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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, You have made of one blood all the nations of the Earth. As hate crimes rise nationwide, deliver us from permitting evil to triumph because we do nothing. Lord, make us a people who refuse to remain idle during a crisis. Inspire us to avoid the paralysis of analysis. Remind us that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere and that we are diminished by every death.

Keep our lawmakers vigilant, providing our Nation with profiles of courage through their striving. Lord, use our Senators to cause justice to shine upon those who sit in the shadows of despair.

And, Lord, thank You for the safe return of our lawmakers from Ukraine.

We pray in Your mighty Name.
Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ADDITIONAL UKRAINE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2022—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 7691, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 368, H.R. 7691, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Ms. HIRONO assumed the Chair.)

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK, SHOOTING

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, 2 days ago, barbarism descended upon the city of Buffalo. At about 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, in a predominantly Black neighborhood on Buffalo's east side, a lone gunman, driving from 200 miles away, equipped with an assault rifle, body armor, and a video camera in his helmet, carried out a targeted attack against unarmed civilians inside a Tops Friendly supermarket. His goal? To kill as many Black Americans as possible. In a matter of minutes, 10 people were killed, including a former Buffalo Police officer who worked as a security guard. At least three more were wound-

ed. It was the deadliest shooting in the history of Buffalo and the worst mass shooting in America this year.

Today, we hold in our hearts every single New Yorker whose life was tragically cut short during Saturday's violence. We weep, knowing nothing—nothing—will ever be able to bring them back. We mourn with their families and with their friends, and with the entire community still shell-shocked by this shooting.

Tomorrow, I will join with President Biden, the First Lady, and others to travel to Buffalo in order to pay my respects to those who died, as well as to visit with the families and to visit with the local officials still investigating the attack. We also, of course, thank our brave first responders who were at the scene moments after the shooting. Without them, more undoubtedly would have been killed.

We stand—we stand strongly and proudly with the community of Buffalo, known as the “city of neighbors.” Buffalonians during times of crisis have always pulled together, and that is happening today.

The East Side community, where the shooting occurred, is strong in faith. And I know it, along with the entire city and region, will overcome this tragedy. I say that because I know this community. Years ago, I worked hard to bring that grocery store to the east side of Buffalo because the community deserved a full-fledged supermarket. It was a much-needed oasis in what was then a total food desert.

I know many in the community shop at that grocery store, whether to buy food on their way home from church or before the Bills games. It is where people see friends and relatives and catch up on things in between errands. It has become a community center. Buffalo is the “City of Good Neighbors,” and nowhere is that truer than on the East Side.

Now, I don't know what could possess someone to bring violence to a place

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



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like that. What I do know is that this weekend's shooting is part of an ugly pattern—one that dates to the earliest days of this Nation. Racism has always been—and, unfortunately, still is—a poison—the poison of America. The original sin of slavery and the decades of racial terror, discrimination, separate but equal, White supremacy, and bigotry that followed, unfortunately, continue to exert poisonous influence on our society—an influence so poisonous that even today, after America elected a Black President, after America marched for racial justice, after the Senate confirmed a Black Supreme Court Justice—a Black woman Supreme Court Justice for the first time ever—we must still reckon with unspeakable acts of racial violence like what happened Saturday on Jefferson Avenue.

As I said, the community is strong in faith, and I know they will overcome this tragedy. I know that because I know Buffalo.

Madam President, over the next few days, I will continue my conversations with local officials and Federal investigators to get to the bottom of this harrowing massacre. But while there is much that we don't know yet about Saturday's shooting, there are a few things that are already clear and which demand action.

First, the victims on Saturday were not targeted at random, nor was this particular grocery store in this particular neighborhood of Buffalo a haphazard selection. It was not. No, this was a racially motivated attack. The shooter made his choice by seeking the most predominantly Black neighborhood in the region. Online, the shooter proudly professed himself as a neofascist, White supremacist, anti-Semite. His views, shared extensively online, embraced a dangerous ideology known as "the Great Replacement," which asserts that a conspiracy exists to replace White Americans with immigrants and people of color.

Racially motivated shootings are, sadly, not new in our country. The last decade alone holds too many examples of too many lives that have been extinguished at the hands of shooters harboring White racist, White supremacist views. It is the same hatred that motivated the shooting at a Walmart in El Paso; the same poison that possessed the shooter at a synagogue in Pittsburgh; the same bigotry that murdered eight people in Atlanta last year; and the same evil that took the lives of nine worshippers at a church in Charleston. It was the same evil at play this Saturday in the beloved City of Buffalo, NY.

Not long ago, views like replacement theory were only found in the darkest places in deranged minds. Then they came to be found in hardly viewed trenches of the internet and in chat rooms that most Americans never visit. To most Americans, these ideas are transparently repugnant and an affront to our core values. They directly

contravene the message of welcome and opportunity symbolized by the Statue of Liberty. But, unfortunately, with each passing year, it seems harder and harder to ignore that the echoes of replacement theory and other racially motivated views are increasingly coming out into the open and given purported legitimacy by some MAGA Republicans and cable news pundits.

The message is not always explicit, but we have all seen the pattern. Every time MAGA Republicans or pundits wrongly vilify immigrants and call them invaders, every time they falsely claim that millions of undocumented people cast ballots in our elections, every time loud, bigoted voices bemoan the disintegration of an imagined "classic" America, the subtext is clear. These hard-right MAGA Republicans argue that people of color in minority communities are somehow posing a threat—a threat—to the American way of life. This is replacement theory in a nutshell. It is dangerous and a deeply anti-American world view. It is poisoning minds—people's minds—who spend hours wandering the darkest wastelands of the internet.

And let's be clear. It is a message that has also found a special home in several right-wing outlets and on one cable news channel in particular—FOX News. In a craven quest for viewers and ratings, organizations like FOX News have spent years perfecting the craft of stoking cultural grievance and political resentment that eerily mirrors these messages found in replacement theory.

According to one measure by the New York Times, FOX's top political pundit—most widely watched—Tucker Carlson has spewed rhetoric that echoes replacement theory at least 400 times on his show since 2016.

Let me repeat that. According to one measure by the New York Times, FOX's top political pundit, Tucker Carlson, has spewed rhetoric that echoes replacement theory at least 400—400—times on his show since 2016. Four hundred times. This is a poison that is being spread by one of the largest news organizations in our country.

Now, to its credit, this morning the Wall Street Journal Editorial Board—which is run by the same elites who run FOX News, owned by the same people—the Wall Street Journal Editorial Board wrote:

Politicians and media figures have an obligation to condemn such conspiratorial notions as "white replacement theory."

Those are the words of the Wall Street Journal editorial page. They are right. Condemning racist ideologies and violence is necessary, but it is hardly sufficient. It is not enough for outlets like FOX News to simply condemn Saturday's violence and condemn the shooter's racist views and then return to their regularly scheduled program. To have an impact in the fight against domestic violence and extremism, FOX News and their hosts need to actually stop spreading dangerous

ideas like replacement theory on their shows.

Let me say that again. If organizations like FOX News truly want to condemn this weekend's violence, they need to stop spreading ideas like replacement theory on their shows. We see, sadly, unfortunately, and on several all too many occasions what happens when these views are given a platform.

Every single media pundit, every single elected politician, and, indeed, every single voice of influence in this country should band together to stomp views like replacement theory out of existence. These views should have no place in American society and certainly no place in the segments of our most-watched news channels. What we need to do instead is to respond to tragedies like this one, like the one that occurred this weekend, with the resolve to root out hatred in our country; and we must leave no stone unturned in pursuing solutions that make these attacks less likely—these tragic, awful, horrible attacks. Just look at the pictures of the people who died.

To be clear, denouncing and rooting out racist conspiracy theories spread by the hard-right is only one step we must take and certainly not a substitute for passing other meaningful legislation to address the gun violence epidemic.

But as we mourn those lives that were taken away this weekend, as we grieve with the survivors, we must also make a commitment as Americans to oppose the old poisons of racism and White supremacy that have been with us far too long that inspire these violent attacks to begin with.

