M. Aubin.

Post: Algiers, Algeria.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: None.
3. Children and Spouses: None.
4. Parents: None.
5. Grandparents: None.
6. Brothers and Spouses: None.
7. Sisters and Spouses: None.

Maria E. Brewer, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Nominee: Maria E. Brewer.

Post: Ambassador, Lesotho.

The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I

have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: None.
3. Children and Spouses Names: Arina N. Brewer: None.
4. Parents Names: William C. and Maria E. Pallick: None.
5. Grandparents Names: Gregorio and Domitila Lerma: Deceased; John and Mary Pallick: Deceased.
6. Brothers and Spouses Names: William C. and Margaret Pallick: None.
7. Sisters and Spouses Names: N/A.

Christopher John Lamora, of Rhode Island, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cameroon.

Nominee: Christopher John Lamora.

Post: Cameroon.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

(Self) Christopher J. Lamora: None.

(Spouse) Eric R. Anderson: None.

Tulinabo S. Mushingi, of Virginia, 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 Republic of Angola, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

Nominee: Tulinabo Mushingi Post: Angola and Sao Tome & Principe.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: Rebecca Mushingi: None.
3. Children and Spouses: Furaha Mushingi: None.
4. Parents: Bahiga & Namazi Mushingi—deceased.
5. Grandparents: Bahiga & Mwandafunga—deceased.
6. Brothers and Spouses: None. None ever visited/lived in the USA.
7. Sisters and Spouses: None. None ever visited/lived in the USA.

Eugene S. Young, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of the Congo.

Nominee: Eugene S. Young.

Post: Republic of Congo (Brazzaville).

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: Jessica Zoe Wilson: None.

Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassador, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs).

Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs).

Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (East Asian and Pacific Affairs).

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Susannah Holmes and ending with Aaron Rodgers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 27, 2021.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Margaret Irene Strickland, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Ur Mendoza Jaddou, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2203. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the provision of virtual diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2204. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to clarify the mailing requirement relating to social security account statements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2205. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 201 South Evans Street in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Malcolm J. Howard United States Courthouse", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2206. A bill to create Federal child savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 2207. A bill to temporarily increase the availability of temporary nonimmigrant nonagricultural workers for the purposes of restoring American forests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. TOOMEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2208. A bill to require the United States International Trade Commission to investigate tariff policies relating to foreign-trade zones; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2209. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the regulation of in vitro clinical tests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. KING):

S. 2210. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to expand access to home and community-based services (HCBS) under Medicaid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 2211. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of rule 10b5-1 trading plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 2212. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments or electric cooperatives for interest expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 2213. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to give priority consideration to selecting Pensacola and Perdido Bays as an estuary of national significance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 2214. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2215. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2216. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to develop a plan for the relocation and admission to the United States of certain citizens of Afghanistan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2217. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 2218. A bill to expand the trade adjustment assistance for workers program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2219. A bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to repeal the forfeiture rule for peanuts under the nonrecourse marketing assistance loan program, prohibit the use of Federal funds for certain activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2220. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify the obligations of licensees under section 331 of that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 2221. A bill to restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 2222. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to lower the standard for removing employees who disclose tax return information without authorization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 2223. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve assistance to community wood facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2224. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 2225. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to revise job classification and qualification standards for positions in the competitive service regarding educational requirements for those positions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2226. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize a special behavioral health program for Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2227. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to enter into contracts with industry intermediaries for purposes of promoting the development of and access to apprenticeships in the technology sector, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 2228. A bill to amend section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 to correct shortcomings in how that section addresses content moderation, content creation and development, and content distribution; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 2229. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a highway formula modernization study, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 2230. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the carbon oxide sequestration credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 2231. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2232. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to fund projects to restore and modernize National Laboratories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2233. A bill to establish a grant program for shuttered minor league baseball clubs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2234. A bill to make housing affordable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2235. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require physicians and other prescribers of controlled substances to complete training on treating and managing patients with opioid and other substance use disorders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2236. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2237. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish and carry out two grant programs to make grants to eligible institutions to plan and implement programs

that provide comprehensive support services and resources designed to increase graduation rates and transfer rates to 4-year institutions at community colleges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2238. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention and Services program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 2239. A bill to consolidate or repeal unnecessary agency major rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 2240. A bill to establish a national and community service pay for results program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2241. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to require States to consider measures to promote greater electrification of the transportation sector, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2242. A bill to prohibit commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 2243. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve the Rural Energy for America Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2244. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for teacher and school leader quality enhancement and to enhance institutional aid; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2245. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2246. A bill to provide grants to support the hiring of law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2247. A bill to protect Federal judges, Federal prosecutors, and Federal law en-

forcement officers from violence and doxing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2248. A bill to increase the penalties for making personal information about a Federal law enforcement officer or other Federal officer available to the public; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2249. A bill to increase the penalties for damage to Federal courthouses and unauthorized access to areas where Federal judges work, reside, or visit; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2250. A bill to extend concealed carry rights to Federal judges and prosecutors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2251. A bill to expand support for law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2252. A bill to increase the penalties for ambushing a law enforcement officer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2253. A bill to establish a separate criminal offense for targeting an individual based on their status as law enforcement officer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2254. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain streams in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and Smith River system in the State of Montana as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2255. A bill to extend the trade adjustment assistance program for one month; considered and passed.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 2256. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ROSEN:

S. 2257. A bill to provide Federal support for nonprofit generic and essential medicine and device manufacturers to increase the availability of drugs and devices in order to reduce drug or device shortages and drug and device costs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2258. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a Parks, Jobs, and Equity Program to support job creation, economic revitalization and park development for communities impacted by COVID-19; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2259. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to establish a Climate Change Resilience Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 2260. A bill to increase the maximum penalties for assaulting Federal officers by 50 percent; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2261. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow certain alien veterans to be paroled into the United States to receive health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2262. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an income tax credit for the sale or blending of certain fuels containing ethanol; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2263. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for sustainable aviation fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. TESTER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 2264. A bill to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2265. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a veterans visa program to permit veterans who have been removed from the United States to return as immigrants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2266. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2267. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the production of flexible fuel vehicles, and to amend title 49, United States Code, to restore certain flexible fuel vehicle credits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2268. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to identify each alien who is serving, or has served, in the Armed Forces of the United States on the application of any such alien for an immigration benefit or the placement of any such alien in an immigration enforcement proceeding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2269. A bill to secure the bulk-power system in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2270. A bill to prohibit Federal funding to entities that do not certify the entities will not perform, or provide any funding to any other entity that performs, an abortion; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 2271. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to provide grants for eligible entities for activities designed to expand the sales and use of biofuels derived from agricultural feedstocks produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs.

FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2272. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to increase funding for lead reduction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 2273. A bill to authorize Inspectors General to continue operations during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2274. A bill to authorize the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish an apprenticeship program and to establish a pilot program on cybersecurity training for veterans and members of the Armed Forces transitioning to civilian life, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2275. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives, by investing in effective community-based violence reduction initiatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2276. A bill to support empowerment, economic security, and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2277. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 2278. A bill to improve agency rule-making, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. JOHNSON, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 2279. A bill to affirm the authority of the President to require independent regulatory agencies to comply with regulatory analysis requirements applicable to executive agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2280. A bill to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 2281. A bill to require all Federal contractors and grantees to enroll in, and maintain compliance with, the E-Verify Program; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 2282. A bill to establish in the Executive Office of the President a Council on Military, National, and Public Service to promote and expand opportunities for military service, national service, and public service for all people of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2283. A bill to improve the Veterans Crisis Line of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2284. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Appalachian development highway system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2285. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain the Urban Water Federal Partnership Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2286. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to use designated funding to pay for construction of authorized rural water projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KAINÉ, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2287. A bill to improve Federal population surveys by requiring the collection of voluntary, self-disclosed information on sexual orientation and gender identity in certain surveys, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2288. A bill to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide pay equity for amateur athletes and other personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2289. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for direct-pay credit bonds in the case of certain bonds the proceeds of which are used for the replacement of lead drinking water service lines; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2290. A bill to provide for requirements for data brokers with respect to the acquisition, use, and protection of brokered personal information and to require that data brokers annually register with the Federal Trade Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2291. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for production of electricity using nuclear power; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2292. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to study the potential consequences and benefits of amending the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act to allow private companies to take proportional actions

in response to an unlawful network breach; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2293. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 2294. A bill to require an independent assessment with respect to the Arctic region and establishment of Arctic Security Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2295. A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2296. A bill to establish the Northern Neck National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2297. A bill to improve global health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2298. A bill to amend section 1977 of the Revised Statutes to protect equal rights under law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2299. A bill to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 2300. A bill to direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant program to help revitalize certain localities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 2301. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide capacity-building assistance to institutions of higher education to examine and address inequities in college student access and success, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO:

S. 2302. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to assign certain

functions to the Assistant Secretaries of Energy relating to energy emergencies and energy security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SASSE:

S. 2303. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lai Chee ying ("Jimmy Lai"), Law Wai kwong ("Ryan Law"), Cheung Kim hung, Chow Tat kuen ("Royston Chow"), Chan Pui man, Cheung Chi wai, Yeung Ching kee ("Li Ping"), and all the men and women who worked for Apple Daily in recognition of their commitment to freedom and democracy in Hong Kong in the face of the tyranny of the Chinese Communist Party; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KING):

S. 2304. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require that direct-to-consumer advertisements for prescription drugs and biological products include an appropriate disclosure of pricing information; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 2305. A bill to enhance cybersecurity education; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2306. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to support upgrades at existing hydroelectric dams and the removal of obsolete river obstructions to improve the health of the Nation's rivers and associated wildlife habitat and increase clean energy production, public safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 284. A resolution recognizing the 125th Anniversary of the Indiana Veterans' Home; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 285. A resolution honoring the lives and legacies of the "Radium Girls"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 286. A resolution urging the Biden Administration to work with Congress to ensure that the United States military has sufficient resources; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 287. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States must continue to demonstrate leadership to achieve significant reforms to the rules of the World Trade Organization in order to promote the advancement of truly developing countries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. Res. 288. A resolution commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Souris River flood in Minot, North Dakota; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLO-

BUCHAR, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 289. A resolution designating June 2021 as "National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month" and June 27, 2021, as "National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 290. A resolution encouraging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to review and update its guidance relating to mask wearing in confined places; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. Res. 291. A resolution congratulating the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team on winning the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. Res. 292. A resolution designating July 9, 2021, as "Collector Car Appreciation Day" and recognizing that the collection and restoration of historic and classic cars is an important part of preserving the technological achievements and cultural heritage of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Res. 293. A resolution designating June 26, 2021, as the "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 294. A resolution recognizing the month of June as "Immigrant Heritage Month", a celebration of the accomplishments and contributions immigrants and their children have made in making the United States a healthier, safer, more diverse, prosperous country, and acknowledging the importance of immigrants and their children to the future successes of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. Res. 295. A resolution designating June 15, 2021, as "World Elder Abuse Awareness Day" and the month of June as "Elder Abuse Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. Res. 296. A resolution remembering, as the world acknowledges the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Community Party, the countless lives the Chinese Communist Party has destroyed and the people currently living in fear of its tyrannical ambitions; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. SMITH, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Con. Res. 10. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities

of the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 204

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 204, a bill to establish the Office of Press Freedom, to create press freedom curriculum at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center, and for other purposes.

S. 335

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 335, a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Act of 1998.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 522, a bill to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to require Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to report information related to allegations of misconduct of law enforcement officers to the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 561

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 561, a bill to increase the rates of pay under the statutory pay systems and for prevailing rate employees by 3.2 percent, and for other purposes.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation-exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 610

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 610, a bill to address behavioral health and well-being among health care professionals.

S. 673

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 673, a bill to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collec-

tively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed.

S. 747

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 916, a bill to provide adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure, and for other purposes.

S. 927

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 927, a bill to improve the provision of health care and other benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans who were exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to provide for the adjustment or modification by the Secretary of Agriculture of loans for critical rural utility service providers, and for other purposes.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1061, *supra*.

S. 1073

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1073, a bill to rescind each Medal of Honor awarded for acts at Wounded Knee Creek on December 29, 1890, and for other purposes.

S. 1136

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1136, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1142

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California

(Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1142, a bill to require a determination as to whether crimes committed against the Rohingya in Burma amount to genocide.

S. 1295

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1295, a bill to save and strengthen critical social contract programs of the Federal Government.

S. 1398

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1398, a bill to establish universal child care and early learning programs.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1404, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a "Ghost Army" that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1588

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1588, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, or possession, of any live animal of any prohibited primate species.

S. 1613

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1613, a bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a grant program for certain fitness facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1777

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1777, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to codify the Trump administration rule on reporting requirements of exempt organizations, and for other purposes.

S. 1859

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require the Secretary concerned to pay a member in the reserve component of an Armed Force a special bonus or incentive pay in the same amount as a member in the regular component of that Armed Force.

S. 1872

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1872, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1894

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1894, a bill to designate Regional Ocean Partnerships of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1904

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1904, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for Palestinian terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 1909

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1909, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reform requirements with respect to direct and indirect remuneration under Medicare part D, and for other purposes.

S. 1921

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1921, a bill to establish the National Institutes of Clean Energy.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1945, a bill to provide for the long-term improvement of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and for other purposes.

S. 1978

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1978, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for the 2026 World Cup unless the United States Soccer Federation provides equitable pay to the members of the United States Women's National Team and the United States Men's National Team.

S. 2000

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2000, a bill to promote the United States-Greece defense partnership, and for other purposes.

S. 2032

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE), the Senator from

South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2032, a bill to extend and modify the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program, to postpone the medical exam for aliens who are otherwise eligible for such program, to provide special immigrant status for certain surviving spouses and children, and for other purposes.

S. 2048

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2048, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 2068

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2068, a bill to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce to promote and administer programs in the public and private sectors to assist the development of minority business enterprises, to ensure that such Agency has the necessary supporting resources, particularly during economic downturns, and for other purposes.

S. 2084

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2084, a bill to terminate the order requiring persons to wear masks while on conveyances and at transportation hubs.

S. 2109

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2109, a bill to prohibit allocations of Special Drawing Rights at the International Monetary Fund for perpetrators of genocide and state sponsors of terrorism without congressional authorization.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program relating to the removal of firearms from adjudicated domestic violence offenders, and for other purposes.

S. 2177

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2177, a bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to ensure sufficient bonding and complete and timely reclamation of land and water disturbed by Federal and Indian oil and gas production, and for other purposes.

S. 2193

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2193, a bill to ensure that an employment relationship is not established between a franchisor and a franchisee if the franchisor engages in certain activities, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, a resolution establishing a McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program in the Senate.

S. RES. 275

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 275, a resolution acknowledging and apologizing for the mistreatment of, and discrimination against, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals who served the United States in the Armed Forces, the Foreign Service, and the Federal civil service.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2204. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to clarify the mailing requirement relating to social security account statements; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Madame President, Senator CASSIDY and I are reintroducing a simple bill that can have a big impact: the Know Your Social Security Act. The bill clarifies the law about Congressional intent so that every worker over 25 receives a paper Social Security statement in the mail each year, unless the worker has accessed their statement online or declined to receive the statement in the mail.

The story is well known in Social Security circles, but it bears repeating: the origin story of the Social Security statement all started with the "powerful" Committee on Finance. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan spelled out the reasoning: "All of us pay into Social Security but rarely, until we become beneficiaries, do we ever hear from Social Security . . . in every paycheck, we see money withheld for Social Security, but we hear nary a word from the Social Security Administration. Let us take this simple step [sending statements] to reassure Americans that Social Security will be there for them."

After enactment and once fully phased in, every worker aged 25 and

older received an annual statement from Social Security starting in the year 2000. After a few years, Social Security's website allowed workers to access their statement online. At the time, that was a nice feature—and did not impact the mailing of statements. Later—to fund more pressing needs—SSA viewed the online option as “providing” the worker with a statement and fulfilling the requirements of the law. SSA stopped mailing the statements in 2011 to everyone over 25. Currently, only individuals over the age of 60 who are not receiving benefits receive statements automatically through the mail.

Paper statements delivered through the mail are desirable because no action is necessary by the worker and the statement is a yearly reminder to the worker to think about the future. Research has shown that workers provided with statements are significantly more likely to save, more certain about their retirement income, and have higher satisfaction with their finances relative to those who are not provided with any type of financial planning materials. Providing Social Security statement through the mail is a simple policy that could help many workers, hopefully leading to better decisions about their financial future.

Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee Chairman JOHN LARSON and Ways and Means Committee Member VERN BUCHANAN are reintroducing the companion bill in the House of Representatives. The bill is endorsed by AARP, Alliance for Retired Americans, Envelope Manufacturers Association (EMA), Justice in Aging, NAACP, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Social Security Works, Strengthen Social Security Coalition, The Arc of the United States, and The Senior Citizens League. I hope our colleagues in the Senate will join us and cosponsor the Know Your Social Security Act. Together, we can work towards better retirement outcomes for all workers.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 2207. A bill to temporarily increase the availability of temporary non-immigrant nonagricultural workers for the purposes of restoring American forests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2207

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

SECTION 1. EXEMPTION FROM H-2B NUMERICAL LIMITATION FOR CERTAIN FORESTRY CONSERVATION WORKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(12)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to principal aliens described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) who are employed or have received an offer of employment for the work of—

- “(i) orchard work and seed collection;
 - “(ii) tree planting;
 - “(iii) nursery care;
 - “(iv) forest management;
 - “(v) harvesting pine straw or other minor forest products;
 - “(vi) timber stand improvement;
 - “(vii) herbicide application;
 - “(viii) fire prevention and fire management activities;
 - “(ix) brush clearing and vegetation management;
 - “(x) maintenance of right of ways;
 - “(xi) habitat protection and restoration;
 - “(xii) watershed protection and restoration;
 - “(xiii) land reclamation; or
 - “(xiv) other activities with a direct forest health or conservation nexus.
- “(B) The exemptions described in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to landscaping or groundskeeping.”.

(b) SUNSET.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall remain in effect until the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 2223. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve assistance to community wood facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Ms. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Community Wood Facilities Assistance Act of 2021. My colleagues Senators COLLINS, SHAHEEN, and KELLY are joining me as original cosponsors of the bill.

This bill will assist with the construction of facilities for mass timber, tall wood, and other innovative wood products, in order to make sustainable use of small-diameter timber from forest thinnings and other needed treatments in Eastern and Western forests.

The bill will also help to create jobs in disadvantaged rural and forest-dependent communities, and will help to reduce wildfire risk by removing dangerous fuels that can build up.

The Forest Service reports that 80 million acres of Forest Service lands alone are at risk of catastrophic wildfire or abnormal levels of insect and disease infestations.

While Federal land management agencies are working to increase the pace and scale of restoration activities, clearly we need to do more. In California we are facing a severe drought, and even before the onset of this most recent drought there were 150 million dead or dying trees due to insect damage. We are truly facing a monumental challenge.

A recent comprehensive analysis by The Nature Conservancy and Bain and Company management consultants found that creating a restoration economy can play an important role in expanding the pace and scale of ecologically based forest restoration. The

report recommended funding and incentives to “bridge the gap between the cost of ecological thinning and the economic viability of wood-processing infrastructure.”

As the report explains, “If more aggressive restoration targets can be met, there will be significant need for additional processing capacity to defray restoration costs and provide valuable end uses for thinned material.”

Our bill responds to the challenge of developing funding measures to improve the economic viability of wood-processing infrastructure to reduce the cost of forest restoration and provide valuable uses for the small diameter material.

Fortunately, we do not need to create a whole new program to improve the economic viability of wood-processing infrastructure. The Forest Service has two existing grant programs that can help: the Community Wood Energy and Wood Innovations Grant Program and the Wood Innovations Program.

These programs would benefit from amendments to increase their utility for improving the viability of wood-processing infrastructure. In particular, the program could benefit from higher Federal cost-shares and an increased ability to provide more funding for each project, in addition to a higher authorization of funding overall.

More specifically, our bill will revise the Forest Service's Community Wood Energy and Wood Innovations Grant Program, which provides assistance to the capital cost of small wood products facilities. Specifically, our bill would:

Increase the authorization from \$25 million to \$50 million per year;

Increase the maximum grant per facility from \$1 to \$5 million;

Increase the Federal cost-share from 35% to 50%; and

Increase the maximum size for community wood energy systems eligible for grant funding from 5 to 15 megawatts, among other provisions.

Our bill will also revise the Forest Service's Wood Innovations Grant Program, which provides grants for proposed innovative uses and applications and the expansion of markets for wood products. Our bill would reduce the minimum non-Federal cost-share from 50% to 33.3% and makes other technical changes identified by the Forest Service.

I thank the Senators who have joined me in cosponsoring this bill, and I urge the full Senate to promptly take up this bill and pass it as soon as possible.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2244. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for teacher and school leader quality enhancement and to enhance institutional aid; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, as career opportunities and the requisite skills

for success adapt to the demands of the 21st century, so too must the instruction and preparation educators receive. Educators are tasked with designing educational experiences that rise to the rigorous State academic standards and reflect the needs and interests of our Nation's diverse student population. This past school year with the pandemic was even more demanding on our Nation's educators as they were faced with new teaching challenges and adapting to virtual or hybrid learning environments. Prior to the pandemic, school districts were faced with widespread teacher shortages, with nearly every State reporting shortages of teachers in high-need subjects like math, science, and special education. Data from the U.S. Department of Education shows COVID-19 has only exacerbated those needs with 43 States reporting shortages in math teachers, 42 in science teachers, and 44 in special education for the 2020-21 school year.

We must find ways to strengthen the educator talent pipeline to ensure our students have access to high-quality educators and school leaders. We also must address the fact that schools in high-need communities are often staffed by a revolving door of underprepared and inexperienced teachers who unable to meet students' needs. According to the U.S. Department of Education's Civil Rights Data Collection, in 2016, schools with high enrollments of students of color were four times as likely to hire uncertified teachers as were schools with low enrollments of students of color. This in part due to State teacher shortages.

This is why I am pleased to introduce today with my colleague, Senator COLLINS, the Preparing and Retaining Education Professionals Act, or PREP Act. As schools across our Nation continue to face growing class sizes, many are struggling with a shortage of qualified teachers. Rural communities in particular are experiencing a dearth of teachers equipped to meet their growing needs. The PREP Act aims to create high-quality teacher residency programs to develop a diverse workforce that is well prepared to provide the educational opportunities students need to be successful in the 21st century.

More specifically, this legislation would expand the definition of "high need" districts under the Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA, to include those experiencing teacher shortages in rural communities and in areas such as special education, English language, science, technology, engineering, math, and CTE, to allow for access to additional support and improvement. It would also encourage school districts to establish partnerships with local community colleges and universities to ensure their education programs are developing future teachers in content areas where there is currently a shortage of educators. It would increase access to teacher and school leader residency programs and preparation train-

ing while requiring States to identify areas of teacher or leader shortages by subject across public schools and use that data to target their efforts. Additionally, the PREP Act bolsters support for teacher preparation programs at minority serving institutions, MSIs, or historically Black colleges and universities, HBCUs, to invest in a diverse and well-prepared educator workforce.

Improving our Nation's educational system is contingent on our ability to prepare, support, and retain quality educators. Research shows that better prepared teachers stay longer in the profession and are more likely to remain in their roles and positively impact young people and their communities. As we continue to focus on recovering from the pandemic, I hope that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle see the PREP Act as a common-sense opportunity to help ensure that students in every ZIP Code across the country have the well-prepared teachers and school leaders they deserve.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2255. A bill to extend the trade adjustment assistance program for one month; considered and passed.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, one week from today, on July 1st, Trade Adjustment Assistance will expire.

This is our only tool to support workers who lose their jobs because of countries like China that cheat the rules. And in one week, it goes away. This is an economic problem and a China problem.

All of us, of both parties, recognize the threat that countries like China pose to our economy. It's why just two weeks ago, we came together and passed the Endless Frontiers Act on a broad, bipartisan basis: To secure and expand our domestic supply chains, to support R&D to ensure the next generation of manufacturing is developed in America and made in America, and to finally—finally—ensure that Americans' tax dollars are used to buy American products that support American jobs.

This should not be controversial.

We are working to undo decades of bad trade policy with China, and decades of neglect for our domestic supply chains. That's going to take years. We know corporations won't stop outsourcing jobs on July 1st. We know China isn't going to stop cheating and undermining American industries on July 1st. And we know our manufacturers will still have to compete against governments that prop up their competitors on July 1st.

We owe it to workers, who we know are going to have their lives upended through no fault of their own to unfair trade, to do everything we can to ease the transition. Today, I'm not asking for a complete renewal of the program. I'm not even asking for an extra year of the program.

I, on behalf of my Democratic colleagues and American workers, asked for unanimous consent from this body

for a straight 3-month extension of TAA, so that we can keep having the conversations about how best to structure the program going forward. It appears that my friends on the other side would prefer a 1-month extension. I would like more, but in the spirit of compromise—this beats the alternative—letting TAA expire and leaving workers in the lurch.

And while that dialogue continues, workers get the help they need.

We know workers are losing jobs to China all over the country. Sadly, that happens every week, every day.

By extending this program, service workers and people whose jobs get shipped overseas to countries without trade agreements will get help.

Training funds, will continue being provided, at a time when we need to train people for the new jobs that we want industry to create. We all want the US economy to be more resilient in the face of economic shocks. We all want to see fewer communities devastated by unfair trade. We all want American workers' hard work to pay off TAA is part of that.

We came together to extend it in 2011. We came together to extend it in 2015. We must do the same today.

If you love this country you fight for the people who make it work. That's what we do with Trade Adjustment Assistance.

S. 2255

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION OF TERMINATION PROVISIONS.—Section 285 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2271 note) is amended by striking "June 30, 2021" each place it appears and inserting "July 23, 2021".

(b) REEMPLOYMENT TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE.—Section 246(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2318(b)(1)) is amended by striking "June 30, 2021" and inserting "July 23, 2021".

(c) TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS.—Section 245(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2317(a)) is amended by striking "June 30, 2021" and inserting "July 23, 2021".

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) June 30, 2021.

(e) APPLICATION OF PRIOR LAW.—Section 406 of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (title IV of Public Law 114-27; 129 Stat. 379; 19 U.S.C. 2271 note prec.) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "July 1, 2021" and inserting "July 24, 2021"; and

(B) in paragraphs (5) and (6), by striking "the 1-year period beginning on July 1, 2021" and inserting "the period beginning on July 24, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2022"; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "July 1, 2021" each place it appears and inserting "July 24, 2021".

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself,
Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DURBIN, Mr.

BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2272. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to increase funding for lead reduction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the “Lead-Free Drinking Water for All Act.” This legislation would authorize \$45 billion to replace every lead pipe and service line in America over the next 10 years, ensuring clean water for all.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and plumbing fixtures. Nationwide, there are 6 to 10 million lead service lines serving up to 22 million Americans, affecting Americans living in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. The only way to guarantee lead-free drinking water is to remove and replace every lead pipe and service line in America—and that’s precisely what this legislation calls for.

The Lead-Free Drinking Water for All Act would reauthorize EPA’s lead reduction projects grant program and increase the authorization to \$4.5 billion per year for 10 years. It would prioritize disadvantaged communities and set a ten-year deadline for projects to complete the lead service line removal. It would also guarantee that funded projects pay a prevailing wage.

Epidemiologic studies have consistently demonstrated that there is no safe level of exposure to lead. According to the EPA, lead is particularly harmful for young children: low levels of exposure have been linked to damage to the central and peripheral nervous system, learning disabilities, impaired hearing, impaired physical development, and impaired formation and function of blood cells. EPA has set the maximum contaminant level goal for lead in drinking water at zero because lead can be harmful to human health, even at low exposure levels.

This problem is particularly prevalent in California’s Central Valley, where, for example, in 2017 approximately 25 percent of schools in Fresno County reported lead in their drinking water while statewide, almost 1 in 5 kids attended a school that served drinking water with lead contamination.

The Lead-Free Drinking Water for All Act would protect public health by guaranteeing that all Americans have access to lead-free drinking water. By providing funding for grants and prioritizing disadvantaged communities, this legislation would also reduce disparities in access to clean water and ensure that the burden of paying for lead service line replacement does not fall on disadvantaged communities.

I thank my co-lead, Senator STABENOW, for her tireless leadership fighting for clean water for her constituents in

Michigan and all Americans. I also thank the cosponsors of this bill for championing this vital effort with us in the Senate.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the “Lead-Free Drinking Water for All Act” as quickly as possible.

Thank you, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KING):

S. 2304. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require that direct-to-consumer advertisements for prescription drugs and biological products include an appropriate disclosure of pricing information; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2304

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Drug-Price Transparency for Competition Act of 2021” or the “DTC Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF THE SENATE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription pharmaceuticals is legally permitted in only 2 developed countries, the United States and New Zealand.

(2) In 2018, pharmaceutical ad spending exceeded \$6,046,000,000, a 4.8 percent increase over 2017, resulting in the average American seeing 9 drug advertisements per day.

(3) The most commonly advertised medication in the United States has a list price of more than \$6,000 for a one-month’s supply.

(4) A 2021 Government Accountability Office report found that two-thirds of all direct-to-consumer drug advertising between 2016 and 2018 was concentrated among 39 brand-name drugs or biological products, about half of which were recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

(5) According to a 2011 Congressional Budget Office report, pharmaceutical manufacturers advertise their products directly to consumers in an attempt to boost demand for their products and thereby raise the price that consumers are willing to pay, increase the quantity of drugs sold, or achieve some combination of the two.

(6) Studies, including a 2012 systematic review published in the Annual Review of Public Health, a 2005 randomized trial published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, and a 2004 survey published in Health Affairs, show that patients are more likely to ask their doctor for a specific medication and for the doctor to write a prescription for it, if a patient has seen an advertisement for such medication, even if such medication is not the most clinically appropriate for the patient or if a lower-cost generic medication may be available.

(7) According to a 2011 Congressional Budget Office report, the average number of prescriptions written for newly approved brand-name drugs with direct-to-consumer advertising was 9 times greater than the average number of prescriptions written for newly approved brand-name drugs without direct-to-consumer advertising.

(8) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is the single largest drug payer in the United States. Between 2016 and 2018, 58 percent of the \$560,000,000,000 in Medicare drug spending was for advertised drugs, and in 2018 alone, the 20 most advertised drugs on television cost Medicare and Medicaid a combined \$34,000,000,000.

(9) A 2021 Government Accountability Office report found that direct-to-consumer advertising may have contributed to increases in Medicare beneficiary use and spending among certain drugs.

(10) The American Medical Association has passed resolutions supporting the requirement for price transparency in any direct-to-consumer advertising, stating that such advertisements on their own “inflate demand for new and more expensive drugs, even when these drugs may not be appropriate”.

(11) A 2019 study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that health care consumers dramatically underestimate their out-of-pocket costs for certain expensive medications, but once they learn the wholesale acquisition cost (in this section referred to as the “WAC”) of the product, they are far better able to approximate their out-of-pocket costs.

(12) Approximately half of Americans have high-deductible health plans, under which they often pay the list price of a drug until their insurance deductible is met. All of the top Medicare prescription drug plans use co-insurance rather than fixed-dollar copayments for medications on nonpreferred drug tiers, exposing beneficiaries to WAC prices.

(13) Section 119 of division CC of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to increase the use of real-time benefit tools to lower beneficiary costs. However, there still remains a lack of available pricing tools so patients may not learn of their medication’s cost until after being given a prescription for the medication. A 2013 study published in The Oncologist found that one-quarter of all cancer patients chose not to fill a prescription due to cost.

(14) The Federal Government already exercises its authority to oversee certain aspects of direct-to-consumer drug advertising, including required disclosures of information related to side effects, contraindications, and effectiveness.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) a lack of transparency in pricing for pharmaceuticals has led to a lack of competition for such pharmaceuticals, as evidenced by a finding by the Department of Health and Human Services that “Consumers of pharmaceuticals are currently missing information that consumers of other products can more readily access, namely the list price of the product, which acts as a point of comparison when judging the reasonableness of prices offered for potential substitute products” (84 Fed. Reg. 20735);

(2) in an age where price information is ubiquitous, the prices of pharmaceuticals remain shrouded in secrecy and limited to those who subscribe to expensive drug price reporting services, which typically include pharmaceutical manufacturers or other health care industry entities and not the general public;

(3) greater insight and transparency into drug prices will help consumers know if they can afford to complete a course of therapy before deciding to initiate that course of therapy;

(4) price shopping is the mark of rational economic behavior, and markets operate more efficiently when consumers have relevant information about a product, including

its price, before making an informed decision about whether to buy that product;

(5) providing consumers with basic price information may result in the selection of lesser cost alternatives, all else being equal relative to the patient's care, and is integral to providing adequate competition in the market;

(6) the WAC is a factual, objective, and uncontroversial definition for the list price of a medication, in that it is defined in statute, reflects an understood place in the supply chain, and is at the sole discretion of the manufacturer to set;

(7) there is a governmental interest in ensuring that consumers who seek to purchase pharmaceuticals for purposes of promoting their health and safety understand the objective list price of any pharmaceutical that they are encouraged through advertisements to purchase, which allows consumers to make informed purchasing decisions; and

(8) there is a governmental interest in mitigating wasteful expenditures and promoting the efficient administration of the Medicare program by slowing the growth of Federal spending on prescription drugs.

SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT THAT DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER ADVERTISEMENTS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATE DISCLOSURE OF PRICING INFORMATION.

Part A of title XI of the Social Security Act is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 1150D. REQUIREMENT THAT DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER ADVERTISEMENTS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATE DISCLOSURE OF PRICING INFORMATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require that each direct-to-consumer advertisement for a prescription drug or biological product for which payment is available under title XVIII or XIX includes an appropriate disclosure of pricing information with respect to the drug or product.

“(b) APPROPRIATE DISCLOSURE OF PRICING INFORMATION.—For the purposes of subsection (a), an appropriate disclosure of pricing information, with respect to a prescription drug or biological product—

“(1) shall include a disclosure of the wholesale acquisition cost (as defined in section 1847A(c)(6)(B)) for a 30-day supply of (or, if applicable, a typical course of treatment for) such drug or product;

“(2) shall be presented clearly and conspicuously, as appropriate for the medium of the advertisement; and

“(3) may include additional qualitative or quantitative information regarding the price of such drug or product explaining that certain patients may pay a different amount depending on their insurance coverage.

“(c) ENFORCEMENT.—Any person who violates the requirement of this section may be subject to a civil money penalty of not more than \$100,000 for each such violation or to another enforcement mechanism determined by the Secretary. Any civil money penalty shall be imposed and collected in the same manner as civil money penalties under subsection (a) of section 1128A are imposed and collected under that section.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section. Such regulations shall determine the components of the requirement under this section, including the forms of advertising, the manner of disclosure, the appropriate sanctions, and the appropriate disclosure of pricing information.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 284—RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA VETERANS' HOME

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 284

Whereas Indiana has a proud tradition of honoring its veterans and those who serve our country;

Whereas 3 out of 4 Hoosiers of eligible age served in the Civil War;

Whereas 1 out of every 10 Union Army soldiers enlisted from Indiana, and only 1 State, Delaware, provided more soldiers in the Civil War based on per capita population than Indiana;

Whereas the Soldiers and Sailors Monument is located in the center of Indianapolis and the State of Indiana, and when it was dedicated in 1902, the only monument taller in the United States was the Washington Monument;

Whereas, in 1886, at the annual encampment of the Department of Indiana Grand Army of the Republic (“G.A.R.”) held in Indianapolis, Indiana, Department Commander David N. Foster urged the G.A.R. to establish a State soldiers' home in Indiana to care for the disabled Union Veteran Soldiers;

Whereas intensive lobbying by the G.A.R. resulted in the Indiana General Assembly of 1888 resolving to found a home for veterans, and in 1890, work toward the home began;

Whereas a committee was founded to find a suitable location for the home, with a member-at-large and 1 member from each congressional district, including James R. Carnahan (at large), W.H. Tucker, David N. Foster, C.J. Murphy, D.F. Spees, Andrew Fite, H.B. Martin, U.D. Cole, A.O. Marsh, C.M. Travis, W.S. Haggard, D.B. McConnell, Jacob J. Todd, and Jasper E. Lewis;

Whereas, in the summer of 1892, the committee decided to formally recommend 187 wooded acres in Lafayette, Indiana, as the location of the Indiana State Soldiers' Home (also known as the “Indiana Veterans' Home”) (referred to in this preamble as the “Home”);

Whereas the City of Lafayette and the County of Tippecanoe agreed to donate 200 acres of ground and \$5,633 for the Home;

Whereas General Richard P. DeHart, a local veteran and business man, donated a 2,000 foot strip of riverfront property, which is now known as the Tecumseh Trails Park, to the Home;

Whereas the committee, having secured a location, prepared a bill to be presented to the Indiana General Assembly for the establishment and maintenance of the Home;

Whereas, due to lack of time, the bill failed to pass the Indiana Senate, but in 1895, the Indiana General Assembly unanimously passed a bill to create the Home and appropriated \$75,000 for its buildings;

Whereas, on February 23, 1895, Governor Claude Matthews signed the bill, and it became law;

Whereas the Governor appointed 5 men as the first Board of Trustees of the Home to work without compensation other than their actual traveling expenses;

Whereas the Indiana General Assembly appropriated \$61,723.61 to be used in building an old men's home, a chapel, and an addition to the dining room, constructing sewers, furnishing the different buildings, graveling streets, roads, and sidewalks, and purchasing a pump, a dynamo, and a fire apparatus;

Whereas, by 1900, numerous buildings had been erected for the use of the residents of the Home, and the applications for residence at the Home were far greater than its facilities were capable of handling;

Whereas, on October 31, 1900, there were 9 State buildings, 39 county cottages, 5 cottages built by the G.A.R., 1 cottage built by the Woman's Relief Corps of Indiana (“W.R.C.”), 1 cottage each built by the John A. Logan and Marsh B. Taylor W.R.C. of Lafayette, and 1 cottage built by the John A. Logan Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic of Lafayette;

Whereas, in addition to these buildings, the Home built a public restaurant, Commandant's home, Surgeon's cottage, and combination carpenter and paint shop;

Whereas, in addition to the sums donated for the buildings, the W.R.C. and Ladies of the G.A.R. throughout the State gave \$1,326.25 to furnish rooms and cottages in the Home;

Whereas, in his written history of Tippecanoe County from 1909, General Richard P. DeHart wrote of the Home, “If one ever doubted that America appreciates and cares for her defenders, a visit to this beauty spot of Indiana will convince them that not only in times of peril and war does she care for her brave soldiery, but that now after forty years have come and gone, she still seeks to show these old and infirm men that she wishes them all the peace and comfort possible to provide for them, at any cost.”;

Whereas peak census was reached in the 1910s when the Home housed over 1,400 residents and another 200 staff members;

Whereas the Home operated as its own little town, complete with a hospital, electric light plant, bakery, fire department, and an assembly hall with a seating capacity for 600 people;

Whereas census in the 1920s had declined to the average number of residents numbering in the 1,000s;

Whereas this state of affairs continued, and, by 1950, it was apparent that the Home needed a major revamping;

Whereas this revamping resulted in the destruction of almost all of the original buildings, and today only 5 structures remain from the earlier years of the Home, including the Commandant's home, the Administration Building, the Lawrie Library, the bus station, and the cemetery chapel;

Whereas 9 acres of the Home's land were listed in National Register of Historic Places in 1974, including 4 original buildings—the Commandant's home, the library, the Administration Building, and the post exchange;

Whereas, in addition, a collection of approximately 165 oil portraits and charcoal drawings of Civil War generals and important political figures, painted by Captain Alexander Lawrie, are housed in the library and add a major cultural dimension to the Home;

Whereas, in 1974, the Home became a licensed healthcare facility;

Whereas, on June 4, 1976, the Home's name was officially changed from the Indiana State Soldiers' Home to the Indiana Veterans' Home, and the title of the chief administrator was changed from Commandant to Superintendent;

Whereas, in 1976, the construction of Ernie Pyle Hall, MacArthur Hall, and Mitchell Hall began and continued until completion in 1982;

Whereas, in 2009, the Commandant's Row buildings were placed under the authority of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and the Home;

Whereas census has declined over the decades as Civil War veterans passed, but the Home has averaged 200 residents annually,

ranging between 120 to 265 residents from the 1970s to the present;

Whereas the Home is operated by the State of Indiana to care for honorably discharged Indiana veterans and their spouses and Gold Star parents;

Whereas there is no wartime service requirement in order to be eligible to apply for admission to the Home, and the Home accepts all periods of service;

Whereas the Home is a full-service care facility, offering a complete array of on-site services for its residents;

Whereas the Home currently boasts a small museum of historical artifacts related to various wars, as well as artifacts from the Home's history;

Whereas the Home provides quality care for veterans, their spouses, and Gold Star parents;

Whereas there are currently 3,000 graves in the Home's cemetery, which serves as the final resting place for its residents and their spouses who chose internment there; and

Whereas the Home has played a vital role in assisting Hoosier Veterans and their families in their time of need: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Indiana Veterans' Home has been, and continues to be, an example of Hoosiers' dedication to their veterans, especially those who served in the Civil War;

(2) the Indiana Veterans' Home, along with the other State-owned and managed war memorials throughout Indianapolis and Indiana, including the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, highlights Hoosiers' appreciation for the service of its veterans;

(3) the Indiana Veterans' Home continues a strong tradition of providing care to Hoosier veterans at the beautiful property located in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and offering a historical glimpse into the past with its museum and the notable nearby physical locations; and

(4) the Indiana Veterans' Home should be recognized for its 125 years of care to the veterans of Indiana and their families at this beautiful and historically significant property in the State.

SENATE RESOLUTION 285—HONORING THE LIVES AND LEGACIES OF THE "RADIUM GIRLS"

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 285

Whereas Marie and Pierre Curie discovered radium in 1898, sparking a craze for radium-infused consumer goods in the early 20th century;

Whereas many entrepreneurs touted radium's supposedly limitless curative properties, even as some scientists began to report serious health hazards associated with the element;

Whereas the "Radium Girls" were teen-aged girls and young women who, starting in 1917, worked in United States factories painting watch dials and airplane instruments using glow-in-the-dark, radium-infused paint;

Whereas the early Radium Girls painted watches and instruments that United States troops relied on during World War I;

Whereas the majority of the Radium Girls worked for corporations located in Orange, New Jersey, Ottawa, Illinois, and Waterbury, Connecticut;

Whereas the Radium Girls primarily came from working-class backgrounds and some were first- and second-generation Americans;

Whereas, in several instances, the radium corporations' leadership knew that the element could be harmful to human health, but they did not inform the Radium Girls of the risks or implement basic safety standards;

Whereas, in many cases, the radium corporations' management encouraged the Radium Girls to keep their paintbrush tips moist and as fine as possible by putting the paint-covered brushes between their lips, a technique known as "lip-pointing";

Whereas, due to lip-pointing, many of the early Radium Girls ingested extremely harmful quantities of radium;

Whereas the Radium Girls breathed in radium-infused dust and touched radium-infused paint, and they often glowed by the end of the workday due to the radioactive paint on their clothes and skin;

Whereas many of the Radium Girls began to experience mysterious health problems, including necrosis (rotting) of the jaw, cancer, anemia, bone fractures, and infertility;

Whereas many of the Radium Girls were eventually plagued by debilitating physical pain and severe disabilities;

Whereas an unknown number of the approximately 4,000 Radium Girls died prematurely or experienced the devastating health effects of radium poisoning;

Whereas some physicians and dentists initially dismissed the Radium Girls' hypothesis that their illnesses were linked to their occupations;

Whereas, in some cases, the radium corporations conspired with members of the medical community to conceal the origins of the Radium Girls' illnesses and smear their reputations;

Whereas a number of the Radium Girls, in different States, fought to secure justice for themselves, their families, and their colleagues by suing the radium corporations;

Whereas the Radium Girls' difficult and prolonged legal battles and often horrific medical conditions drew national attention;

Whereas some of the Radium Girls who challenged the radium corporations were shunned by their communities for harming the reputation of a prominent local employer;

Whereas many of the surviving Radium Girls volunteered to participate in scientific studies on the effects of radium on the human body;

Whereas investigations of the Radium Girls' illnesses led to the creation of the new scientific field of human radiobiology;

Whereas the Federal Government relied on data from the Radium Girls' cases to develop safety standards for radium and other radioactive materials for factory workers, medical personnel, and scientists, including the workers and scientists of the Manhattan Project;

Whereas some of the Radium Girls and their families received either no compensation or only meager compensation related to their harmful exposure to radium and their contributions to science;

Whereas the Radium Girls' highly publicized case was among the first in which the courts held an employer responsible for the safety and health of its workers;

Whereas the Radium Girls' struggle for justice was a turning point in the movement to protect workers' safety and ultimately spurred Congress to enact critical occupational health reforms; and

Whereas many workers in the United States today are still fighting for a safe and equitable workplace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the Radium Girls and their determination to seek justice in the face of overwhelming obstacles;

(2) recognizes the invaluable contributions of the Radium Girls to developing modern workplace safety laws and standards; and

(3) reaffirms the commitment of the Federal Government to protecting the health and safety of all workers in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 286—URGING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH CONGRESS TO ENSURE THAT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY HAS SUFFICIENT RESOURCES

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 286

Whereas the United States faces numerous national security threats from around the world, including from the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic Republic of Korea, and international terrorist and crime networks aided by United States enemies, such as the Republic of Cuba and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

Whereas the United States is engaged in a new Cold War with the People's Republic of China, which is—

(1) building up its military to defeat the United States;

(2) stealing United States intellectual property and jobs;

(3) harassing neighboring Asian countries and United States allies and partners;

(4) committing genocide against the Uyghurs; and

(5) denying basic rights to the people of Hong Kong;

Whereas the People's Republic of China is focused on world domination through oppression and communist rule;

Whereas, according to prominent research institutions, including the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the Chinese Communist Party has increased its defense spending more than 700 percent during the last decade, with an additional 6.8 percent increase anticipated in the current fiscal year;

Whereas security and foreign policy experts widely acknowledge that—

(1) the People's Republic of China is not forthcoming or transparent with information related to military spending; and

(2) China's military spending may be considerably higher than its reported figures;

Whereas the National Defense Strategy Commission, in its report, *Providing for the Common Defense: The Assessment and Recommendation of the States*, recommended, in accordance with the testimony of Secretary Mattis and Chairman Dunford in 2017, that "Congress increase the base defense budget at an average rate of three to five percent above inflation through the Future Years Defense Program and perhaps beyond";

Whereas, when considering the inflation crisis he has created, President Biden's proposed defense budget would be insufficient to address—

(1) new and mounting threats to United States national security and to our allies; and

(2) the need for sufficient military support to deter our enemies and maintain the most lethal fighting force in the world;

Whereas President Biden's proposed budget request includes \$715,000,000,000 for the Department of Defense, which is well below the funding needed to keep pace with inflation, while the President's nondefense discretionary spending request represents an increase of almost 20 percent compared to the current fiscal year;

Whereas, in the Department of Defense's fiscal year 2021 Future Years Defense Program, the projected request for the Department of Defense in fiscal year 2022 was targeted at \$722,000,000,000, which is \$7,000,000,000 higher than President Biden's actual defense budget request for fiscal year 2022;

Whereas President Biden's defense budget—

(1) does not provide adequate resources to deter or defeat United States enemies;

(2) does not even keep up with inflation; and

(3) does not restore our military readiness that was diminished by budget cuts and the sequester under President Barack Obama, which arbitrarily reduced defense spending across the board;

Whereas the lack of sufficient funding will require the Department of Defense to choose between—

(1) providing for United States servicemembers' compensation and benefits;

(2) providing for United States forces' modernization and readiness needs; and

(3) any other priorities that the Biden Administration chooses to pursue; and

Whereas President Biden's level of defense spending—

(1) harms the United States' long-term strategic competition against the People's Republic of China and other adversaries; and

(2) weakens our standing on the global stage: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate urges the Biden Administration to work with Congress to ensure that the United States military has all the necessary resources to build and sustain the overwhelming military might that the United States expects and deserves.