If we don't do that—if we don't do that—I fear these attacks will continue and even multiply, and true justice in a Nation that aspires to E Pluribus Unum will continue to evade our great Nation.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 847.

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 Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 847, Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, Martin Heinrich, Alex Padilla, Jacky Rosen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Dianne Feinstein, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Angus S. King, Jr., Bernard Sanders, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 687.

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 Elizabeth Schoff Watson, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

CLOTURE MOTION

SENATOR. 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. 687, Elizabeth Schoff Watson, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, John W. Hickenlooper, Jacky Rosen, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Alex Padilla, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Ben Ray Lujan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Elizabeth Warren, Debbie Stabenow, Tammy Duckworth, Mazie Hirono.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 16, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

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.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on one more matter that I would like to address briefly—and I appreciate the indulgence of my friend, the Senator from Illinois, who has waited.

On one other subject, I want to begin this week by wishing our colleague and dear friend Senator VAN HOLLEN a smooth and speedy recovery after his announcement yesterday that he suffered a mild stroke. Every single one of us is relieved—relieved—to hear he is doing well; that his incident was minor; and that there are no long-term effects. We wish our friend recovery and look forward to seeing him here in the Senate later this week.

H.R. 7691

Madam President, on the floor today, the Senate is going to hold an important vote to move forward desperately needed aid for the people of Ukraine as they continue fighting against Russian aggression. We have a moral obligation—a moral obligation—to pass this assistance as soon as we can in the Senate.

The vast majority of us in this Chamber is united in getting this aid done as quickly as possible, including myself and the Republican leader, but last Thursday, the junior Senator from Kentucky prevented the Senate from getting Ukraine funding out the door and onto the President's desk.

The arguments he made on the floor last week made clear that he outright opposes giving aid to the people of Ukraine as they fight Russian authoritarianism. Senator PAUL's obstruction of Ukraine funding is totally unacceptable and only serves to strengthen Putin's hand in the long run. I urge him to drop his opposition so we can reach an agreement to get this package passed through the Senate as soon as we can.

But, to be clear, his obstruction will not—will not—prevent Ukraine aid from ultimately passing the Senate. One way or another, we are going to get this done and send a clear message to Ukraine and to the world that America stands on the side of democracy and against Putin's deeply immoral campaign of violence.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, let me join the majority leader in best wishes to our colleague CHRIS VAN HOLLEN.

It came as a surprise this morning, but we are heartened by the news that he is recovering, and we hope he will be back with us very, very soon. He is a wonderful Senator, who is representing his State effectively, and he is very close to Members on both sides of the aisle. So we wish him and his family all the strength and recovery as quickly as he can.

GUN VIOLENCE

Madam President, this was another weekend of bloodshed and loss in America.

In Chicago, five people were shot dead, including a 16-year-old boy—killed near “The Bean,” which those of us in Chicago know automatically as that sight in Millennium Park where people race to gather and take photographs. It is one of the most popular attractions in our city, and just this last weekend, it was the scene of a murder, with one teenager killing another.

In California yesterday, a gunman walked into a church and opened fire, killing one person and critically wounding four others. That same afternoon, another gunman opened fire at a flea market in Houston, killing two and injuring three.

A weekend in America.

But both of these mass shootings happened less than 24 hours after a White supremacist massacred innocent shoppers at a grocery store in Buffalo, NY. The shooter was wearing tactical gear and carrying an AR-15 assault rifle—a weapon designed to kill people. He shot 13 people, 11 of whom were Black, in an act of racist violence; 10 of the victims died. Each of these 10 people had left home Saturday, maybe to grab dinner or to buy groceries for the week, and they never returned. Now their families are facing the unimaginable trauma of loss. In an instant, they lost a grandparent, a child, a spouse.

To those families, I say: You do not grieve alone. America grieves with you.

One of the victims was Aaron Salter. He was a retired police officer who was working as a security guard at the grocery store when it was attacked. Officer Aaron Salter was a hero. When the gunman entered the store, Officer Salter didn't flinch; he leapt into action to save the lives of the shoppers and employees, but there was only so much he could do. He was armed with a handgun while the person who attacked the store was wearing a tactical vest and firing an assault rifle. Like so many of our police who risk their lives for us every day, Officer Salter was outgunned.

As we mourn Officer Salter's loss this week, our Nation's Capital is welcoming law enforcement from across the country for Police Week.

To every officer who protects our communities like Officer Salter did so valiantly, we give our thanks.

No officers should ever find themselves in a situation where they are outgunned by an assailant, but that is exactly what happened in Buffalo this weekend, and it happens far too often in cities like Chicago.

For decades, this Senate has failed to pass legislation that would close the gaping holes in our gun laws and reduce the shootings that tear apart law enforcement families and families of all kinds across the country. How many more lives will be lost before we act?

When will the Members of the Senate finally join together in recognizing the role that White supremacy and White nationalism have played in fueling these violent terrorist attacks?

Time and again, I have made my position on violent extremism as clear as I can: The use of violence to advance political goals is always—always—unacceptable. No matter the ideology, right or left, it is wrong, but we need to be clear-eyed about the nature of the threat that we face. Senior law enforcement and intelligence officials have warned us on numerous occasions that the biggest terrorism threat in America today is homegrown. It stems from White supremacists and violent militia extremists.

I have been sounding this alarm for years. In 2012—2012—10 years ago—I first held a hearing on domestic terrorism after a White supremacist murdered seven Sikh worshippers in Oak Creek, WI. Today, a decade later, the threat is even worse.

FBI Director Wray testified at the Judiciary Committee that the threat of domestic terrorism is “metastasizing across the country”; and last year, the FBI reported that our Nation experienced the highest level of hate crimes in over a decade. These attacks have targeted Black Americans, who have long been the target of the majority of race-based hate crimes in America, but they are not limited to just our Black American neighbors. They have also targeted Muslim Americans, Japanese Americans, members of the AAPI community, and members of other marginalized communities as well.

They don't happen in a vacuum, and it is clear that influential figures on the right have been fanning the flames of hate. The gunman who attacked the grocery store in Buffalo was an adherent of the great replacement theory—a conspiracy theory that fuels White supremacy and White nationalism. It is the same White supremacist conspiracy theory that inspired those neo-Nazis to march through Charlottesville, VA, chanting: “Jews will not replace us.” You will remember that group. President Trump said at the time that he wasn't sure that they were out of line. They have inspired multiple mass shootings, including the attack of Jewish Americans at a Pittsburgh synagogue in 2018, on Hispanic Americans at a Walmart in El Paso in 2019, and on Muslims at two New Zealand mosques in 2019 as well.

This once-fringe conspiracy theory—this so-called great replacement theory—has been dragged into the mainstream by media personalities like FOX TV's Tucker Carlson. According to The New York Times, more than 400 episodes—400 episodes—of Tucker Carlson's news program on FOX TV, which attracts more viewers than any other show in the history of cable news, have alluded to the great replacement theory. Tucker Carlson is a leading ideologue in the White supremacist movement. He has even in-

troduced racist terminology into America's conversation, like the phrase “legacy Americans,” which refers to the idea that immigrants aren't real Americans. The phrase was first used on White supremacist forums and websites. Tucker Carlson is right at home with it.

But here is what is the most shocking to me: the number of elected officials who will jump at any chance to get featured on Carlson's show and echo his White supremacist blather—his dark gospel of fear and hate and racism. We don't have to look far to find those elected officials. The third-ranking House Republican claimed in a campaign ad that Democratic immigration policies “will overthrow our current electorate.”

What will it finally take for the Republican Party to condemn this hate once and for all, and what will it take for Members of the Senate to join together in rooting out White supremacist violence?

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I will soon hold a hearing on domestic terrorism, and the ideologies like the great replacement conspiracy theory that inspired the acts of hate will be expounded on at that hearing by experts.