SENATE RESOLUTION 287—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST CONTINUE TO DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP TO ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT REFORMS TO THE RULES OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRULY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 287

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) although the United States finds value and usefulness in the World Trade Organization in fulfilling the needs of the United States and other free and open economies in the 21st century, significant reforms at the World Trade Organization are needed; and

(2) the United States must continue to demonstrate leadership to achieve reforms that restore the effectiveness of the rules of the World Trade Organization for special and differential treatment to ensure those rules promote advancement for truly developing countries, rather than becoming tools for globally competitive countries, such as the People's Republic of China, to engage in protectionism and market distortions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 288—COMMEMORATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOURIS RIVER FLOOD IN MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 288

Whereas, in late June 2011, the city of Minot, North Dakota, and surrounding communities were inundated by widespread flooding;

Whereas high soil moisture content, above-average snow pack, and persistent spring and summer precipitation produced record-level flooding throughout the Souris River Basin;

Whereas, in June 2011, the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority informed communities downstream that "reservoirs [had] no capacity to store further inflows";

Whereas, on June 22, 2011, following continued releases from upstream reservoirs, water began to overtop levees in the city of Minot, resulting in a mandatory evacuation and the displacement of 11,000 Minot residents;

Whereas nearly 11,500 acres in Ward County were covered in 2 to 15 feet of water, impacting nearly 4,800 structures;

Whereas the river's flow peaked at 27,000 cubic feet per second, resulting in almost as much water moving through Minot in June 2011 as in the entire year of 1976, which was the previous all-time annual flow record;

Whereas, on June 26, 2011, the river crested at 1,561.72 feet above sea level, a Minot record;

Whereas the floodwater destroyed 4,100 homes, 250 businesses, and numerous schools, parks, churches, and other public infrastructure at a cost of as much as \$1,000,000,000;

Whereas floodwater created national security concerns by temporarily blocking access to some intercontinental ballistic missile facilities operated by personnel at Minot Air Force Base;

Whereas the Federal Emergency Management Agency provided more than 1,500 temporary housing units to address the agency's third largest housing mission in its history to date;

Whereas the people of Minot and surrounding communities demonstrated resilience and worked together to help their fellow neighbors in a time of need;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials and agencies coordinated to provide immediate recovery assistance;

Whereas Congress provided hundreds of millions of dollars in disaster relief and recovery funding to assist the city of Minot and the surrounding region;

Whereas the people of Minot and surrounding communities continue to deal with the effects of the flood, including efforts to construct permanent flood protection in the Minot area; and

Whereas 2021 marks the tenth anniversary of the Souris River flood in Minot, North Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the tenth anniversary of the Souris River flood in Minot, North Dakota;

(2) expresses sympathy to people in the Souris River Basin and condolences to the families who lost their homes or businesses;

(3) commends the resilience of the people in the Souris River Basin and their commitment to recovery and rebuilding; and

(4) expresses gratitude and appreciation to State and local leaders, first responders, and the North Dakota National Guard for protecting the people of the Souris River Basin.

SENATE RESOLUTION 289—DESIGNATING JUNE 2021 AS "NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS MONTH" AND JUNE 27, 2021, AS "NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY"

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 289

Whereas the brave men and women of the Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States—

(1) risk their lives to protect the freedom, health, and welfare of the people of the United States; and

(2) deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being;

Whereas, since the events of September 11, 2001, nearly 2,800,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed overseas and served in places such as Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas the current generation of men and women in the Armed Forces has sustained a high rate of operational deployments, with many members of the Armed Forces serving overseas multiple times, placing those members at high risk of enduring traumatic combat stress;

Whereas, when left untreated, exposure to traumatic combat stress can lead to severe and chronic post-traumatic stress responses, which are commonly referred to as post-traumatic stress disorder (referred to in this preamble as "PTSD") or post-traumatic stress injury;

Whereas many men and women of the Armed Forces and veterans who served before September 11, 2001, live with mental health needs from post-traumatic stress and remain at risk for responses to that stress;

Whereas many post-traumatic stress responses remain unreported, undiagnosed, and untreated due to a lack of awareness about post-traumatic stress and the persistent stigma associated with mental health conditions;

Whereas post-traumatic stress significantly increases the risk of post-traumatic stress responses, including anxiety, depression, homelessness, substance abuse, and suicide, especially if left untreated;

Whereas the Secretary of Veterans Affairs reports that—

(1) between 11 and 20 percent of veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom have post-traumatic stress in a given year;

(2) approximately 12 percent of veterans who served in the Persian Gulf War have post-traumatic stress in a given year; and

(3) approximately 30 percent of veterans who served in the Vietnam era have had post-traumatic stress in their lifetimes;

Whereas public perceptions of post-traumatic stress as a mental health disorder create unique challenges for veterans seeking employment;

Whereas the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, veterans service organizations, and the private and public medical community have made significant advances in the identification, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of post-traumatic stress and the symptoms of post-traumatic stress, but many challenges remain;

Whereas increased understanding of post-traumatic stress can help eliminate stigma attached to the mental health issues of post-traumatic stress;

Whereas additional efforts are needed to find further ways to eliminate the stigma associated with post-traumatic stress, including—

- (1) an examination of how post-traumatic stress is discussed in the United States; and
- (2) a recognition that post-traumatic stress is a common injury that is treatable;

Whereas timely and appropriate treatment of post-traumatic stress responses can diminish complications and avert suicides;

Whereas post-traumatic stress—

- (1) can result from any number of stressors other than combat, including rape, sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse, car accidents, train wrecks, plane crashes, bombings, natural disasters, or global pandemics; and
- (2) affects approximately 8,000,000 adults in the United States annually;

Whereas traumatic events such as the COVID-19 pandemic could—

- (1) increase the number of individuals impacted by post-traumatic stress; or
- (2) exacerbate the responses of post-traumatic stress;

Whereas the diagnosis of PTSD was first defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to commonly and more accurately understand and treat survivors of physical and psychological trauma, including veterans who had endured severe traumatic combat stress;

Whereas the word “disorder” can perpetuate the stigma associated with combat stress, so the more general term “post-traumatic stress” is often preferred; and

Whereas the designation of a National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month and a National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day raises public awareness about issues relating to post-traumatic stress, reduces the stigma associated with post-traumatic stress, and helps ensure that individuals suffering from the invisible wounds of war receive proper treatment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) designates—

(A) June 2021 as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Month”; and

(B) June 27, 2021, as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Awareness Day”;

(2) supports the efforts of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Defense, and the entire medical community to educate members of the Armed Forces, veterans, the families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and the public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress;

(3) supports efforts by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to foster—

(A) cultural change around the issue of post-traumatic stress; and

(B) understanding that personal interactions can save lives and advance treatment;

(4) welcomes the efforts of the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder of the Department of Veterans Affairs and local Vet Centers (as defined in section 1712A(h) of title 38, United States Code) to provide assistance to veterans who are suffering from the effects of post-traumatic stress;

(5) encourages the leadership of the Armed Forces to support appropriate treatment of men and women of the Armed Forces who suffer from post-traumatic stress;

(6) recognizes the impact of post-traumatic stress on the spouses and families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans; and

(7) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to—

- (A) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and
- (B) the Secretary of Defense.

SENATE RESOLUTION 291—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SOONERS SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2021 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 291

Whereas, on June 10, 2021, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team (referred to in this preamble as the “Sooners”) won the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

Whereas, after losing the first game in the championship series, the Sooners won 2 consecutive games to beat Florida State University;

Whereas the Sooners, over the 46-year history of the University of Oklahoma softball program—

- (1) have won 5 Women's College World Series championships, including 3 championships in the past 5 years; and
- (2) have competed in 13 Women's College World Series;

Whereas the 2021 national championship for the Sooners builds on the strong tradition of success for the University of Oklahoma athletics department, the teams of which have delivered 39 team national championships and 295 conference titles throughout the rich history of the department;

Whereas the Sooners were the best team in the United States during the 2021 season, having never lost consecutive games all season and maintaining a perfect record in their home stadium to finish the season with 56 wins and 4 losses;

Whereas, during the 2021 season, the Sooners set records for team batting average, team slugging percentage, on-base percentage, home runs, and runs scored on their way to a fifth national championship;

Whereas Giselle “G” Juarez was named Most Outstanding Player of the Women's College World Series, throwing 218 pitches and 2 complete games to sweep the Florida State Seminoles in the final 2 games of the championship series;

Whereas Jocelyn Alo was named the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year and the Jim Thorpe Oklahoma Athlete of the Year, hitting 34 home runs and maintaining a 0.475 batting average during the 2021 season;

Whereas the Sooners players should be applauded for their outstanding contributions to the University of Oklahoma, to the achievement of winning a national championship, and to the sport of softball, including Rylie Boone, Kinsey Koeltzow, Grace Lyons, Shannon Saille, Taylon Snow, Paige Knight, Olivia Rains, Kinzie Hansen, Nicole Mendes, Mackenzie Donihoo, Macy McAdoo, Brooke Vestal, Nicole May, Jana Johns, Grace Green, Lynnsie Elam, Tiare Jennings, Jayda Coleman, Raylee Pogue, Zaida Puni, Giselle Juarez, Alanna Thiede, and Jocelyn Alo;

Whereas the Sooners coaches should be applauded for their outstanding leadership of the University of Oklahoma softball program and their role in guiding and mentoring young women at the University of Oklahoma, including Patty Gasso, Jennifer

Rocha, JT Gasso, Erin Arevalo, Kelsey Arnold, and Sydney Romero;

Whereas head coach Patty Gasso has become a distinguished coach and leader in the softball community, which is evidenced by her—

- (1) leading the Sooners to each of the 5 national championships in the history of the University of Oklahoma softball program; and

- (2) racking up more than 1,300 wins in her coaching career at the University of Oklahoma;

Whereas the second game in the championship series was viewed by more than 2,600,000 people, setting a new viewership record for the Women's College World Series; and

Whereas the Sooners bring pride to the State of Oklahoma and the entire softball community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team on winning the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the excellence and dedication of all coaches, support staff, and players whose contributions led to the victory in the 2021 Women's College World Series;

(3) celebrates alongside the students and faculty of the University of Oklahoma and Sooner fans around the United States; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Joseph Harroz, Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma;

(B) Joseph Castiglione, Director of Athletics and Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletic Programs of the University of Oklahoma; and

(C) Patty Gasso, head coach of the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team.

SENATE RESOLUTION 290—ENCOURAGING THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION TO REVIEW AND UPDATE ITS GUIDANCE RELATING TO MASK WEARING IN CONFINED PLACES

Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 290

Whereas individuals in the United States have sacrificed immensely since the beginning of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in March 2020, including by avoiding travel to see friends and family;

Whereas science shows that individuals fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are protected against asymptomatic infection, and thus very unlikely to spread the disease;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated its guidance relating to mask wearing in confined places for fully vaccinated individuals, allowing individuals to no longer wear a mask in such instances;

Whereas extending this mask guidance to allow fully vaccinated individuals to travel on public transportation networks throughout the United States, including through commercial aviation, without the need to wear a mask would be instrumental in helping the economic recovery of the United States by boosting travel and benefitting the travel and tourism industries without sacrificing public health; and

Whereas allowing fully vaccinated passengers to travel, including by commercial

aviation, without wearing a mask would incentivize a greater number of individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to review and update its guidance relating to mask wearing in confined places to clarify that individuals fully vaccinated against COVID-19 no longer need to wear a mask on public transportation networks throughout the United States, including at airports, onboard commercial aircraft, on over-the-road buses, and on commuter bus and rail systems; and

(2) believes the Transportation Security Administration should update its mask requirements, to be consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, to permit fully vaccinated individuals to travel on all transportation networks throughout the United States without wearing a mask.

SENATE RESOLUTION 291—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SOONERS SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2021 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 291

Whereas, on June 10, 2021, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team (referred to in this preamble as the "Sooners") won the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

Whereas, after losing the first game in the championship series, the Sooners won 2 consecutive games to beat Florida State University;

Whereas the Sooners, over the 46-year history of the University of Oklahoma softball program—

(1) have won 5 Women's College World Series championships, including 3 championships in the past 5 years; and

(2) have competed in 13 Women's College World Series;

Whereas the 2021 national championship for the Sooners builds on the strong tradition of success for the University of Oklahoma athletics department, the teams of which have delivered 39 team national championships and 295 conference titles throughout the rich history of the department;

Whereas the Sooners were the best team in the United States during the 2021 season, having never lost consecutive games all season and maintaining a perfect record in their home stadium to finish the season with 56 wins and 4 losses;

Whereas, during the 2021 season, the Sooners set records for team batting average, team slugging percentage, on-base percentage, home runs, and runs scored on their way to a fifth national championship;

Whereas Giselle "G" Juarez was named Most Outstanding Player of the Women's College World Series, throwing 218 pitches and 2 complete games to sweep the Florida State Seminoles in the final 2 games of the championship series;

Whereas Jocelyn Alo was named the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year and the Jim Thorpe Oklahoma Athlete of the Year, hitting 34 home runs and maintaining a 0.475 batting average during the 2021 season;

Whereas the Sooners players should be applauded for their outstanding contributions to the University of Oklahoma, to the achievement of winning a national championship, and to the sport of softball, including Rylie Boone, Kinsey Koeltzow, Grace Lyons, Shannon Saile, Taylon Snow, Paige Knight, Olivia Rains, Kinzie Hansen, Nicole Mendes, Mackenzie Donihoo, Macy McAdoo, Brooke Vestal, Nicole May, Jana Johns, Grace Green, Lynnsie Elam, Tiare Jennings, Jayda Coleman, Raylee Pogue, Zaida Puni, Giselle Juarez, Alanna Thiede, and Jocelyn Alo;

Whereas the Sooners coaches should be applauded for their outstanding leadership of the University of Oklahoma softball program and their role in guiding and mentoring young women at the University of Oklahoma, including Patty Gasso, Jennifer Rocha, JT Gasso, Erin Arevalo, Kelsey Arnold, and Sydney Romero;

Whereas head coach Patty Gasso has become a distinguished coach and leader in the softball community, which is evidenced by her—

(1) leading the Sooners to each of the 5 national championships in the history of the University of Oklahoma softball program; and

(2) racking up more than 1,300 wins in her coaching career at the University of Oklahoma;

Whereas the second game in the championship series was viewed by more than 2,600,000 people, setting a new viewership record for the Women's College World Series; and

Whereas the Sooners bring pride to the State of Oklahoma and the entire softball community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team on winning the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the excellence and dedication of all coaches, support staff, and players whose contributions led to the victory in the 2021 Women's College World Series;

(3) celebrates alongside the students and faculty of the University of Oklahoma and Sooner fans around the United States; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Joseph Harroz, Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma;

(B) Joseph Castiglione, Director of Athletics and Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletic Programs of the University of Oklahoma; and

(C) Patty Gasso, head coach of the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team.

SENATE RESOLUTION 292—DESIGNATING JULY 9, 2021, AS "COLLECTOR CAR APPRECIATION DAY" AND RECOGNIZING THAT THE COLLECTION AND RESTORATION OF HISTORIC AND CLASSIC CARS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF PRESERVING THE TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 292

Whereas many people in the United States maintain classic automobiles as a pastime and do so with great passion and as a means of individual expression;

Whereas the Senate recognizes the effect that the more than 100-year history of the automobile has had on the economic progress of the United States and supports wholeheartedly all activities involved in the restoration and exhibition of classic automobiles;

Whereas the collection, restoration, and preservation of automobiles is an activity shared across generations and across all segments of society;

Whereas thousands of local car clubs and related businesses have been instrumental in preserving a historic part of the heritage of the United States by encouraging the restoration and exhibition of such vintage works of art;

Whereas automotive restoration provides well-paying, high-skilled jobs for people in all 50 States; and

Whereas automobiles have provided the inspiration for music, photography, cinema, fashion, and other artistic pursuits that have become part of the popular culture of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 9, 2021, as "Collector Car Appreciation Day";

(2) recognizes that the collection and restoration of historic and classic cars is an important part of preserving the technological achievements and cultural heritage of the United States;

(3) encourages the people of the United States to engage in events and commemorations of Collector Car Appreciation Day in accordance with public health guidelines; and

(4) recognizes that Collector Car Appreciation Day events and commemorations create opportunities for collector car owners to educate young people about the importance of preserving the cultural heritage of the United States, including through the collection and restoration of collector cars.