We will also examine a piece of legislation that I introduced 5 years ago, the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act, which would strengthen Federal efforts to prevent and address White supremacist violence and other forms of domestic terrorism. This legislation is an opportunity for the Members of the Senate to stand united against hate. By passing it, along with commonsense gun safety measures, we can finally address the scourge of hate and violence that has claimed far too many American lives.

Many Americans will be tuned in this week to Tucker Carlson's show to see if he has any reaction to what happened in Buffalo. Could it be that, for one shining moment, he will finally realize his complicity in what happened after 400 shows of spewing fear and hate and in subscribing to this great replacement theory, resulting in hatred across this country which is visited on communities every single day?

Ten people died in Buffalo. Will Tucker Carlson take 10 minutes to say he is sorry for any role he might have played in that outcome?

We will see.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

BORDER SECURITY

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, there was some sobering data that came out from the CDC last week. It was a new set of preliminary data on overdose deaths. Last year, we lost almost 108,000 people to the ravages of drug abuse. Almost 4,000 of those 108,000 were Tennesseans. Those 2021 numbers are the worst that we have ever seen, and I am concerned because it seems that my Democratic col-

leagues and their friends in the White House are not seeing the big picture on this issue.

Now, the White House claims they have a plan to address the drug crisis in this country, but they have intentionally ignored a key vulnerability when they do this. It is as if they are turning a blind eye to a key component, to a key contributing factor, of this drug crisis, and they are refusing to talk about it. It is the reason that crime is on the rise in most of our American communities. It is also the reason it is easier for drug dealers to get their hands on fentanyl than on just about anything else, and it is the same reason that human traffickers now are pushing people—the sex trafficking gangs, the labor gangs—into communities all across this country. Indeed, every town is a border town and every State a border State because of this key vulnerability.

They don't want to talk about this because I don't think they want to admit that they have been so wrong. Of course, that vulnerability, whether you are talking about drugs, whether you are talking about crime in the streets, all comes down to talking about that wide-open southern border. Don't take my word for it. Go talk to sheriffs in Tennessee. They will tell you that, with the open border, they are seeing the results of that on their streets and in their counties.

Indeed, one of the sheriffs I visited with last week said 80 percent of the drug overdoses, 80 percent of the apprehended drugs in their county—fentanyl. Why is it there? The southern border being wide open.

This is an area in which Tennesseans are wanting to see something done, and they can't figure out why the Democrats won't make a priority of securing the southern border when they want to talk issues that stem from what is transpiring at the southern border. They feel that the Democrats are deliberately sabotaging our economic recovery, our recovery from the pandemic, and they are making bad situations worse because they won't talk about the root causes.

The Biden administration never was interested in securing the border. Indeed, he hasn't been to the border. In fact, their official policy from day one has been: Let's make that southern border more insecure. Isn't that amazing? You have an administration and you have a DHS Secretary who don't believe in a secure border.

The radical left didn't like the optics of border security, so Joe Biden stopped building the wall. Even though everything is purchased and it is there—the wall can be completed—he chose not to secure our border, and he stopped building the wall.

The radical left wanted to change the definition of “asylum” without bothering to change the law, so Joe Biden threw away the “Remain in Mexico” policy.

The radical left wanted their sanctuary cities back, so Joe Biden tied the

hands of immigration officials. Go talk to them. They will tell you what they are no longer able to do, which is abide by the rule of law—the laws that are on the books.

With each Executive order that he signed, Joe Biden sabotaged Border Patrol and law enforcement, putting Americans in danger, and turned even more vulnerable women and children into victims of the sex trafficking trade.

You have to ask yourself whose side the Biden administration is actually on when it comes to the issues of crime, when it comes to the issue of protecting women and children, because I can't think of a single law-abiding American who is better off for all of this. But I do know that the cartels are happy because they are the ones who control the southern border on that Mexico side. You cannot cross that border into the United States unless you have gone through the cartel, so they are having to work out a way to pay their fee to the cartel, endangering their lives, seeing drugs pushed into this country.

Last year, Border Patrol intercepted thousands of pounds of deadly drugs and repeatedly interrupted equally deadly migrant trafficking operations, but we will never be able to account for the "got-aways" who escaped into the country with their drugs and their human cargo intact.

The level of self-sabotage has a purpose. The Biden administration has made it clear that they are willing to risk lives and livelihoods to prove their commitment to what they are calling "compassion."

Let me ask you this, Madam President: What is compassionate about women being pushed into the sex trade, little girls being sex trafficked, children being thrown into gangs? What is compassionate about that? That is what is happening because of this open southern border. This is insanity.

The cartels last year brought people from 160 different countries to our southern border. Those are stats from the Border Patrol. We know that, right now, they are anticipating bringing people in at the end of title 42. They are already working globally—globally—in order to hit these numbers. This is insanity.

According to the Biden administration, we can't secure the border and stop the flow of drugs, but the Federal Government can hand out fresh crack pipes to those with addiction. And as much as they tried to say, no, that was incorrect, we have all seen the photos.

According to the Biden administration, we can't allow shipments of perfectly safe, foreign-made baby formula into American communities. We can't process those waivers, they say. That could possibly be dangerous. We can't get a baby formula plant open in Michigan because the FDA is busy; they have other priorities. Meanwhile, parents are scrambling, trying to find formula for babies who have to have

specific formulas. This is not compassion; this is a tragedy.

I saw a friend this weekend. She calls herself independent-minded, leans more moderate Democrat. She said: You know, we have always been a government of, by, and for the people, but right now, what do we see happening? We see this government using people to get power for themselves. That is what is going on. People realize this administration is void of priorities.

The saddest thing about all of this is that the Biden administration, I think, knows what needs to be done. Many of my colleagues and I have been talking about it, that there should be priorities to secure this Nation and our sovereignty. Priority No. 1 right now should be to keep title 42 in place until three things happen.

First, DHS needs to present a thorough and specific plan that would enable American officials to handle the anticipated 18,000 people per day who Border Patrol is saying will come to our border if those restrictions are lifted. Right now, it is about 6,000 people per day.

Now, 18,000—I looked it up. Illinois has 1,466 cities, and 1,324 of those cities have 18,000 or fewer citizens. That is their population. So that is the equivalence that we are talking about. Our friend from Colorado was just on the floor. There are 482 cities there, and 439 of them have 18,000 or fewer citizens. We have Alaska. We have 355 cities in Alaska, and 350 of them have 18,000 or fewer citizens. It is like a new city in Alaska or Colorado or Illinois or Tennessee every single day. So DHS needs to come through.

Second, Chairman DURBIN must summon Secretary Mayorkas to a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee so that we can subject that plan that has been missing to scrutiny.

Third, they need to consult with Congress to give Border Patrol and law enforcement the manpower and resources they need to execute the plan.

Then and only then should we consider title 42.

Priority No. 2 is to stop playing politics and embrace President Trump's "Remain in Mexico" policy. We know for a fact that it helped control the influx of asylum seekers, which, in turn, took the pressure off our limited resources at the border.

Priority No. 3: The Biden administration must stop denying reality. Finish building the wall, which is what Border Patrol has been asking for for decades. Give them a physical barrier. Give them more officers and agents. Give them more technology so they can protect our Nation and our citizens. That is how we would get that border under control.

As I said, it affects crime in the streets. It affects drugs and fentanyl. This affects our citizens, our families, who are heartbroken—heartbroken—by loss of lives to drugs, to crime.

There is a starting point. There is a way to make a difference. But if this

administration wants to do something about crime, if they want to do something about the drug crisis, they need to start it at the southern border.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

RETIREMENT SAVINGS AND INVESTMENT PLANS

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, by the time the average American worker retires, they will have worked over 16,000 days. Put another way, by the time an individual reaches the average retirement age in the United States, they will have clocked approximately 133,000 hours—the point being, Americans work hard to retire comfortably.