SENATE RESOLUTION 293—DESIGNATING JUNE 26, 2021, AS THE "INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING"

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 293

Whereas the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime estimated that 269,000,000 individuals used illicit drugs worldwide in 2018, a 30 percent increase from 2009;

Whereas the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime estimated that 35,600,000 individuals globally suffered from substance use disorders in 2018;

Whereas the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration reported that, in 2019, 35,800,000 individuals aged 12 or older used an illicit drug in the United States in the past month, and 21,600,000 individuals aged 12 or older needed substance abuse treatment in the past year;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") estimated that a record 91,862 individuals died from drug overdoses between October 2019 and October 2020;

Whereas, according to the CDC, opioids are the main driver of drug overdose deaths in the United States, with synthetic opioids, such as illicitly manufactured fentanyl and fentanyl analogues, causing approximately 73 percent of opioid-involved overdose deaths;

Whereas CDC data indicates that drug overdose deaths have increased during the coronavirus pandemic;

Whereas the National Institute of Drug Abuse estimates that illicit drug use costs the United States \$193,000,000,000 annually in healthcare costs, crime, and lost productivity;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration reports that drug trafficking fuels the drug overdose epidemic in the United States and can lead to violence in communities throughout the country and the world;

Whereas the Department of State reports that the illicit drug trade can undermine the rule-of-law and fuel corruption; and

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly established June 26 as the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages access to prevention, treatment, and recovery programs for individuals with substance use disorders, including access to medication-assisted treatment;

(2) commends the efforts of law enforcement agencies and officers to detect, curtail, and prevent drug trafficking and production domestically and internationally;

(3) applauds the work of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges who work to connect individuals with a substance use disorder to treatment facilities;

(4) supports research into treatments for substance use disorders;

(5) encourages greater international cooperation to dismantle drug trafficking organizations and transnational criminal organizations involved in the illicit drug trade;

(6) supports efforts to unravel financial networks that enable the illicit drug trade;

(7) calls on other United Nations Member States to mark the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”; and

(8) designates June 26, 2021, as the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 294—RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF JUNE AS “IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH”, A CELEBRATION OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR CHILDREN HAVE MADE IN MAKING THE UNITED STATES A HEALTHIER, SAFER, MORE DIVERSE, PROSPEROUS COUNTRY, AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE IMPORTANCE OF IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR CHILDREN TO THE FUTURE SUCCESSES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 294

Whereas the United States is stronger when all individuals have the opportunity to live up to their full potential;

Whereas about 15 percent of health care workers in the United States are immigrants, including (in order of highest percentage of health care workers who are foreign born)—

(1) 29 percent of physicians;

(2) 25 percent of nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides;

(3) 24 percent of dentists;

(4) 20 percent of pharmacists;

(5) 19 percent of dental assistants;

(6) 15 percent of medical assistants;

(7) 15 percent of registered nurses;

(8) 15 percent of licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses;

(9) 12 percent of dieticians and nutritionists; and

(10) 12 percent of optometrists;

Whereas immigrants working in a health care occupation range from those granted temporary protected status under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) or deferred action pursuant to the memorandum of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Exercising Prosecutorial Discretion with Respect to Individuals Who Came to the United States as Children” issued on June 15, 2012, (referred to in this preamble as “DACA”) to naturalized United States citizens;

Whereas more than 12 percent of such immigrants (310,000 individuals) are humanitarian migrants, including refugees, asylees, special immigrant visa holders, and Cuban and Haitian entrants;

Whereas 50,000 DACA recipients perform critical roles in the health care industry;

Whereas immigrants working in health care professions serve throughout the United States, and often in rural or underserved communities;

Whereas the medical students, residents, and physicians who rely on DACA for their ability to practice medicine provide medical care to approximately 4,600 patients a year;

Whereas immigrants have filled approximately ⅓ of physician roles in the United States each year for the 10 years prior to 2021;

Whereas the Association of American Medical Colleges attested to the Supreme Court that the health care system of the United States relies on immigrant health care providers;

Whereas, in response to COVID-19, immigrants are putting their own lives on the line to save lives every day, working as diagnostic and treatment practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, nurses, health aides, nursing assistants and orderlies, health care support workers, medical students and residents, and health technologists and technicians;

Whereas more than 5,200,000 undocumented immigrants, including more than ½ of all DACA recipients (400,000 individuals) and the majority of Temporary Protected Status holders (more than 220,000 individuals) are considered essential critical infrastructure workers;

Whereas immigrant essential workers, including first-responders, health care workers, agricultural workers and meat packers, child care providers, and hospitality and transportation workers, have heroically helped provide medical care, food, shelter, and comfort to the people of the United States impacted by COVID-19;

Whereas undocumented immigrants alone contribute an estimated \$228,000,000,000 of spending power annually to the United States economy, after the payment of \$49,000,000,000 of combined Federal, State, and local taxes each year;

Whereas the majority of farm workers in the United States are immigrants, and regardless of politics, have been deemed “essential workers” in order to maintain a safe food supply for the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas immigrants have served in the Armed Forces since the founding of the United States, and have fought in every major conflict in the history of the United States, including the Civil War, World Wars

I and II, and conflicts in Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq;

Whereas immigrants have put their lives on the line to protect the ideals of the United States and democracy, as well as lives of the people of the United States, by serving as translators and interpreters for the Armed Forces, and performing sensitive and trusted activities for United States military personnel stationed with the International Security Assistance Force;

Whereas immigrants who serve in emerging industries with pronounced labor shortages in the United States, such as artificial intelligence, that rely on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) skills, not only bolster the economy but also enhance national security and global leadership;

Whereas when immigrants have a trusting relationship with local law enforcement, they have reported crime and have worked with police on neighborhood crime reduction strategies;

Whereas more immigrants reside in the United States than any other country in the world and represent almost every country in the world, contributing to the rich diversity in the United States of people, cultures, cuisine, literature, art, language, academia, music, media, fashion, and customs;

Whereas the United States is more diverse than ever before in its history, with greater shares of immigrants from countries such as India, China (including those born in Hong Kong and Macao, but not Taiwan), the Philippines, El Salvador, Vietnam, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, South Korea, and Guatemala, and an increase of 79 percent since 2000 of Black immigrants from across the African continent, the Caribbean, Jamaica, and Haiti;

Whereas Black immigrants and their children make up roughly ⅓ of the overall Black population in the United States (18 percent);

Whereas in response to recent civil unrest in the United States, immigrants of all backgrounds have pledged their support to fight racial injustice, hand-in-hand with Black immigrants, to fight for accountability from law enforcement and the criminal justice system and to demand that law enforcement protect people, regardless of their skin color;

Whereas celebrating the racial, ethnic, linguistic, and religious differences of immigrants has resulted in a unified, patriotic, and prosperous United States;

Whereas immigration has long been one of the greatest competitive advantages of the United States;

Whereas immigrants of all skill levels have helped make the economy of the United States the strongest in the world, complementing existing businesses in the United States in times of need and founding successful businesses of their own;

Whereas, although only accounting for 13.7 percent (nearly 45,000,000 people) of the total population of the United States, more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants or their children, which has created \$4,200,000,000,000 in annual revenue and employ millions of people of the United States;

Whereas 64.5 percent of immigrants aged 16 and older were employed, as opposed to 60.0 percent of native-born people of the United States;

Whereas immigrants are entrepreneurial, self-starters who create their own opportunity and employment opportunities for others, with 11.8 percent of employed immigrants being self-employed compared to 8.9 percent of employed, native-born people of the United States;

Whereas immigrant-owned businesses provide jobs across the United States, creating

more jobs through entrepreneurial activity than they fill;

Whereas immigrants are more likely to have advanced degrees than native-born people of the United States;

Whereas the high-skilled immigration system of the United States has not been updated in more than 25 years and is now outdated and overburdened, putting global leadership of the United States at risk;

Whereas national security experts agree that it is essential for the United States to maintain its military exceptionalism by being the leader in advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, cyber, quantum, robotics, directed energy, and hypersonic weapons, which are all STEM fields where immigrants fill dangerous labor shortages in the United States;

Whereas due to population aging and longer life expectancy of the population in the United States requiring an increase in health care workers, immigrants are expected to fill a crucial need in the future health care of the United States, keeping the people of the United States healthy;

Whereas in just 20 years, meaningful immigration policy reform could reduce the Federal deficit by approximately \$1,000,000,000,000, contributing to greater economic stability and safety;

Whereas over the course of the next decade, immigration policy reform would result in the creation of 3,230,000 new jobs, keeping the United States more economically sound;

Whereas future population growth in the United States will require increased immigration, and by increasing immigration substantially, will keep the United States economically competitive with China and other global economies, and reduce future fiscal imbalances for popular programs like programs under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.); and

Whereas continued integration of immigrants from around the world that encourages and facilitates a pathway to citizenship, economic and social mobility, and civic engagement, will perpetuate the prosperity of the United States and reinforce the patriotism all people of the United States feel for the United States, no matter the color of skin, country of origin, or religious background of the person: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes June 2021 as “Immigrant Heritage Month” in honor of the contributions immigrants and their children have made to the United States throughout its history;

(2) pledges to celebrate immigrant contributions to, and immigrant heritages in, each State;

(3) welcomes immigrants presently in the United States and individuals seeking to immigrate to the United States to contribute to the health, safety, diversity, and prosperity of the United States by finding their place in the vibrant, multiethnic, and integrated society of the United States;

(4) encourages the people of the United States to work with their immigrant neighbors and colleagues to advance the current and future well-being of the United States; and

(5) commits to working with fellow Members of Congress, the executive agencies that administer immigration laws and policies, and the President to promote smart and just immigration policy for immigrants presently in the United States, their families, and individuals seeking to immigrate to the United States in the future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 295—DESIGNATING JUNE 15, 2021, AS “WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY” AND THE MONTH OF JUNE AS “ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 295

Whereas, in 2021, approximately 55,000,000 residents of the United States, or about 1 in every 6 individuals, have attained the age of 65;

Whereas elder abuse remains a challenging problem and can come in many different forms, often manifesting as physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, and social media abuse;

Whereas elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation have no boundaries and cross all racial, social, class, gender, and geographic lines, according to the Elder Justice Coalition;

Whereas more than 1 in 10 individuals in the United States over the age of 60 have been subjected to abuse each year, with many such victims enduring abuse in multiple forms, according to the American Journal of Public Health;

Whereas most reported cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults take place within private homes, and approximately 90 percent of the perpetrators in elder financial exploitation cases are family members or other trusted individuals, according to the National Adult Protective Services Association;

Whereas research suggests that elderly individuals in the United States who experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation are more likely to become the victims of abuse than those who do not experience cognitive impairment, physical disabilities, or isolation;

Whereas other risk factors for elder abuse can include low social support, poor physical health, and experience of previous traumatic events, according to the National Center on Elder Abuse;

Whereas close to half of elderly individuals who suffer from dementia will experience abuse during their lifetime, according to the Department of Justice;

Whereas only a small fraction of elder abuse cases are reported to the authorities;

Whereas, on June 15, 2021, which was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the United States mourned the loss of a disturbing number of older people in the United States, who perished in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic also has led to the emergence of new scams against older adults, including those related to vaccines;

Whereas, there has been an increase in hate crimes committed against older, Asian Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, Congress recently passed and the President signed 2 measures that make nearly \$400,000,000 available for implementation of Elder Justice Act (42 U.S.C. 13951-3a et seq.) initiatives, the largest funding stream related to such initiatives in the history of the Act; and

Whereas Congress, in passing the Elder Justice Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 13951-3a et seq.), the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.), the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260), recog-

nized the importance of protecting older people of the United States against abuse and exploitation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2021, as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day” and the month of June as “Elder Abuse Awareness Month”;

(2) recognizes—

(A) judges, lawyers, adult protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, social workers, health care providers, advocates for victims, and other professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse;

(B) the important work of the Elder Justice Coordinating Council, which has continued through the previous 2 Administrations and involves 14 different Federal agencies;

(C) the essential work done by adult protective services personnel, who regularly came to the assistance of victims, investigated reports of abuse, and actively prevented future victimization of older people in the United States, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as the social isolation of elderly individuals due to stay-at-home orders only increased the risk of abuse and neglect; and

(D) the importance of supporting State long-term care ombudsman programs, which help prevent elder abuse and neglect in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, where infection prevention and control deficiencies pose persistent challenges;

(3) applauds the work of the Elder Justice Coalition, and its members, whose efforts to increase public awareness of elder abuse have the potential to increase the identification and reporting of this crime by the public, professionals, and victims, and can act as a catalyst to promote issue-based education and long-term prevention; and

(4) encourages—

(A) members of the public and professionals who work with older adults to act as catalysts to promote awareness and long-term prevention of elder abuse—

(i) by reaching out to local adult protective services agencies, State long-term care ombudsman programs, and the National Center on Elder Abuse; and

(ii) by learning to recognize, detect, report, and respond to elder abuse;

(B) private individuals and public agencies in the United States to continue work together at the Federal, State, and local levels to combat abuse, neglect, exploitation, crime, and violence against vulnerable adults, including vulnerable older adults, particularly in light of limited resources for vital protective services; and

(C) those Federal agencies with responsibility for preventing elder abuse to fully exercise such responsibilities to protect older adults, whether living in the community or in long-term care facilities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 296—REMEMBERING, AS THE WORLD ACKNOWLEDGES THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY, THE COUNTLESS LIVES THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY HAS DESTROYED AND THE PEOPLE CURRENTLY LIVING IN FEAR OF ITS TYRANNICAL AMBITIONS

Mr. DAINES submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 296

Whereas the Chinese Communist Party will observe its centenary on July 1, 2021, with a series of celebrations commemorating

its history and accomplishments toward improving the standing of China as a world power;

Whereas untold millions of Chinese citizens became casualties of the Chinese Communist Party's quest for power, enduring severe loss and suffering in what amounts to humanity's worst atrocities since World War II;

Whereas, during the Yan'an Rectification Movement from 1942 to 1945, more than 10,000 people were killed as the Chinese Communist Party attempted to attack and replace intellectuals with people who supported the Communist ideology;

Whereas, during the Chinese Land Reform of 1949 to 1953, an estimated 4,700,000 landowners were murdered in order to redistribute land to peasantry;

Whereas, during the Campaign to Suppress Counterrevolutionaries from 1950 to 1952, an estimated 712,000 people were executed for their political views and 1,300,000 more were sentenced to "labor reform";

Whereas, during the Three-anti Campaign in 1951 and the Five-anti Campaign in 1952, Mao Zedong humiliated, terrorized, exiled, imprisoned, and killed thousands of political opponents and capitalists, weakening the economies of the major urban centers of China;

Whereas, during the Sufan Movement from 1955 to 1957, the Chinese Communist Party carried out a purge of hidden counter-revolutionaries, arresting an estimated 214,000 people and executing approximately 53,000 people;

Whereas, during the Anti-Rightist Campaign from 1957 to 1959, approximately 550,000 people suffered exile, imprisonment, and execution as Mao Zedong conducted a purge of "rightists," credited for creating the modern one-party state of China;

Whereas, during the Great Chinese Famine from 1959 to 1961, an estimated 30,000,000 people died as a result of the policy of the Chinese Communist Party, which prioritized industrialization over agriculture, remembered today as one of the greatest man-made disasters in human history;

Whereas, during the Socialist Education Movement from 1963 to 1965, an estimated 5,000,000 people were persecuted and 77,560 were executed for their political beliefs;

Whereas, during the Tiananmen Square Massacre on June 4, 1989, an estimated 10,000 protestors were arrested or killed by the People's Liberation Army after the Chinese Communist Party declared martial law;

Whereas, since the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong in 1997, the Chinese Communist Party has increasingly undermined the autonomy and judicial independence of Hong Kong, resulting in a series of deadly protests and demonstrations;

Whereas, as of June 2021, an estimated 1,000,000 Uighur Muslims are subject to mass detention and torture, including electric shock, waterboarding, beatings, rape, forced sterilization, forced prostitution, stress positions, forced administration of unknown medication, cold cells, and organ harvesting in re-education camps in the Xinjiang province of China;

Whereas, as of June 2021, an estimated 150,000 Tibetan Buddhists live in exile in India and Nepal, 62 years after their leader, the Dalai Lama, sought refuge from a Chinese uprising in Tibet; and

Whereas, as of June 2021, the Chinese Communist Party exerts increasing political, military, economic, and social pressure on Taiwan in order to undermine its freedom and independence: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that, as the world acknowledges the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party on July 1, 2021, the Senate solemnly remem-

bers the countless lives the Chinese Communist Party has destroyed and the people currently living in fear of its tyrannical ambitions.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 10—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT TAX-EXEMPT FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES HAVE HISTORICALLY PROVIDED AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE CRITICAL BENEFITS TO THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. SMITH, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. CON. RES. 10

Whereas the fraternal benefit societies of the United States are longstanding mutual aid organizations created more than a century ago to serve the needs of communities and provide for the payment of life, health, accident, and other benefits to their members;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies represent a successful, modern-day model under which individuals come together with a common purpose to collectively provide charitable and other beneficial activities for society;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies operate under a chapter system, creating a nationwide infrastructure, combined with local energy and knowledge, which positions fraternal benefit societies to most efficiently address unmet needs in communities, many of which the government cannot address;

Whereas the fraternal benefit society model represents one of the largest member-volunteer networks in the United States, with approximately 8,000,000 people of the United States belonging to more than 25,000 local chapters across the country;

Whereas research has shown that the value of the work of fraternal benefit societies to society is more than \$3,800,000,000 per year, accounting for charitable giving, educational programs, and volunteer activities, as well as important social capital that strengthens the fabric, safety, and quality of life in thousands of local communities in the United States;

Whereas, in 1909, Congress recognized the value of fraternal benefit societies and exempted those organizations from taxation, as later codified in section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

Whereas fraternal benefit societies have adapted since 1909 to better serve the evolving needs of their members and the public;

Whereas the efforts of fraternal benefit societies to help people of the United States save money and be financially secure relieves pressure on government safety net programs; and

Whereas Congress recognizes that fraternal benefit societies have served their original purpose for more than a century, helping countless individuals, families, and communities through fraternal member activities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the fraternal benefit society model is a successful private sector economic and social support system that helps meet needs that would otherwise go unmet;

(2) the provision of payment for life, health, accident, or other benefits to the members of fraternal benefit societies in accordance with section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is necessary to support the charitable and fraternal activities of the volunteer chapters within the communities of fraternal benefit societies;

(3) fraternal benefit societies have adapted since 1909 to better serve their members and the public; and

(4) the exemption from taxation under section 501(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of fraternal benefit societies continues to generate significant returns to the United States, and the work of fraternal benefit societies should continue to be promoted.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2120. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. KELLY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 270, honoring the memory of the fallen heroes of the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew; as follows:

In the fourth whereas clause of the preamble, strike "lightening" and insert "lightning".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2120. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. KELLY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 270, honoring the memory of the fallen heroes of the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet

during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until 1 p.m. on June 25, 2021: Jacob Neer, Lindsey Cox, Nancy Beajeu-Dufour, Raymond Villalobos, and Kaylan Privette.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Carolina Young, of my staff, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 117th Congress.