To help them reach their retirement goals, many employers offer retirement savings and investment plans, commonly known as a 401(k). In fact, 91 million Americans invest in a 401(k). Many of these plans have what is called a brokerage window, which is a tool used by retirement savers to self-select some of the things that they buy within their brokerage account. They can do it themselves. The brokerage company does not do it. Simply put, they get to choose what their hard-earned money is invested in.

If someone in Lamar County, AL, is getting up at the crack of dawn, clocking 14 hours at work, and knows their retirement goals and personal circumstances very well, who better to decide how to invest the money they are making? Who better to decide but them? But, as we have seen time and time again, common sense and individual freedoms are the enemy of the Biden administration. The Biden administration has their eyes set on Americans' financial freedom yet again. This time, the Department of Labor is specifically targeting workers' ability to invest their 401(k) savings and assets as they see fit.

Recent regulatory guidance released by the Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration attempts to bar 401(k) accounts from investing in cryptocurrency, singling out this specific investment type. The guidance threatens to investigate plans that allow participants to select investments in cryptocurrency, including plans where retirement savers use brokerage windows to self-select investments in cryptocurrency.

This is inconsistent with longstanding practice. The Department of Labor has long permitted employers to offer brokerage windows as an option to employees who prefer to personally invest their own money and manage their own money within these windows. The Agency's new guidance ends this tradition of economic empowerment in favor of Big Brother government control.

The Employee Benefits Security Administration goes a step further by seeking to place a massive new regulatory burden on 401(k) plan fiduciaries by requiring them to assess the suitability of investments accessed using a

brokerage window. This would undermine the ability of retirement savers to invest as they see fit. It is their money; they should be able to invest it how they want to invest it.

The Biden administration's Department of Labor—their guidance singles out this cryptocurrency for some reason, but it is clear retirement savers want to have that option to invest their own money.

Fidelity, one of the Nation's No. 1 financial agencies, is the largest 401(k) provider in the country and recently announced that it will make Bitcoin available on its platform. They aren't the first provider to make this move. There are others. And they won't likely be the last. Sadly, the Department of Labor has already criticized these plans to empower investors.

But if this is not just about cryptocurrency—and it could not be just about cryptocurrency. It is bigger than that. Today, the Biden administration is targeting cryptocurrency. Which investment class is next? Is it fossil fuels? Is it oil companies? Is it a gun company, securities, other investments that don't align with the environmental, social, and corporate governance preferences of President Biden?

This is about Americans' freedom to chart their own financial destiny. Americans should be able to invest their retirement savings as they choose. That is why I introduced the Financial Freedom Act. My bill would prohibit the Department of Labor from issuing any regulation or guidance limiting the types of investments that self-directed 401(k) account investors—they do not limit what they can choose through a brokerage window. It would also push back on the Biden administration's plan to punish asset managers who authorize individual retirement savers to self-direct their investment choices using a brokerage window.

The Financial Freedom Act empowers the American retirement saver and preserves the precedent of investment freedom. For decades, 401(k) participants in plans with brokerage windows have been able to buy and sell investments of their choice. That freedom to choose is the entire purpose of the brokerage window. The Department of Labor should not be able to limit the range or types of investments savers can select.

The choice of what you invest your retirement savings in should be yours, not the government's. The government-knows-best approach being pushed by the current administration runs counter to the values that made our country the most prosperous Nation in history.

I urge my colleagues to support financial choice and freedom, to uphold our tradition of economic empowerment. I hope my fellow Senators will join me in preserving the choice of every American worker. They should have their own financial decisions, where they can make those decisions

for their future and for their family's future, chart their own destiny, and reap the benefits of their hard work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, I feel as though the Presiding Officer has the misfortune of being the Presiding Officer every time I come out here to speak. So I apologize for that, but I thank you for your patience and for your indulgence.

Madam President, when I was in the second grade, we were asked to line up in our classroom by the people whose family had been here the shortest period of time and whose family had been here the longest period of time, and I turned out to be the answer to both of those questions. My father's family went all the way back to basically before the founding of the United States, and my mother had recently arrived, having survived the Holocaust in and around Warsaw with her parents, John and Helena Klejman, who came to this country to rebuild their shattered lives. So one person going back to the beginning; another person recently arrived.

That is not an unusual story for this country. That is a usual story for this country. It is an unusual story in the world because a lot of other countries aren't like the United States of America in this way. There is literally no other country on the planet for which immigration is so central to its history and identity as the United States of America.

People all over the world want to come here because we live in a country that respects human freedoms and respects human rights. They want to share in the American dream. They want to be part of the oldest democracy in human history. We should celebrate that on this floor. We should celebrate that fact on this floor. People aren't lining up to go to Russia. They aren't crossing the Gobi Desert to go to China. They want to come here. That should give us enormous pride as Americans. I feel proud of that. I am proud of that.

My grandparents were filled with joy to be Americans. I have never met anybody—I have traveled my State extensively and the United States extensively. I have never met a person who has a stronger accent than my grandparents had. And they are the greatest patriots I ever knew—not because they thought this country was perfect but because they believed we had a way of correcting our imperfections and that they could be part of that even though they came from someplace else and spoke a different language.

Over our history, immigration has been a uniquely American strength. Today, immigrants lead one in four startups. They are more than half of all STEM workers with Ph.Ds. They are nearly 3 in 10 physicians in this country and nearly 4 in 10 home

healthcare aides. And they are more than 70 percent—70 percent—of all farmworkers, the men and women who work tirelessly day after day after day, late into the night, to keep us fed and were doing that during the pandemic without rest.

While other industrialized nations have seen their populations decline and their economies stagnate, immigration has been vital to the American economy. If you look at the history of the United States for the last 150 years or so, what you see is that there are variations. Sometimes we grow; sometimes we don't. But, roughly, it is 3 percent a year of economic growth. Two percent of that is organic. One percent of that is immigration. If you cut off immigration, that is a third of our economic growth over the years.

I think most of America understands this. I think people in Colorado understand this well. They know that immigration is fundamental to our history and to our identity, to our economy, but they also have a reasonable expectation that the government is managing immigration in a responsible way, in a way that is consistent with our best traditions as a nation and upholds the rule of law.

After I was first elected to the Senate, one of the first things I worked on was something we called the Colorado Compact. I stole the idea from a Republican. I think he was the attorney general of the State of Utah. He created the Utah Compact. I went out with my friend, a former Senator, a Republican from Colorado named Hank Brown, and we developed something called the Colorado Compact. I spent 18 months working on it. We traveled 6,300 miles around the State of Colorado. We had 230 meetings. We talked to farmers and business owners, with law enforcement, educators, faith leaders, ski resorts, Latino leaders. All of them were struggling with different pieces of our broken immigration system.

Not surprisingly when you have conversations like that around people's kitchen tables or in the county courthouses, we found that there was a lot more agreement on what immigration reform should look like than you would ever think possible if all you did was listen to the cable television at night or read your social media feed—neither of which I recommend anybody spend their time doing.

We developed a set of principles in a bipartisan way, in rural parts of Colorado as well as urban and suburban parts of the State. We had some of the most conservative organizations in Colorado—Club 20 comes to mind—that endorsed this and some of the most aggressive immigrant rights groups who supported this. And the principles that we developed included a commitment to the rule of law, our heritage as a nation of immigrants, and a secure border. That is how you get a broad coalition together on immigration.

One thing we agreed on was that the issue needs more than piecemeal reforms. No State effort is a substitute for a commonsense national strategy to overhaul our immigration system. That is why, a few years later, I was one of four Democrats who served on the Gang of 8 here in 2013. We had four Republicans and we had four Democrats, and we worked for months on a piece of legislation that became known, I guess, as the Gang of 8 bill. It was the first comprehensive immigration bill in years in this place, and the elements of it were aligned exactly with what we had said in the Colorado Compact: the tough but fair pathway to citizenship; the most progressive Dream Act that had ever been conceived, much less written or voted on, on the floor of the Senate; a massive overhaul of our visa system; \$46 billion of border security—not a medieval wall but state-of-the-art military technology so we could see every inch of the border. We doubled the number of border agents in that bill. We had 300 miles—I think even more than that—of new fencing as a result of that bill.