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

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Brittany Fifer, a Coast Guard fellow in my office, be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of this Congress.

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

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I would also ask unanimous consent that Savannah Johnston, an American Political Science Association fellow in my office, be granted privileges of the floor until we recess in August.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 106-286, appoints the following Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: the Honorable MARCO RUBIO of Florida; the Honorable JAMES LANKFORD of Oklahoma; the Honorable TOM COTTON of Arkansas; the Honorable STEVE DAINES of Montana.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 146, 151, 152, 182, 186, 192, 229, 156, 190, and 194.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote en bloc on the nominations, without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all without intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Faisal Amin, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency; Patricia L. Ross, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional and Legislative Affairs); Maryanne T. Donaghy, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection); Carlos Alberto Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; Dawn Myers O'Connell, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services; Robin C. Ashton, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency; Christine Abizaid, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Shannon Aneal Estenoz, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife; Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Department of Health and Human Services; and Anne Milgram, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement, all en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 201 through 228, with the modification at the desk, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's Desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE NAVY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Robert T. Clark
Rear Adm. (lh) Nancy S. Lacore
Rear Adm. (lh) Theodore P. LeClair

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Eileen H. Laubacher

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. David R. Storr

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Michael J. Schwerin

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Bradley D. Dunham
Capt. Mark F. Haigis
Capt. Scott W. Ruston
Capt. Douglas W. Sasse, III

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Dennis E. Collins

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 624, 7037, and 7064:

To be brigadier general

Col. Alison C. Martin
Col. David E. Mendelson
Col. George R. Smawley

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Eugene D. Cox
Col. Clinton K. Murray
Col. Deydre S. Teyhen

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Jonathan P. Braga

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Antonio A. Aguto, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment as the Judge Advocate General, United States Army, and for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned as position under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601, 7037 and 7064:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Stuart W. Risch

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. David J. Furness

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be Lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Matthew G. Glavy

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Paul A. Chamberlain

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Haldane B. Lambertson

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Joseph A. Dinonno

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Michael N. Adame
Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Baldwin
Brig. Gen. Ronald W. Burkett, II
Brig. Gen. Henry S. Dixon
Brig. Gen. John J. Driscoll
Brig. Gen. Kevin W. Gallagher
Brig. Gen. John D. Haas
Brig. Gen. Michael K. Hanifan
Brig. Gen. Shawn A. Harris
Brig. Gen. Jon M. Harrison
Brig. Gen. David M. Jenkins
Brig. Gen. Kipling V. Kahler
Brig. Gen. Moses Kaiwi, Jr.
Brig. Gen. Steven T. King
Brig. Gen. Richard J. Lebel
Brig. Gen. Michael J. Leeney

Brig. Gen. Mark A. Merlino
Brig. Gen. Stephen E. Osborn
Brig. Gen. Roger A. Presley, Jr.
Brig. Gen. Jerry F. Prochaska
Brig. Gen. Javier A. Reina
Brig. Gen. Adam R. Silvers
Brig. Gen. Timothy J. Winslow

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Robert A. Boyette
Brig. Gen. Jimmie L. Cole, Jr.

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Garshak

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Damian K. Waddell

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Mark G. Alessia

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Rose P. Keravuori

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Mark T. Simerly

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Christopher A. Holland
Col. Kevin W. Lochtefeld
Col. Cristina M. Moore
Col. Brian H. Pfarr
Col. Warner A. Ross, II
Col. Chad E. Stone

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Derek L. Adams
Col. Andrew C. Anderson
Col. Troy E. Armstrong
Col. Frederick W. Bates, V
Col. Lavetta L. Bennett
Col. James W. Bibb
Col. John B. Bowlin
Col. Sean T. Boyette
Col. Felicia Brokaw
Col. Stephen M. Burggraff
Col. Jelora J. Coman
Col. David A. Dailey
Col. Marlana A. Decelle
Col. Jonathan S. Ebbert
Col. Jonathan J. Erickson
Col. Michael D. Evans

Col. Tod M. Fenner
Col. Richard D. Ferguson
Col. Robert J. Ferry, Jr.
Col. James R. Fidler
Col. Glenn H. Finch
Col. Gregory D. Fix
Col. Rodney K. Ginter
Col. Joseph W. Green
Col. Jeffrey S. Hackett
Col. Kevin T. Hamm
Col. Scott J. Hartman
Col. Dennis R. Hawthorne
Col. Jamison A. Herrera
Col. Craig A. Holan
Col. Michael A. Honeycutt
Col. Joseph A. Hopkins, III
Col. Robert W. Hughes, Jr.
Col. Joseph M. Huss
Col. Michael A. Izzo
Col. Stephen P. Jones
Col. Michael J. Karwatka
Col. Clayton E. Kuetemeyer
Col. John D. Laing
Col. Joseph D. Lear
Col. Tommy C. Leeper
Col. Debra K. Lien
Col. Justin L. Mann
Col. David D. McGraw, Jr.
Col. Chris A. McKinney
Col. Elizabeth B. McLaughlin
Col. Alexander V. McLemore
Col. Kevin D. McMahan
Col. Richard F. Mifsud, II
Col. Joe H. Miller, II
Col. Louis B. Millikan
Col. Robert A. Mitchell
Col. Patrick R. Monahan
Col. John D. Morgen
Col. Jason P. Nelson
Col. Jeffrey A. Norris
Col. Robert W. O'Connell
Col. Paul S. Peters
Col. Michael S. Peyerl
Col. David M. Pidone
Col. John R. Pippy
Col. James A. Reed
Col. Millard G. Reedy, IV
Col. Moses P. Robinson, II
Col. Robert J. Rodgers
Col. Gary A. Ropers
Col. Walter R. Ross, Jr.
Col. Edith C. Sailor
Col. Paul W. Schneider
Col. Leland T. Shepherd
Col. Douglas L. Simon
Col. Jeffery M. Smith
Col. Patrick D. Stapleton
Col. Matthew J. Strub
Col. Jonathan M. Stubbs
Col. Tyson Y. Tahara
Col. Timothy J. Tomcho
Col. James H. Treece
Col. Benjamin S. Valentine
Col. Jeffrey Watkins
Col. Denise L. Wilkinson
Col. Gerard B. Williams, II
Col. Teri D. Williams
Col. Timothy A. Wood
Col. Matthew S. Woodruff

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Vice Adm. William R. Merz

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Francis D. Morley

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C. section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Edwin J. Deedrick, Jr.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S
DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN583 AIR FORCE nomination of Whit A. Collins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN584 AIR FORCE nomination of Timothy E. Holland, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN585 AIR FORCE nomination of Karl J. Vogel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN586 AIR FORCE nomination of Nicholas R. Reynolds, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN663 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeannette M. Watterson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN664 AIR FORCE nomination of Jason O. Allen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN665 AIR FORCE nominations (113) beginning CONNIE IRENE ARMSTRONG, and ending KEVIN S. YOKLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

IN THE ARMY

PN293 ARMY nominations (22) beginning RAMIE K. BARFUSS, and ending DENTONIO WORRELL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 12, 2021.

PN294 ARMY nominations (63) beginning ERIC P. AHNFELDT, and ending D016011, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 12, 2021.

PN587 ARMY nomination of Christopher A. Blanco, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN588 ARMY nomination of Curt C. Lane, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN589 ARMY nominations (15) beginning DAVID P. CURLIN, and ending ERNEST P. WEST, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN590 ARMY nomination of Michael R. Bean, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN591 ARMY nomination of Daniel J. Meyers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN592 ARMY nomination of James M. McKnight, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN593 ARMY nomination of Craig P. Lanigan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN594 ARMY nomination of Lisa M. Kopczynski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN595 ARMY nominations (6) beginning TOBY J. ALKIRE, and ending JOE E.

MURDOCK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN596 ARMY nominations (55) beginning JEREMY C. ABRAMS, and ending BRIGITTA WOODCOX, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN597 ARMY nominations (211) beginning DONNA M. ALEXANDER, and ending CHARLES S. ZAKHEM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN598 ARMY nomination of Anthony C. Bonfiglio, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN599 ARMY nominations (185) beginning DAVID A. ACOSTA, and ending MEAGO H.Y. YUOTANG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN666 ARMY nomination of David R. Evans, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN667 ARMY nomination of Nicollette A. Dennis, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN668 ARMY nomination of Waldo D. Galan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN669 ARMY nomination of Roger W. Dodson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN670 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CHASE D. CRABTREE, and ending TRAVIS H. OWEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN671 ARMY nomination of Donald A. Vacha, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN672 ARMY nomination of Michael E. Lane, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN673 ARMY nomination of Timothy J. Redhair, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN674 ARMY nominations (2) beginning BRYCE E. LIVINGSTON, and ending GREGORY K. PERSLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN675 ARMY nominations (22) beginning MARIA I. BRUTON, and ending YOUNG J. YAUGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN676 ARMY nominations (33) beginning RYANS S. BIBLE, and ending JASON C. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN677 ARMY nominations (6) beginning AVERY J. CARNEY, and ending CHRISTOPHER C. PASE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN678 ARMY nominations (3) beginning ROBIN L. BURKE, and ending JUSTIN R. SCHLANSER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN679 ARMY nomination of Brenton A. Arihood, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN680 ARMY nomination of Tracy R. Norman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN320 MARINE CORPS nomination of Anthony N. Sama, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 12, 2021.

PN600 MARINE CORPS nomination of Joseph L. Gill, II, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN681 MARINE CORPS nomination of Jaclyn N. Urso, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN682 MARINE CORPS nomination of Paul J. Goguen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN683 MARINE CORPS nomination of Benjamin E. Barr, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

IN THE NAVY

PN516 NAVY nominations (7) beginning PATRICIA H. AJOY, and ending WADE C. THAMES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN517 NAVY nominations (4) beginning ROBIN C. CHERRETI, and ending MIKE E. SVATEK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN518 NAVY nominations (7) beginning JOSEPH B. HARRISON, II, and ending BRIAN L. SCHULZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN519 NAVY nominations (8) beginning TAYLOR R. FORESTER, and ending DANIELLE S. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN520 NAVY nominations (10) beginning DAVID B. DAMATO, and ending ANTHONY J. TORIELLO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN521 NAVY nominations (2) beginning ROY L. HENKLE, and ending ERIC T. RUIZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN522 NAVY nominations (2) beginning STEVEN J. DWYER, and ending RANDY R. REID, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN523 NAVY nominations (195) beginning THOMAS P. ABBOTT, and ending STEPHEN V. YENIAS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN524 NAVY nominations (9) beginning DANIELE BRAHAM, and ending RICHARD E. SCHMITT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN525 NAVY nominations (4) beginning SHAWN G. GALLAHER, and ending JULIE A. SPENCER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN526 NAVY nominations (19) beginning MICHAEL P. AIENA, and ending TYRONE Y. VOGHS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN527 NAVY nominations (10) beginning JOSH A. CASSADA, and ending JOHN L. YOUNG, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN528 NAVY nominations (5) beginning KEVIN D. BITTLE, and ending MICHAEL P. MULHERN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN529 NAVY nominations (3) beginning JODIE K. CORNELL, and ending JOSHUA A. FREY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN530 NAVY nominations (2) beginning JEFFREY N. DUGARD, and ending MARVIN D. HARRIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN531 NAVY nominations (2) beginning KENNETH O. ALLISON, JR., and ending OMAR G. MARTINEZ, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2021.

PN601 NAVY nomination of Anne C. Mooser, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN684 NAVY nominations (12) beginning KELLY L. BYRNE, and ending NICOLAAS A. VERHOEVEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN685 NAVY nominations (25) beginning JOHN A. ALLEN, and ending BRADLEY J. WILLIFORD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN686 NAVY nominations (29) beginning JORDAN M. ADLER, and ending BRIAN P. WORDEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN687 NAVY nominations (29) beginning KYLE C. BACHMAN, and ending MICHAEL B. ZIMET, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN688 NAVY nomination of Ashley S. M. McAbee, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN689 NAVY nominations (14) beginning ANTONIO BARCELOS, JR., and ending ALFRED J. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN690 NAVY nominations (9) beginning CHRISTOPHER M. ANCTIL, and ending ALAN W. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN691 NAVY nominations (19) beginning JEMAR R. BALLESTEROS, and ending EMILY K. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN692 NAVY nominations (514) beginning MARCO A. ACOSTA, and ending JOHN G. ZILAI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN693 NAVY nominations (36) beginning SUNG H. AHN, and ending JON M. WASHKO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN694 NAVY nominations (14) beginning DREW R. BARKER, and ending KRISTEN S. WHITESELL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN695 NAVY nominations (11) beginning MIGUEL A. BERNAL, JR., and ending PHILLIP A. ZAMARRIPA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN696 NAVY nominations (7) beginning RICHARDS. CHERNITZER, and ending RUSSELL P. WOLFKIEL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN697 NAVY nominations (16) beginning JASON K. BRUCE, and ending TROY M. WILLMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN698 NAVY nominations (16) beginning SYLVESTER C. ADAMAH, and ending MATTHEW T. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN699 NAVY nomination of Patrick L. German, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN700 NAVY nomination of Andrew S. Foor, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN701 NAVY nomination of Kevin M. Bacon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN702 NAVY nominations (10) beginning ABDESLAM BOUSALHAM, and ending CHARLES S. WHITE, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN703 NAVY nominations (17) beginning CHABONNIE R. ALEXANDER, and ending JERRY R. TOFTE, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN704 NAVY nominations (50) beginning MICHAEL J. ARNOLD, and ending TAMARA J. WORLTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN705 NAVY nominations (20) beginning CASEY J. BURNS, and ending KIRSTIN C. WIER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN706 NAVY nominations (19) beginning TIMOTHY D. BARNES, and ending JACQUELINE P. VANMOERKERQUE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN707 NAVY nominations (7) beginning DEREK BUTLER, and ending BRENT E. TROYAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN708 NAVY nominations (21) beginning ACCURSIA A. BALDASSANO, and ending JACQUELINE R. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN709 NAVY nominations (27) beginning ANTHONY P. BANNISTER, and ending MICHAEL R. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN710 NAVY nominations (12) beginning JENNIFER D. BOWDEN, and ending DAVID A. STROUD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

IN THE SPACE FORCE

PN602 SPACE FORCE nominations (765) beginning HEATHER J. ANDERSON, and ending CRAIG M. ZINCK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 25, 2021.