In a moment that today almost seems unimaginable—but this is why I wanted to come to the floor today, really, was to remind people of this; the pages who are here won't even believe it—this came to the floor, and it passed with 68 votes. It almost got 70 votes in 2013.

Then it went over to the House of Representatives, and tragically—tragically—instead of just putting the bill on the floor and letting the House work its will, the Freedom Caucus got to exercise a veto, and they said: If you can't get a majority of the majority, we are not going to let you pass this bill—even though a majority of the House of Representatives wanted to pass the bill because there were enough people from both parties who could see the benefit of this comprehensive immigration bill.

And I realize, you know, now we are in a different day. That was then; this is now. It was a different negotiation, a different deal. And it was a different Senate, for that matter. It was a Senate, thanks to John McCain, that occasionally worked—and others like him.

I think that we have got to figure out a way to get past this logjam and toward a solution where we honor our heritage as a nation of immigrants, we secure the benefits to our economy of a working immigration system, we comply with the rule of law, and we give the American people confidence that our border is secure. None of that is an unreasonable expectation, but we are nowhere near meeting that expectation today. Instead, politicians have used our broken immigration system as one more issue to bludgeon the other side, to not make progress. That was the theory of the people who killed the bill in 2013, was that they could get more out of the politics of not passing the bill than they would by passing the bill.

I actually think—I think they got more than they were even bargaining for. They couldn't have imagined when they voted against that bill that they would end up nominating a Presidential candidate who rode an escalator down in his building talking about how Mexicans are rapists and that that guy not only was nominated; he went on to become President of the United States. Staggering. Staggering.

I think there is some question about whether American history would have changed in really profound ways if we had been able to pass that comprehensive bill, and the cost has been just terrible for the country for our inability to do it.

Our businesses are desperate to hire computer scientists and engineers, but because our visa system is broken, we are literally training Ph.Ds and sending them back to countries like India or China or to Canada. We have Dreamers who are living in perpetual fear, unable to plan for their future in the only country they have ever known. This Senate has been unable to deal with the issue of the Afghan interpreters who are people who fought side by side, worked side by side with our soldiers in Afghanistan because of our broken system and the politics around immigration.

In Colorado, we have a \$47 billion agriculture industry. It is lifeblood of our State. I have met vegetable growers in Brighton and peach growers in Palisade who don't have enough labor to harvest the crops. And the system is broken.

We fixed that in 2013, too. I negotiated that with Orrin Hatch, God rest his soul, and MARCO RUBIO and DIANNE FEINSTEIN. That is who negotiated the agriculture provisions of the bill.

In Colorado, it is not just farmers. We don't have enough workers for our steer. Across the country, we don't have enough doctors. We don't have enough nurses or childcare providers or home health aides. We have 11 million unfilled jobs in this country right now because the economy has come back, but we haven't been able to fill these vacancies. You can draw a straight line from our broken immigration system to the country's labor shortages to some of the high prices that we see in this economy.

So Americans—once again, no one around here bears the burden of not getting the job done, but Americans are paying the price for an immigration system that doesn't work. The last time we reformed our immigration system in a comprehensive way was 1986. For those keeping score, I was a junior in college then; I am 57 today. So that is an incredibly long period of time, and that was when Ronald Reagan was President.

But a lot has changed in 36 years. Today, we are in an era of mass migration propelled by COVID, global instability, and climate change. And it is only going to get worse. Our immigration system, including our asylum system, isn't built for today's conditions.

It is one reason why we have a perpetual humanitarian crisis at our southern border. And that crisis should not be an excuse to not act. That crisis should be a reason for us to act.

Right now, the administration has the resources to process 3,500 migrants a day at the border, but they are receiving 8,000 a day, and we could see up to 18,000 a day by this summer. If that happens, the money is going to run out in July, overwhelming any border infrastructure and deepening the humanitarian crisis that is there.

None of this should surprise us. There is a surge at the border every summer; and since we know it is coming, we need a plan. I am sorry to say this, but the administration doesn't have one. I read what they put out last month. I didn't see any benchmarks, any timelines, any accountability on implementation. I did see a lot of what I think is wishful thinking about everything being under control when they aren't under control. That is not what the American people believe. That is not what public servants and organizations at the border report.

And now the administration wants to lift title 42, which is going to make a bad situation even worse. We can't keep title 42 forever. It is no substitute for a comprehensive plan, but lifting it now before we have a plan, I think is a mistake and it is going to erode the American people's confidence that we have the situation at the border under control. And it is going to deepen the humanitarian crisis at the border. It is going to deepen the humanitarian crisis at the border.

By the way, part of that plan—if we had a plan—should be having a conversation—leading a conversation—with leaders across Latin America to see how we can come together as a region to help people that have been dislocated by violence and by corruption.

Until we solve this in a comprehensive way, these issues are going to keep coming up and they are going to keep dividing us here. Today, it is title 42. And in the last administration, we literally shut the government down—literally shut the government down—over a debate about whether Mexico would pay for the wall, which, by the way, they were never going to do and they never did. We created DACA under one President only to see it canceled in the next Presidency.

We could have spared America all of this. We could have spared America all of this if we had passed the Gang of 8 bill in 2013. We could have spared the harm to our communities and our economy, but also the harm to our democracy from the mindless political fights over the past decade when people in the Senate turned immigration into political napalm instead of lifting it up as part of our history, a central part of who we are.

If there is any silver lining to our failure to pass comprehensive reform in 2013, it is that we clearly demonstrated that Democrats cannot fix

this by themselves. We are going to need two parties working together to do it. The good thing about immigration is that there are a lot of different issues, there are a lot of different constituencies, and there are a lot of ways to construct a deal.

The former chairman of the Judiciary Committee is on the floor, Senator LEAHY, from Vermont. If I am not mistaken, Senator LEAHY would chair the Judiciary Committee when we were considering the 2013 Gang of 8 bill. That was an extraordinary process, an open amendment process—I will yield for the chairman to speak.

Mr. LEAHY. If I might say, the Senator was absolutely right. He was central in putting that together.

Unfortunately, it passed here; would have passed the House. They had enough votes—enough votes, Republicans and Democrats. But the then-Speaker said he couldn't bring it up because it didn't have a majority of his party and it would violate the sacred Dennis Hastert rule. I don't think they follow that rule after former-Speaker Hastert went to jail.

Mr. BENNET. I thank the chairman for his historical recollection, which is 100 percent correct. I just want to make it clear, again, how extraordinary the process was.

You know, when people—I think people in this country are entitled to believe that the way this place works is the way that old "Schoolhouse Rock" cartoon said it worked about how a bill becomes a law. I think people ought to be entitled to believe this is the way this place works. It almost never works that way, but it did in the case of this bill and in the case of the chairman's leadership in the Judiciary.

We just need people who are willing to work together here. I have continued to work with MIKE CRAPO from Idaho, a Republican, working on a deal to try to create a pathway to legalization for farmworkers. If we can do that, I don't see a reason why we can't raise our sights and come together as a Senate to finally fix our broken immigration system.

There is no one else to address this but the 100 Senators that are in this Chamber. I am prepared to work with any one of them—anybody here—to get it done because we don't have to choose between our heritage as a Nation of immigrants and our commitment to the rule of law. We do not have to choose between a medieval wall and the Statue of Liberty.

We can end the partisan warfare over immigration that has hurt our economy, our communities, and our standing in the world. We can give a real pathway to citizenship for those willing to invest in the American dream. We can secure the border. We can make immigration the wind in our sails once again and give the American people confidence that we have a fair system in place to welcome people—like my mom and her parents—who want nothing more than to contribute to this Nation and to our democracy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to finish my statement prior to the vote.