PN711 SPACE FORCE nominations (20) beginning EDWARD G. FERGUSON, and ending KIMBERLY A. TEMPLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

PN712 SPACE FORCE nominations (3) beginning JAMES J. WATSON, and ending LINCOLN K. MILLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 15, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of the following nominations: PN 357, as modified by the list that is at the desk; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate then resume legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

PN537

Ordered, That the following nominations be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

The following-named Career Members of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of State for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Minister-Counselor:

Deanna Hanek Abdeen, of Virginia
Begzat Bix Aliu, of Virginia
Jorgan Kendal Andrews, of Virginia
Mary Emma Arnold, of Virginia
Jennifer L. Bachus, of Virginia
Lance M. Bailey, of Virginia
Nicholas R. Berliner, of Virginia
Tobin J. Bradley, of the District of Columbia

Katherine Ann Brucker, of the District of Columbia

Robert G. Burgess, of the District of Columbia

Michelle Ann Burton, of Washington
Kelly S. Cecil, of Florida
Ricardo Cifredo Colon, of Virginia
Angela Colyvas-McGinnis, of Maryland
Kathryn Taylor Crockart, of North Carolina

Jill E. Darken, of Illinois
James R. Dayringer, of Missouri
Marc Douglas Dillard, of Virginia
James Edward Donegan, of Virginia
Kurt D. Donnelly, of Virginia
Abigail Lee Dressel, of Connecticut
Patrick M. Dunn, of Virginia
David S. Elmo, of Virginia
Gabriel Escobar, of Texas
Yuri P. Fedorenko, of Michigan
Tara Elizabeth Feret, of Virginia
Julie Davis Fisher, of Virginia
Kathleen A. Fitzgibbon, of Virginia
J. Robert Garverick, of Virginia
Jennifer Gavito, of Missouri
Ellen J. Germain, of New York
Carolyn B. Glassman, of California
Ryan M. Gliha, of Arizona
Michael Gonzales, of Maryland
Robert F. Hannan, of Virginia
Keith Lee Heffern, of Virginia
Christina Maria Huth Higgins, of Virginia
Melanie Harris Higgins, of Virginia
Elizabeth K. Horst, of the District of Columbia

Paul R. Houston, of Virginia
Bryan D. Hunt, of Virginia
David R. Johnson, of Minnesota
Mark Coolidge Johnson, of Virginia
Karen D. Kelley, of Hawaii

Martin T. Kelly, of Florida
 Angela M. Kerwin, of Virginia
 Cynthia A. Kierscht, of Virginia
 Margaret Kurtz-Randall, of New York
 Helen Grace LaFave, of New Hampshire
 Daniel J. Lawton, of Virginia
 Panfilo Marquez, of California
 Paul Overton Mayer, of Virginia
 Joshua D. McDavid, of Washington
 John W. McIntyre, of Texas
 Deborah Rutledge Mennuti, of the District of Columbia
 Jonathan Robert Mennuti, of the District of Columbia
 Mario McGwinn Mesquita, of Virginia
 Herro K. Mustafa, of California
 George M. Navadel, of Texas
 J. Robert Post, of the District of Columbia
 Timothy Meade Richardson, of Maryland
 Karen Hideko Sasahara, of Virginia
 Jonathan L. Shrier, of New York
 Michael H. Smith, of Maine
 Willard Tenney Smith, of Virginia
 Thomas D. Smitham, of Maryland
 Howard T. Solomon, of Michigan
 Linda S. Specht, of Rhode Island
 Ellen Barbara Thorburn, of Florida
 Christina Tomlinson, of Virginia
 Pamela M. Tremont, of Virginia
 Hale Colburn VanKoughnett, of the District of Columbia
 Lesslie C. Viguerie, of Virginia
 Peter H. Vrooman, of New York
 JoAnne Wagner, of Virginia
 Eva Anne Weigold Schultz, of Virginia
 Aleisha Woodward, of Virginia
 Marta Costanzo Youth, of Maryland
 The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor:
 Stefanie R. Altman, of Virginia
 Geoffrey J. Anisman, of Maryland
 Allison V. Areias, of Maryland
 Wallace R. Bain, of California
 John A. Ballard, of Maryland
 John M. Barrett, of California
 Katharine Monique Read Beamer, of the District of Columbia
 Manu Bhalla, of Virginia
 Orna T. Blum, of Virginia
 Lisa Brodey, of Washington
 Shannon Nagy Cazeau, of Maryland
 Lucy M. Chang, of Florida
 Katelyn S. Choe, of Florida
 Brent T. Christensen, of Virginia
 Patrick D. Connell, of Virginia
 Colin T. Crosby, of Virginia
 Jessica L. Davis Ba, of Florida
 Michael L. Dickerson, of Virginia
 Alison E. Dilworth, of Virginia
 Jason A. Donovan, of the District of Columbia
 Jack T. Doutrich, of Washington
 Julie A. Eadeh, of Michigan
 Ana A. Escrogima, of the District of Columbia
 Fiona Scholand Evans, of Virginia
 Mark Robert Evans, of Virginia
 Naomi C. Fellows, of Virginia
 Julia C. Fendrick, of Washington
 Tressa R. Finerty, of the District of Columbia
 Carla Jenny Fleharty, of Florida
 Mark L. Fleming, of the District of Columbia
 Michael Flores, of Virginia
 Rafael P. Foley, of the District of Columbia
 Brian J. Fouss, of Colorado
 Robert R. Gabor, of California
 Melissa Jo Garza, of Maryland
 Brian Joseph George, of Virginia
 Brian M. Gibel, of Virginia
 Tobias H. Glucksman, of the District of Columbia
 Silvio I. Gonzalez, of Virginia
 Elizabeth M. Gracon, of New York
 Meghan Gregonis, of the District of Columbia

Henry R. Haggard, of Virginia
 Stephanie L. Hallett, of Florida
 Aaron M. Hellman, of Virginia
 Andrew R. Herrup, of the District of Columbia
 Christopher W. Hodges, of Virginia
 David A. Holmes, of California
 Catherine E. Holt, of California
 Jeffrey D. Horwitz, of Virginia
 Joseph S. Jacanin, of Virginia
 Cheryl Norman Johnson, of Virginia
 Seneca Elizabeth Johnson, of Maryland
 Kali C. Jones, of Louisiana
 Dean M. Kaplan, of Virginia
 Michael Christopher Keays, of Virginia
 Christine M. Lawson, of the District of Columbia
 Katherine E. Lawson, of Texas
 William Glover Lehmberg, of California
 Jennifer R. Littlejohn, of Virginia
 Casey K. Mace, of Virginia
 Gregory C. May, of Virginia
 Kimberly A. McDonald, of Virginia
 H. Martin McDowell, of Virginia
 Jason P. Meeks, of Virginia
 Richard C. Michaels, of Arizona
 Gregory R. Morrison, of North Carolina
 Junaïd M. Munir, of Michigan
 Brian Thomas Neubert, of Virginia
 Sean K. O'Neill, of Virginia
 Patrick Raymond O'Reilly, of Florida
 Jennifer Davis Paguada, of Virginia
 Robert J. Palladino, of Virginia
 Yolanda Alicia Parra, of Florida
 Troy E. Pederson, of Virginia
 Amanda C. Pilz, of Virginia
 Lawrence M. Randolph, of the District of Columbia
 Jeffrey Kimball Reneau, of the District of Columbia
 Roger Claude Rigaud, of Virginia
 Deborah Robinson, of Colorado
 Catherine Rodriguez, of Florida
 Philip W. Roskamp, of Virginia
 Ryan D. Rowlands, of Virginia
 Taylor V. Ruggles, of Virginia
 Amy W. Schedlbauer, of Virginia
 Gregory K. Schiffer, of Virginia
 David Allen Schlaefer, of Virginia
 Gregory Paul Segas, of Virginia
 Peter T. Shea, of Virginia
 Jessica L. Simon, of Oregon
 Chahrazed Sioud, of Maryland
 Shelby Venida Vernelle Smith-Wilson, of Virginia
 Brian K. Stimmler, of Florida
 Karin B. Sullivan, of Virginia
 Sonya M. Tsiros, of Virginia
 Jennifer DeWitt Walsh, of Wyoming
 Tamir G. Waser, of Virginia
 Hans Wechsel, of Montana
 Matthew Alan Werner, of Virginia
 Benjamin V. Wohlauser, of Washington
 Janine Young, of Virginia
 The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, and a Consular Officer and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
 Bryan Bachmann, of North Carolina
 Roberto Bernardo, of Florida
 David Holman Bodycoat, of Florida
 Jason A. Coe, of Florida
 John T. Conway, of Virginia
 Maureen Dantzot, of Maryland
 Karl E. Field, of Virginia
 Paul J. Fiffick, of Virginia
 Keith D. Hanigan, of Virginia
 Mohammad A. Khan, of Maryland
 Anton G. Kort, of the District of Columbia
 Jeremy T. Larson, of Virginia
 Ronald George Lay, of Virginia
 Seth Joseph Lindenfeld, of the District of Columbia
 Thomas A. Mak, of Ohio
 Fernando J. Matus, of Virginia
 Eric B. Millson, of Virginia

James E. Nicodemus, of Virginia
 Roger S. Owens, of Texas
 Ruth E. Petzold, of Virginia
 Stephen A. Rice, of Virginia
 Peter M. Riva, of Virginia
 Jeffrey J. Schroeder, of Virginia
 Stephen M. Sexton, of the District of Columbia
 Ellen K. Tannor, of Virginia

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 76, S. 1662.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1662) to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be considered read a third time and the Senate vote on passage.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1662) was passed, as follows:

S. 1662

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Supporting the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration Act".

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

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE
EXTENSION ACT OF 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2255, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2255) to extend the trade adjustment assistance program for one month.

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I further ask that the bill be read three times and passed 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 bill (S. 2255) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2255

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION OF TERMINATION PROVISIONS.—Section 285 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2271 note) is amended by striking “June 30, 2021” each place it appears and inserting “July 23, 2021”.

(b) REEMPLOYMENT TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE.—Section 246(b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2318(b)(1)) is amended by striking “June 30, 2021” and inserting “July 23, 2021”.

(c) TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR WORKERS.—Section 245(a) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2317(a)) is amended by striking “June 30, 2021” and inserting “July 23, 2021”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on the earlier of—

(1) the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) June 30, 2021.

(e) APPLICATION OF PRIOR LAW.—Section 406 of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 (title IV of Public Law 114-27; 129 Stat. 379; 19 U.S.C. 2271 note prec.) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “July 1, 2021” and inserting “July 24, 2021”; and

(B) in paragraphs (5) and (6), by striking “the 1-year period beginning on July 1, 2021” and inserting “the period beginning on July 24, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2022”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “July 1, 2021” each place it appears and inserting “July 24, 2021”.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION
TRANSPARENCY ACT
OF 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 66, S. 272.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 272) to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS AND APPROPRIATION REQUESTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. FULL DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than monthly when practicable, and in any event not less frequently than quarterly, the Secretary (in consultation with the Director and, with respect to information described in subsection (b)(2), the head of the applicable Federal agency) shall ensure that updated information with respect to the information described in subsection (b) is posted on the website established under section 2.

“(b) INFORMATION TO BE POSTED.—

“(1) FUNDS.—For any funds made available to or expended by a Federal agency or component of a Federal agency, the information to be posted shall include—

“(A) for each appropriations account, including an expired or unexpired appropriations account, the amount—

“(i) of budget authority appropriated;

“(ii) that is obligated;

“(iii) of unobligated balances; and

“(iv) of any other budgetary resources;

“(B) from which accounts and in what amount—

“(i) appropriations are obligated for each program activity; and

“(ii) outlays are made for each program activity;

“(C) from which accounts and in what amount—

“(i) appropriations are obligated for each object class; and

“(ii) outlays are made for each object class; and

“(D) for each program activity, the amount—

“(i) obligated for each object class; and

“(ii) of outlays made for each object class.

“(2) BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph—

“(i) the term ‘budget justification materials’ means the annual budget justification materials of a Federal agency, or a component of a Federal agency, that are submitted, in conjunction with the budget of the United States Government submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code; and

“(ii) the term ‘open Government data asset’ has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

“(B) INFORMATION.—The information to be posted—

“(i) shall include any budget justification materials—

“(I) for the second fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this paragraph, and each fiscal year thereafter; and

“(II) to the extent practicable, that were released for any fiscal year before the date of enactment of this paragraph; and

“(ii) shall not include budget justification materials the disclosure of which is prohibited by

law, that are classified, or that are exempt from disclosure under section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code.

“(C) FORMAT.—Budget justification materials shall be posted under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) as an open Government data asset;

“(ii) in a manner that enables users to download individual reports, download all reports in bulk, and download in bulk the results of a search, to the extent practicable; and

“(iii) in a structured data format, to the extent practicable.

“(D) DEADLINE.—The budget justification materials required to be posted under subparagraph (B)(i) shall be posted not later than 2 weeks after the date on which the budget justification materials are first submitted to Congress.

“(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize a Federal agency, or a component of a Federal agency, to destroy any budget justification materials relating to a fiscal year before the fiscal year described in subparagraph (B)(i).”.

(b) INFORMATION REGARDING AGENCY BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS.—Section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i)(1) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall make publicly available on a website, and continuously update, a tabular list for each fiscal year of each agency that submits budget justification materials, which shall include—

“(A) the name of the agency;

“(B) a unique identifier that identifies the agency;

“(C) to the extent practicable, the date on which the budget justification materials of the agency are first submitted to Congress;

“(D) the date on which the budget justification materials of the agency are posted online under section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note);

“(E) the uniform resource locator where the budget justification materials are published on the website of the agency; and

“(F) a single data set that contains the information described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) with respect to the agency for all fiscal years for which budget justifications of the agency are made available under section 3 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) in a structured data format.

“(2)(A) Each agency that submits budget justification materials shall make the materials available on the website of the agency, in accordance with the policies established by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget under subparagraph (B).

“(B) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall establish policies and data standards for agencies relating to making available materials under subparagraph (A), which shall include guidelines for making budget justification materials available in a format aligned with the requirements of section 3(b)(2)(C) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) and using a uniform resource locator that is in a consistent format across agencies and is descriptive, memorable, and pronounceable, such as the format of ‘agencyname.gov/budget’.

“(C) If the Director of the Office of Management and Budget maintains a public website that contains the budget of the United States Government submitted under subsection (a) and any related materials, such website shall also contain a link to the tabular list required under paragraph (1).

“(3) In this subsection, the term ‘budget justification materials’ has the meaning given that term in section 3(b)(2) of the Federal Funding

Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note)."

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 272) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CASA/GAL VOLUNTEERS DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 219.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 219) designating May 18, 2021, as "CASA/GAL Volunteers' Day".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 18, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 2021 AS NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 268.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 268) expressing support for the designation of June 2021 as "National Dairy Month" to recognize the important role dairy plays in a healthy diet and the exceptional work of dairy producers in being stewards of the land and livestock.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 268) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 14, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN HEROES OF THE GRANITE MOUNTAIN INTERAGENCY HOTSHOT CREW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 270.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 270) honoring the memory of the fallen heroes of the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the Kelly amendment at the desk to the preamble be considered and agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 270) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2120) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the fourth whereas clause of the preamble, strike "lightening" and insert "lightning".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 270

Whereas the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew (referred to in this preamble as the "Granite Mountain Hotshots") was organized within the Prescott, Arizona, Fire Department;

Whereas the Granite Mountain Hotshots was originally formed in 2002 as a fuels mitigation crew, but later transitioned to a hotshot crew in 2008, becoming the first municipal hotshot crew in the United States;

Whereas the mission of the Granite Mountain Hotshots was to perform physically demanding fireline work in hazardous conditions, on difficult terrain, and in extreme heat;

Whereas, on June 28, 2013, lightning ignited the Yarnell Hill Fire on a ridge west of the community of Yarnell, Arizona;

Whereas, on June 30, 2013, 19 firefighters of the Granite Mountain Hotshots gave their lives battling the Yarnell Hill Fire in Yavapai County, Arizona, including—

- (1) Eric Marsh, 43, who served as the superintendent of the Granite Mountain Hotshots;
- (2) Jesse Steed, 36;
- (3) Clayton Whitted, 28;
- (4) Robert Caldwell, 23;
- (5) Travis Carter, 31;
- (6) Christopher MacKenzie, 30;
- (7) Travis Turbyfill, 23;
- (8) Andrew Ashcraft, 29;
- (9) Joe Thurston, 32;
- (10) Wade Parker, 22;
- (11) Anthony Rose, 23;
- (12) Garret Zuppiger, 27;
- (13) Scott Norris, 28;
- (14) Dustin DeFord, 24;
- (15) William "Billy" Warneke, 25;
- (16) Kevin Woybeck, 21;
- (17) John Percin, Jr., 24;
- (18) Grant McKee, 21; and
- (19) Sean Misner, 26;

Whereas the Yarnell Hill Fire resulted in—

- (1) the largest wildland firefighter loss of life in 80 years;

- (2) the sixth deadliest firefighter tragedy in the history of the United States; and

- (3) the greatest loss of life for fire services in the United States since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas, on July 9, 2013, thousands of people attended a memorial service held in Prescott Valley, Arizona, including then-Vice President Joseph R. Biden and representatives from more than 100 hotshot crews from across the United States; and

Whereas the memory of each fallen firefighter is honored at the Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial State Park, which was dedicated in 2016; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) honors the memory of the fallen heroes of the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew of the Prescott, Arizona, Fire Department;

- (2) extends its deepest condolences and sympathy to the surviving families of the 19 firefighters lost in the line of duty; and

- (3) commends the bravery and sacrifice made by these fallen wildland firefighters in the service of their communities.