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

H.R. 7691

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the horrors we have witnessed in the weeks and months following Vladimir Putin's unprovoked attack on Ukraine are an abomination and an affront to all civilized people—entire communities wiped from the face of the earth; countless lives ruined; unarmed civilians summarily executed randomly in the street; millions of desperate people fleeing everything they have ever known because of one man's zeal to destroy whatever is necessary to realize his own twisted vision of the world—all of this while fueling a broader humanitarian crisis across the region, spiraling costs, and sparking a global hunger crisis.

The need is clear for this Congress to act decisively and to act now to reaffirm our unwavering support for the Ukrainian people in protecting their lives and their country and to stem this global crisis. The United States stands against the atrocities inflicted upon the free people of Ukraine, an independent country with a democratically elected government.

Last Tuesday, the House passed H.R. 7691, providing more than \$40 billion in emergency funding, with overwhelming bipartisan support. The Senate should have done the same, sending this bill to the President so that he could immediately execute on it and get this much-needed aid into Ukrainian hands. Unfortunately, one Member has decided to slow this process down. One Member has caused needless delay. In a few moments, we will vote to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 7691. Because of Senator PAUL's objection, we must go through this step just to bring up the bill for debate. I urge everyone to vote yes. And I would urge the Senator from Kentucky to reconsider his objections and help us move quickly to get this bill to the President.

This emergency bill provides \$40.1 billion—\$7.1 billion more than the administration requested—in critical military and humanitarian assistance for Ukraine, to help defend democracy abroad and to address the rising, global hunger crisis that the world is facing in large part due to Russia's aggression.

This includes \$8.5 billion in additional Presidential drawdown authority for critical weapons transfers and \$6 billion for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative. This will allow us to continue to supply the Ukrainians with the tools they need to defend themselves, their country, and their freedom. The urgent need for these resources cannot be overstated. As we stand here today, the administration is

raising the alarm that if we do not act, the resources we provided in March—which have been critical to Ukraine's success on the battlefield—will be exhausted in a matter of days.

It includes more than \$8.5 billion for the economic support fund to respond to emerging needs in the country and ensure the continuing operation of the government. It provides needed resources for temporary housing, medical care, food, and other basic services for Ukrainian's displaced in their own country and refugees fleeing the violence and devastation Vladimir Putin has inflicted on them and their communities.

The humanitarian crisis instigated at the hands of Vladimir Putin is not limited to within Ukraine's borders or even within the borders of Eastern Europe. It has triggered a global hunger crisis. Last year, before Putin's war, Ukraine grew enough food to feed 400 million people. Today, Ukraine cannot even feed its own people. As David Beasley, the Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme—WFP—testified before the Appropriations Committee last week, war has forced Ukraine from being a global bread basket to being on the bread lines.

Tens of millions of tons of wheat, barley, maize, vegetable oil, and other Ukrainian produce are currently locked in warehouses and languishing in ports occupied by Russian forces. If the ports are not opened, this food will either be stolen or go to waste, leading to skyrocketing prices and regional shortages. The WFP estimates that this will have a ripple effect, increasing the number facing acute hunger by 47 million. This would bring the estimated global total to 323 million people suffering from acute hunger in the 81 countries WFP operates in alone.

It is important to remember that hunger is not a moment in time; it has lasting consequences for families, communities, and whole societies. This is why we cannot wait to act on this crisis. As noted in one recent Washington Post editorial; preventing a looming, global famine is "as urgent and morally necessary as sending tanks to Ukraine."

This bill provides over \$5 billion for global food aid. If those funds are programmed quickly, they will save millions of lives.

Vladimir Putin's war is exacerbating a global crisis of food insecurity already set in motion by the COVID pandemic and successive years of severe drought in Africa. I am extremely disappointed that this bill does not include new resources to address the ongoing COVID pandemic.

Last week, we passed the grim toll of 1 million recorded COVID deaths in our country and estimates as high as 20 million deaths worldwide. If we fail to prepare for anticipated surges in the fall and winter, as immunity from existing vaccines wanes and the virus continues to mutate, the death toll will rise, potentially exponentially.

For months—for months—the administration has warned that we do not have the necessary vaccines, therapeutics, tests, and other resources to stay ahead of this virus. We do not have enough funding to purchase new shots for everybody in the fall, and we already will be forced to ration the next generation of vaccines—more suited to variants like Omicron—to only those at the highest risk.

This is not a problem that can be solved by flipping a switch. We cannot just say that we will appropriate the money later in the fall if it is needed. In order to produce the tens of millions of doses of vaccine that will be necessary, biotech companies need to begin to purchase supplies and start production before July. This means we only have weeks to provide the funding to secure these shots in time.

The same can be said of our testing capacity. Unless we act, domestic manufacturing will continue to shut down, shifting production to countries like China. This will leave us flat-footed once again should another COVID variant wave crash over our country in the fall.

The virus traveled to this country from abroad, and that is where new variants have also originated. The U.S. Agency for International Development, which manages our global response to the COVID pandemic, has obligated 95 percent of the funds they have available. They are running on fumes, and they will have no choice but to start shutting down their vaccine delivery operations if additional funds are not forthcoming soon. That means more mutations, more variants, more infections, and more death.

It is extremely frustrating that, time and again, Members on the other side of the aisle have pushed this responsibility off. We are out of time. We cannot defeat this virus with complacency or by burying our heads in the sand. It remains a global health emergency. According to the experts, it is entirely possible that we have not seen the worst yet. As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue to fight for these urgently needed resources in the coming weeks.

However, the people of Ukraine and the millions facing acute food insecurity require the funds in this bill today, and I strongly urge the Senate to pass it without further delay.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 368, H.R. 7691, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Tim Kaine, Patrick J. Leahy, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, Jacky Rosen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Martin Heinrich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Tammy Baldwin.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 7691, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 81, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 177 Leg.]

YEAS—81

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Barrasso	Hickenlooper	Risch
Bennet	Hirono	Romney
Blumenthal	Hoeven	Rosen
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Booker	Inhofe	Rubio
Brown	Johnson	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Sasse
Capito	Kelly	Schatz
Cardin	Kennedy	Schumer
Carper	King	Scott (FL)
Casey	Klobuchar	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lankford	Shelby
Collins	Leahy	Sinema
Cornyn	Lujan	Smith
Cotton	Manchin	Stabenow
Cramer	McConnell	Sullivan
Cruz	Menendez	Tester
Daines	Merkley	Thune
Duckworth	Moran	Tillis
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Ernst	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Fischer	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wicker
Graham	Peters	Wyden
Grassley	Portman	Young

NAYS—11

Blackburn	Hagerty	Marshall
Boozman	Hawley	Paul
Braun	Lee	Tuberville
Crapo	Lummis	

NOT VOTING—8

Burr	Heinrich	Toomey
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Shaheen	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). On this vote, the yeas are 81, the nays are 11.

Three-fifths of the Senators, duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, this motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

GREATEST GENERATION COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S.1596, 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. 1596) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Rounds-Shaheen substitute amendment which is at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 5034), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The National World War II Memorial was dedicated in Washington, DC, on May 29, 2004, and is located on the east end of the Reflecting Pool on the National Mall, opposite the Lincoln Memorial and west of the Washington Monument.

(2) The dedication of the National World War II Memorial was the culmination of a 17-year effort that started on December 10, 1987 when the World War II Memorial Act was first introduced in the House of Representatives, and was authorized by an Act of Congress signed into law on May 25, 1993. Construction began September 4, 2001, after several years of fundraising and public hearings.

(3) Opening to the public on April 29, 2004, the World War II Memorial is the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II and acknowledges the commitment and achievement of the entire Nation.

(4) The Memorial honors the more than 16,000,000 who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home.

(5) It is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the Nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.

(6) Today, the Memorial is a top destination for millions of annual visitors from all over the country and the world. For many young visitors, their visit to the Memorial is a first glimpse to a grateful Nation's remembrance of the sacrifices made by the World War II generation.

(7) For World War II veterans, the Memorial is a special destination, a rendezvous point, and a gathering place for reunions and commemoration programs.