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION WEEK

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 279.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 279) designating June 21, 2021 through June 25, 2021, as "National Cybersecurity Education Week".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 279) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 17, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions submitted earlier today: S. Res. 284, S. Res. 292, and S. Res. 293.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

COLONEL JOHN M. McHUGH TUITION FAIRNESS FOR SURVIVORS ACT OF 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 1095 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1095) to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the disapproval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of courses of education offered by public institutions of higher learning that do not charge veterans the in-State tuition rate for purposes of Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. DURBIN. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1095) was passed, as follows:

S. 1095

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Colonel John M. McHugh Tuition Fairness for Survivors Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DISAPPROVAL OF COURSES OFFERED BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING THAT DO NOT CHARGE VETERANS THE IN-STATE TUITION RATE FOR PURPOSES OF SURVIVORS' AND DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3679(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "or 33" and inserting "33, or 35";

(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) An individual who is entitled to assistance under section 3510 of this title."; and

(3) in paragraph (6), by striking "and 33" and inserting "33, and 35".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 3679(e) of such title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "or 33" and inserting "33, or 35"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking "or 33" and inserting "33, or 35"; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "or 33" and inserting "33, or 35".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to an academic period that begins on or after August 1, 2022.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

SGT. KETCHUM RURAL VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH ACT OF 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from H.R. 2441 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2441) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expand the Rural Access Network for Growth Enhancement Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to assess certain mental health care resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs available to veterans who live in rural areas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 2441) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021, THROUGH MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Sen-

ate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Monday, June 28 at 9 a.m.; Thursday, July 1 at 11 a.m.; Monday, July 5 at 2:30 p.m.; and Thursday, July 8 at 12 noon. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, July 8, it next convene at 3 p.m., Monday, July 12; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Zeya nomination; finally, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021, AT 9 A.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:34 p.m., adjourned until Monday, June 28, 2021, at 9 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

XOCHITL TORRES SMALL, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE LISA AFUA SERWAH MENSAH.

HOMER L. WILKES, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT, VICE JAMES E. HUBBARD.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DAVID UEJIO, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE ANNA MARIA FARIAS.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

MAX VEKICH, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2026, VICE MICHAEL A. KHOURI, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

M. CAMILLE CALIMLIM TOUTON, OF NEVADA, TO BE COMMISSIONER OF RECLAMATION, VICE BRENDA BURMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHRISTI A. GRIMM, OF COLORADO, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE DANIEL R. LEVINSON, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

ISMAEL N. AHMED, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, VICE OLGA VISO, TERM EXPIRED.

KINAN AZMEH, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, VICE CHARLOTTE P. KESSLER, TERM EXPIRED.

HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

STACEY MICHELLE BRANDENBURG, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2025, VICE STEVEN H. COHEN, TERM EXPIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

CONSTANCE HESS WILLIAMS, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2026, VICE BARBARA ERNST PREY, TERM EXPIRED.

KAMILAH FORBES, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2026, VICE LEE GREENWOOD, TERM EXPIRED.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

ROBERT GARCIA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 10, 2023, VICE JAMES L. HENDERSON, TERM EXPIRED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

HUASCAR MEDINA, OF KANSAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2026, VICE IRVIN M. MAYFIELD, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

CHRISTOPHER KAUI MORGAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, VICE DAVID MASUMOTO, TERM EXPIRED.

FIONA WHELAN PRINE, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, VICE DIANE HELEN RODRIGUEZ, TERM EXPIRED.

JAKE SHIMABUKURO, OF HAWAII, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2024, VICE RICK LOWE, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LAURA DANIEL-DAVIS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE JOSEPH BALASH, RESIGNED.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

CATHY ANN HARRIS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS EXPIRING MARCH 1, 2028, VICE ANNE MARIE WAGNER, TERM EXPIRED.

CATHY ANN HARRIS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD, VICE SUSAN TSUI GRUNDMANN.

RAYMOND A. LIMON, OF NEVADA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS EXPIRING MARCH 1, 2025, VICE MARK A. ROBBINS, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HAMPTON Y. DELLINGER, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE BETH ANN WILLIAMS.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEANNA HANEK ABDEEN AND ENDING WITH ELLEN K. TANNOR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 13, 2021.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 24, 2021:

THE JUDICIARY

CANDACE JACKSON-AKIWUMI, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

FAISAL AMIN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

PATRICIA L. ROSS, OF OHIO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS).

MARYANNE T. DONAGHY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SHANNON ANEAL ESTENZO, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CARLOS ALBERTO MONJE, JR., OF LOUISIANA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION FOR POLICY.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DAWN MYERS O'CONNELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PREPAREDNESS

AND RESPONSE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ROBIN C. ASHTON, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ANNE MILGRAM, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) ROBERT T. CLARK
REAR ADM. (LH) NANCY S. LACORE
REAR ADM. (LH) THEODORE P. LECLAIR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) EILEEN H. LAUBACHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAVID R. STORR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAEL J. SCHWERIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. BRADLEY D. DUNHAM
CAPT. MARK F. HAIGIS
CAPT. SCOTT W. RUSTON
CAPT. DOUGLAS W. SASSE III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DENNIS E. COLLINS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 7037, AND 7064:

To be brigadier general

COL. ALISON C. MARTIN
COL. DAVID E. MENDELSON
COL. GEORGE R. SMAWLBY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. EUGENE D. COX
COL. CLINTON K. MURRAY
COL. DEYDRE S. TEYHEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JONATHAN P. BRAGA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. ANTONIO A. AGUTO, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY, AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED AS POSITION UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601, 7037 AND 7064:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. STUART W. RISCH

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DAVID J. FURNESS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MATTHEW G. GLAVY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. PAUL A. CHAMBERLAIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. HALDANE B. LAMBERTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEPH A. DINONNO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL N. ADAME
BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH R. BALDWIN
BRIG. GEN. RONALD W. BURKETT II
BRIG. GEN. HENRY S. DIXON
BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. DRISCOLL
BRIG. GEN. KEVIN W. GALLAGHER
BRIG. GEN. JOHN D. HAAS
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL K. HANIFAN
BRIG. GEN. SHAWN A. HARRIS
BRIG. GEN. JON M. HARRISON
BRIG. GEN. DAVID M. JENKINS
BRIG. GEN. KIPPLING V. KAHLER
BRIG. GEN. MOSES KAOIWI, JR.
BRIG. GEN. STEVEN T. KING
BRIG. GEN. RICHARD J. LEBEL
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL J. LEENEY
BRIG. GEN. MARK A. MERLINO
BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN E. OSBORN
BRIG. GEN. ROGER A. PRESLEY, JR.
BRIG. GEN. JERRY F. PROCHASKA
BRIG. GEN. JAVIER A. REINA
BRIG. GEN. ADAM R. SILVERS
BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY J. WINSLOW

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ROBERT A. BOYETTE
BRIG. GEN. JIMMIE L. COLE, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL J. GARSHAK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAMIAN K. WADDELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. MARK G. ALESSIA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROSE P. KERAVUORI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARK T. SIMERLY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. CHRISTOPHER A. HOLLAND
COL. KEVIN W. LOCHTEFELD

COL. CRISTINA M. MOORE
COL. BRIAN H. PFARR
COL. WARNER A. ROSS II
COL. CHAD E. STONE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. DEREK L. ADAMS
COL. ANDREW C. ANDERSON
COL. TROY E. ARMSTRONG
COL. FREDERICK W. BATES V
COL. LAVETTA L. BENNETT
COL. JAMES W. BIBB
COL. JOHN B. BOWLIN
COL. SEAN T. BOYETTE
COL. FELICIA BROKAW
COL. STEPHEN M. BURGGRAFF
COL. JELORA J. COMAN
COL. DAVID A. DAILEY
COL. MARLENA A. DECELLE
COL. JONATHAN S. EBBERT
COL. JONATHAN J. ERICKSON
COL. MICHAEL D. EVANS
COL. TOD M. FENNER
COL. RICHARD D. FERGUSON
COL. ROBERT J. FERRY, JR.
COL. JAMES R. FIDLER
COL. GLENN H. FINCH
COL. GREGORY D. FIX
COL. RODNEY K. GINTER
COL. JOSEPH W. GREEN
COL. JEFFREY S. HACKETT
COL. KEVIN T. HAMM
COL. SCOTT J. HARTMAN
COL. DENNIS R. HAWTHORNE
COL. JAMISON A. HERRERA
COL. CRAIG A. HOLAN
COL. MICHAEL A. HONEYCUTT
COL. JOSEPH A. HOPKINS III
COL. ROBERT W. HUGHES, JR.
COL. JOSEPH M. HUSS
COL. MICHAEL A. IZZO
COL. STEPHEN P. JONES
COL. MICHAEL J. KARWATKA
COL. CLAYTON E. KUETEMEYER
COL. JOHN D. LAING
COL. JOSEPH D. LEAR
COL. TOMMY C. LEEPER
COL. DEBRA K. LIEN
COL. JUSTIN L. MANN
COL. DAVID D. MCGRAW, JR.
COL. CHRIS A. MCKINNEY
COL. ELIZABETH B. MCLAUGHLIN
COL. ALEXANDER V. MCLEMORE
COL. KEVIN D. MCMAHAN
COL. RICHARD F. MIFSUD II
COL. JOE H. MILLER II
COL. LOUIS B. MILLIKAN
COL. ROBERT A. MITCHELL
COL. PATRICK R. MONAHAN
COL. JOHN D. MORGEN
COL. JASON P. NELSON
COL. JEFFREY A. NORRIS
COL. ROBERT W. O'CONNELL
COL. PAUL S. PETERS
COL. MICHAEL S. PEYERL
COL. DAVID M. PIDONE
COL. JOHN R. PIPPY
COL. JAMES A. REED
COL. MILLARD G. REEDY IV
COL. MOSES P. ROBINSON II
COL. ROBERT J. RODGERS
COL. GARY A. ROPERS
COL. WALTER R. ROSS, JR.
COL. EDITH C. SAILOR
COL. PAUL W. SCHNEIDER
COL. LELAND T. SHEPHERD
COL. DOUGLAS L. SIMON
COL. JEFFERY M. SMITH
COL. PATRICK D. STAPLETON
COL. MATTHEW J. STRUB
COL. JONATHAN M. STUBBS
COL. TYSON Y. TAHARA
COL. TIMOTHY J. TOMCHO
COL. JAMES H. TREECE
COL. BENJAMIN S. VALENTINE
COL. JEFFREY WATKINS
COL. DENISE L. WILKINSON
COL. GERARD B. WILLIAMS II
COL. TERI D. WILLIAMS
COL. TIMOTHY A. WOOD
COL. MATTHEW S. WOODRUFF

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. WILLIAM R. MERZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. FRANCIS D. MORLEY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. EDWIN J. DEEDRICK, JR.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

CHRISTINE ABIZAID, OF MARYLAND, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF WHIT A. COLLINS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY E. HOLLAND, TO BE MAJOR.
AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF KARL J. VOGEL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF NICHOLAS R. REYNOLDS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JEANNETTE M. WATTERSON, TO BE COLONEL.
AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JASON O. ALLEN, TO BE COLONEL.
AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CONNIE IRENE ARMSTRONG AND ENDING WITH KEVIN S. YOKLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAMIE K. BARFUSS AND ENDING WITH DENTONIO WORRELL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 12, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIC P. AENFELDT AND ENDING WITH D016011, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 12, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER A. BLANCO, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF CURT C. LANE, TO BE MAJOR.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID P. CURLIN AND ENDING WITH ERNEST P. WEST, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL R. BEAN, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF DANIEL J. MEYERS, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. MCKNIGHT III, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF CRAIG P. LANIGAN, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF LISA M. KOPCZYNSKI, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TOBY J. ALKIRE AND ENDING WITH JOE E. MURDOCK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEREMY C. ABRAMS AND ENDING WITH BRIGITTA WOODCOX, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DONNA M. ALEXANDER AND ENDING WITH CHARLES S. ZAKHEM, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATION OF ANTHONY C. BONFIGLIO, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID A. ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH MEAGO H. Y. YUOTANG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID R. EVANS, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF NICOLLETTE A. DENNIS, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF WALDO D. GALAN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF ROGER W. DODSON, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHASE D. CHABTREE AND ENDING WITH TRAVIS H. OWEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATION OF DONALD A. VACHA, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL E. LANE, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY J. REDHAIR, TO BE COLONEL.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRYCE E. LIVINGSTON AND ENDING WITH GREGORY K. PERSLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARIA I. BRITTON AND ENDING WITH YOUNG J. YAUGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RYAN S. BIBLE AND ENDING WITH JASON C. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.
ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AVERY J. CARNEY AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER C. PASE, WHICH

NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBIN L. BURKE AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN R. SCHLANSER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRENTON A. ARIHOOD, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TRACY R. NORMAN, TO BE COLONEL.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF ANTHONY N. SAMA, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOSEPH L. GILL II, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JACLYN N. URSO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.
MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF PAUL J. GOGUEN, TO BE COLONEL.
MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN E. BARR, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PATRICIA H. AJAY AND ENDING WITH WADE C. THAMES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBIN C. CHERRETT AND ENDING WITH MIKE E. SVATEK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSEPH B. HARRISON II AND ENDING WITH BRIAN L. SCHULZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TAYLOR R. FORSTER AND ENDING WITH DANIELLE S. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID B. DAMATO AND ENDING WITH ANTHONY J. TORIELLO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROY L. HENKLE AND ENDING WITH ERIC T. RUIZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN J. DWYER AND ENDING WITH RANDY R. REID, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS P. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN V. YENIAS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIELE BRAHAM AND ENDING WITH RICHARD E. SCHMITT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SHAWN G. GALLAHER AND ENDING WITH JULIE A. SPENCER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL P. AIENA AND ENDING WITH TYRONE Y. VOUCHS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSH A. CASSADA AND ENDING WITH JOHN L. YOUNG III, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEVIN D. BITTLE AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL P. MULHERN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JODIE K. CORNELL AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA A. FREY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEFFREY N. DUGARD AND ENDING WITH MARVIN D. HARRIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENNETH O. ALLISON, JR. AND ENDING WITH OMAR G. MARTINEZ, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 28, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANNE C. MOOSER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KELLY L. BYRNE AND ENDING WITH NICOLAAS A. VERHOEVEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN A. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH BRADLEY J. WILLIFORD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JORDAN M. ADLER AND ENDING WITH BRIAN P. WORDEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KYLE C. BACHMAN AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL B. ZIMET, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ASHLEY S. M. MCABEE, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTONIO BARCELOS, JR. AND ENDING WITH ALFRED J. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER M. ANCTIL AND ENDING WITH ALAN W. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEMAR R. BALLESTEROS AND ENDING WITH EMILY K. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARCO A. ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH JOHN G. ZILAI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SUNG H. AHN AND ENDING WITH JON M. WASHKO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DREW R. BARKER AND ENDING WITH KRISTEN S. WHITESELL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MIGUEL A. BERNAL, JR. AND ENDING WITH PHILLIP A. ZAMARRIPA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD S. CHERNITZER AND ENDING WITH RUSSELL P. WOLFKIEL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JASON K. BRUCE AND ENDING WITH TROY M. WILLMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SYLVESTER C. ADAMAH AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW T. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATION OF PATRICK L. GERMAN, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANDREW S. FOOR, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF KEVIN M. BACON, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ABDESLAM BOUSALHAM AND ENDING WITH CHARLES S. WHITE, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHABONNIE R. ALEXANDER AND ENDING WITH JERRY R. TOFTE, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL J. ARNOLD AND ENDING WITH TAMARA J. WORLTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CASEY J. BURNS AND ENDING WITH KIRSTIN C. WIER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY D. BARNES AND ENDING WITH JACQUELINE P. VANMOERKERQUE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEREK BUTLER AND ENDING WITH BRENT E. TROYAN, WHICH NOMINA-

TIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ACCURSIA A. BALDASSANO AND ENDING WITH JACQUELINE R. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY P. BANNISTER AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL R. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JENNIFER D. BOWDEN AND ENDING WITH DAVID A. STROUD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

SPACE FORCE

SPACE FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HEATHER J. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH CRAIG M. ZINCK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 25, 2021.

SPACE FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDWARD G. FERGUSON AND ENDING WITH KIMBERLY A. TEMPLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

SPACE FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES J. WATSON AND ENDING WITH LINCOLN K. MILLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 15, 2021.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEANNA HANEK ABDEEN AND ENDING WITH ELLEN K. TANNOR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 13, 2021.