(8) The Friends of the National World War II Memorial play a vital role in the preservation and maintenance of the National World War II Memorial as a treasure for the American people, while helping to facilitate key commemorative and educational programs at the Memorial to pay tribute to America's "Greatest Generation" and their efforts to preserve liberty for generations to come.

(9) The National World War II Memorial stands as an important symbol of America's national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and power that flows when free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and just cause for liberty.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coin:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
 - (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
 - (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.
- (3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—
- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
 - (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
 - (C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the National World War II Memorial and the service and sacrifice of American soldiers and civilians during World War II.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year "2024"; and
- (C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The designs for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the Friends of the National World War II Memorial; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2024.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of—

- (1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;
- (2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and
- (3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Friends of the National World War II Memorial to support the National Park Service in maintaining and repairing the National World War II Memorial, and for educational and commemorative programs.

(c) AUDITS.—The Friends of the National World War II Memorial shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The bill (S. 1596), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

HOMELAND SECURITY FOR CHILDREN ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 351, H.R. 4426.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4426) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs

of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 4426) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 633, S. Res. 634, and S. Res. 635.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, 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.")

AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF ESCORT COMMITTEE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate to join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort His Excellency Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, into the House Chamber for the joint meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the notice of issuance of Final Regulations Pursuant to the Congressional Accountability Act from the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights be printed in the RECORD.

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

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF FINAL REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

MAY 16, 2022.

Hon. PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: On May 10, 2022, the House of Representatives passed House Resolution 1096, thereby approving the regulations adopted by the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights that were promulgated under section 220(e)(1) of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA), 2 U.S.C. §1351(e)(1), to the extent such regulations are consistent with the provisions of the CAA. The approved regulations govern unionizing and collective bargaining rights in the House offices listed in section 220(e)(2) of the CAA.

Section 304 of the CAA, (2 U.S.C. §1384) provides that, after congressional approval of substantive regulations, the Board shall submit the regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate. Accordingly, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, I am transmitting the enclosed Notice of Issuance of Final Regulations, together with a copy of the final regulations.

The CAA further specifies that the enclosed notice be published in the Congressional Record on the first day on which both the House and the Senate are in session following this transmittal. Because the approved regulations only govern rights in the House offices listed in section 220(e)(2) of the CAA, the Board requests publication only in the Congressional Record for the House.

Sincerely,

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,
Chair of the Board of Directors,
Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.
Attachment.

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF FINAL REGULATIONS

The Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (CAA) was enacted into law on January 23, 1995. In general, the CAA applies the rights and protections of 14 federal labor and employment law statutes to covered congressional employees and employing offices. Section 220 of the CAA addresses the application of chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code (chapter 71), relating to Federal Service Labor-Management Relations. Section 220(a) of the CAA applies the rights, protections, and responsibilities established under sections 7102, 7106, 7111 through 7117, 7119 through 7122, and 7131 of chapter 71 to employing offices, covered employees, and representatives of covered employees.

Section 220(d) of the Act requires the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (Board) to issue regulations to implement section 220. The Board adopted final regulations under section 220(d) on July 9, 1996; Congress subsequently approved those regulations; and they became effective on November 30, 1996.

Section 220(e)(1) of the CAA further requires that the Board issue regulations "on the manner and extent to which the requirements and exemptions of chapter 71 . . . should apply to covered employees who are employed in the offices listed in" section 220(e)(2). The offices listed in section 220(e)(2) include:

(A) the personal office of any Member of the House of Representatives;

(B) a standing, select, special, permanent, temporary, or other committee of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Major-

ity Leader of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Offices of the Chief Deputy Majority Whips, the Offices of the Chief Deputy Minority Whips, and the following offices within the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives: Offices of Legislative Operations, Official Reporters of Debate, Official Reporters to Committees, Printing Services, and Legislative Information;

(D) the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives, the Office of the General Counsel of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, and the Office of the Law Revision Counsel;

(E) the offices of any caucus or party organization within the House of Representatives;

(F) the Office of the Majority Whip of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Minority Whip of the House of Representatives, the Office of House Employment Counsel, the Immediate Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Immediate Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, the Office of Legislative Computer Systems of the House of Representatives, the Office of Finance of the House of Representatives, and the Immediate Office of the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives.

On August 19, 1996, the Board, pursuant to section 220(e)(1), adopted and submitted for publication in the Congressional Record Regulations Relating to the House of Representatives and Its Employing Offices, which are attached to this Notice. On May 10, 2022, the House of Representatives passed House Resolution 1096, thereby approving these regulations to the extent such regulations are consistent with the provisions of the CAA.

Section 220(f)(2) of the CAA provides that, "[w]ith respect to the offices listed in subsection (e)(2), to the covered employees of such offices, and to representatives of such employees, [section 220] shall be effective on the effective date of regulations under subsection (e)." Pursuant to section 304 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §1384, approved regulations become effective not less than 60 days after the date on which they are published in the Congressional Record. Although the Board has the authority to provide for an earlier effective date for good cause found, the Board does not find good cause to provide for an earlier effective date for these regulations. Therefore, these regulations will become effective 60 days after the date on which they are published in the Congressional Record.

Accordingly, having now been approved by the House, the Board submits its regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives for publication in the Congressional Record.

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,
Chair of the Board of Directors,
Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

FINAL REGULATIONS

Regulations Relating to the House of Representatives and Its Employing Offices

H Series

H2472 Specific regulations regarding certain offices of Congress

H2472.1 Purpose and Scope

The regulations contained in this section implement the provisions of chapter 71 as applied by section 220 of the CAA to covered employees in the following employing offices:

(A) the personal office of any Member of the House of Representatives;

(B) a standing, select, special, permanent, temporary, or other committee of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Offices of the Chief Deputy Majority Whips, the Offices of the Chief Deputy Minority Whips, and the following offices within the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives: Offices of Legislative Operations, Official Reporters of Debate, Official Reporters to Committees, Printing Services, and Legislative Information;

(D) the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives, the Office of the General Counsel of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives, and the Office of the Law Revision Counsel;

(E) the offices of any caucus or party organization within the House of Representatives;

(F) the Office of the Majority Whip of the House of Representatives, the Office of the Minority Whip of the House of Representatives, the Office of House Employment Counsel, the Immediate Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, the Immediate Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, the Office of Legislative Computer Systems of the House of Representatives, the Office of Finance of the House of Representatives, and the Immediate Office of the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives.

H2472.2 Application of Chapter 71

(a) The requirements and exemptions of chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, as made applicable by section 220 of the CAA, shall apply to covered employees who are employed in the offices listed in section H2472.1 in the same manner and to the same extent as those requirements and exemptions are applied to other covered employees.

(b) The regulations of the Office, as set forth at section 2420-29 and 2470-71, shall apply to the employing offices listed in section H2472.1, covered employees who are employed in those offices, and representatives of those employees.

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF LAW

● Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the University of Connecticut School of Law as it celebrates 100 years of extraordinary legal education.

In 1921, George William Lillard and Caroline Eiermann Lillard founded the Hartford College of Law to provide Hartford insurance company employees with a legal education. Among the members of the first graduating class was Miss J. Agnes Burns, who was the first female attorney to present to the Connecticut Supreme Court.

The college continued to grow during the 1930s, even amid unstable economic times. It reached a student body of 100 part-time night students with three full-time instructors. In September 1933, the American Bar Association—ABA—approved the college, and the examining committee of the Connecticut

Bar Association accredited the institution. The Hartford College of Law also appointed their first full-time dean, Thomas A. Larremore. Within the decade, the school amended the charter to organize the college as a nonprofit educational corporation and added the day division program to allow for full-time study.

During World War II, when enrollment dropped dramatically, the University of Connecticut, based in Storrs, CT, agreed to take responsibility for the Hartford College of Law to prevent it from closing. The initial lease was for 5 years, and the full title was conveyed to the university on September 1, 1948, renaming the college as the University of Connecticut School of Law. The first class at the newly established school of law was also the first class to have all of its members pass the State bar.

In 1964, a new home for the law school was opened, with a modern look designed by the architect of the Storrs campus' renowned Jorgensen Auditorium, Frederic C. Teich. The West Hartford News called the law school's new campus reveal a "most significant event in our state's history." The opening received an entire section in the local newspaper, including a two-page photo layout and an article praising the building's lighting and the library's book collection and technological elements.

With the new building came a 40-percent increase in admissions. Soon, the new building was overflowing, and by the late 1970s, the ABA expressed concerns about the facilities meeting accreditation standards. In June 1978, Governor Ella Grasso signed legislation that allowed for the purchase and renovation of the then empty Hartford Seminary campus to accommodate the increased demand for legal education. The law school remains at that location, housed in a beautiful campus, with ornate structures befitting a century old, august institution.

Since its founding, the University of Connecticut School of Law has grown exponentially in both size and stature. It opened its first clinic, the Criminal Clinic, in 1969. Further degree programs were also established: in 1994, its first LL.M. program, in U.S. legal studies; and in 2013, the doctor of the science of laws program.

Many illustrious alumni have entered public service, working on behalf of the State and the Nation. Others have contributed to the ongoing evolution of the law, especially in areas such as property, tax, and insurance law. The law school, through its clinics, has assisted many Connecticut residents who otherwise could not afford lawyers.

As the former Connecticut Attorney General, I can attest to the fact that many of the assistant attorneys general, who graduated from the law school, provided the State with dedicated and insightful legal representation.

On October 25, 2021, hundreds of students, alumni, faculty, and staff cele-

brated Founders' Day, in honor of the Lillards. The event began a yearlong celebration, which culminates on June 11, 2022, with the centennial gala.

The University of Connecticut School of Law has had an immeasurable impact on our State and countless residents. As the school celebrates its centennial, I applaud its exemplary record of success and achievement. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the University of Connecticut School of Law on 100 years of excellence.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN E. BERGER

● Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the legacy and impact of Steve Berger, follower of Christ and beloved pastor, leader, mentor, and friend.

Since Steve was called to serve the ministry more than 30 years ago, he has been a giant in the faith. His passion, his boldness, and his resolve in spreading love and the glory of God has been an inspiration to so many, and has truly been a force for good in our community.

I commend the devotion to faith that marks Steve's life and has marked the lives of many others in turn. Through Steve's courageous preaching and wise leadership, Grace Chapel has transcended the walls of the local church and has seen such success across our great State.

Steve has always been one to lead by example, constantly showing his relentless love for the hurting, oppressed, and impoverished across the globe. Steve's profound devotion has taken him to some of the farthest corners of the world to serve, help, and save those who are suffering. Steve has brokered peace in war-torn countries and has been a faithful, generous, and loving friend to Israel. He has brought God's healing to the wounded, His Word to the burdened, His sustenance to the poor, and His hope to the persecuted.

And so it is with a glad and grateful heart that today I rise to affirm and honor the tremendous influence of Steve Berger.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 91. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 South Pendleton Street in Easley, South Carolina, as the "Private First Class Barrett Lyle Austin Post Office Building".

H.R. 92. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 Johnson Street in Pickens, South Carolina, as the "Specialist Four Charles Johnson Post Office".

H.R. 207. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 215 1st Avenue in Amory, Mississippi, as the "Command Sergeant Major Lawrence E. 'Rabbit' Kennedy Post Office Building".

H.R. 209. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at the 305 Highway 15 North in Pontotoc, Mississippi, as the "Lance Corporal Marc Lucas Tucker Post Office Building".

H.R. 903. An act to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3508. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 39 West Main Street, in Honeoye Falls, New York, as the "CW4 Christian J. Koch Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 5129. An act to amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and modernize the Act.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term effective May 14, 2022, and ending May 14, 2024: Mr. Nury Turkel of Alexandria, Virginia, Mr. Frank R. Wolf of Vienna, Virginia, to succeed Ms. Anurima Bhargava of Chicago, Illinois, and Dr. David G. Curry of Corona Del Mar, California, to succeed Dr. James W. Carr of Searcy, Arkansas.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1687(b)(1)(A-B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2022 (Public Law 117-81), the Minority Leader appoints the following member to the Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States: Mr. Matthew Kroenig of McLean, Virginia.

The message further announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, the Minority Leader reappoints the following member to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Gunter Waibel of Oakland, California.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 91. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 South Pendleton Street in Easley, South Carolina, as the "Private First Class Barrett Lyle Austin Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 92. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 Johnson Street in Pickens, South Carolina, as the "Specialist Four Charles Johnson Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 207. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 215 1st Avenue in Amory, Mississippi, as the "Command Sergeant Major Lawrence E. 'Rabbit' Kennedy Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 209. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 305 Highway 15 North in Pontotoc, Mississippi, as the "Lance Corporal Marc Lucas

Tucker Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 903. To enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3508. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 39 West Main Street, in Honeoye Falls, New York, as the "CW4 Christian J. Koch Memorial Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5129. An act to amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and modernize the Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4220. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require Visa Waiver Program countries to share watch list information about known or suspected terrorists and to fully cooperate with the United States law enforcement entities in preventing and combating serious crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4221. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KING:

S. 4222. A bill to establish the St. Croix National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 4223. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2022, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4224. A bill to require the expenditure of an equal amount on border security as on the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative and to confiscate Russian assets and make such assets available for border security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HASSAN:

S. 4225. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating the Canterbury Shaker Village National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 4226. A bill to designate baby formula as a scarce and critical material under the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4227. A bill to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 632. A resolution calling for the immediate release of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza, who was unjustly detained on April 11, 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Res. 633. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2022, as "Silver Star Service Banner Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CORNYN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 634. A resolution recognizing National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges of children in the foster care system, and encouraging Congress to implement policies to improve the lives of children in the foster care system; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 635. A resolution designating May 2022 as "ALS Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 636. A resolution urging the development of a strategy to counter the rise in violent crime across the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 602

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 602, a bill to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

S. 1265

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1265, a bill to amend section 2702 of title 18, United States Code, to prevent law enforcement and intelligence agencies from obtaining subscriber or customer records in exchange for anything of value, to address communications and records in the possession of intermediary internet service providers, and for other purposes.

S. 2410

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

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2607, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2854, a bill to allow for the transfer and redemption of abandoned savings bonds.

S. 2887

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2887, a bill to codify the existing Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 3281

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3281, a bill to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to clarify and expand food donation, and for other purposes.

S. 3318

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3318, a bill to deter foreign financial institutions from providing banking services for the benefit of foreign terrorist organizations and from

facilitating or promoting payments for acts of terrorism.

S. 3336

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3336, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes.

S. 3546

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3546, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

S. 3854

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3854, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3904

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3904, a bill to enhance the cybersecurity of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector.

S. 4003

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 4003, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for training on alternatives to use of force, de-escalation, and mental and behavioral health and suicidal crises.

S. 4190

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4190, a bill to provide for the independent and objective conduct and supervision of audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to Ukraine for military, economic, and humanitarian aid.

S. CON. RES. 38

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 38, a concurrent resolution declaring a state of emergency due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, in order to establish a waiver of the minimum tonnage requirements of section 55305 of title 46, United States Code.

S. CON. RES. 39

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr.

DURBIN), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 39, a concurrent resolution honoring the 1,000,000 individuals who have died from COVID-19 in the United States.

S. RES. 547

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 547, a resolution recognizing the 201st anniversary of Greek Independence and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4221. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Equal COLA Act, which I introduced today.

The Federal Government's workforce is central to protecting our national security and delivering critical services to hundreds of millions of Americans. As such, it is essential that the Federal Government attract and retain an effective workforce and, once their service is complete, ensure retirees receive the dignified retirement that they deserve.

Unfortunately, in 1986, Congress created a two-tiered system that now prevents nearly 800,000 retired Federal employees from receiving a full cost-of-living adjustment when consumer prices increase more than 2 percent from year to year.

In January, some Federal retirees received 5.9 percent COLA. However, other Federal retirees received only a 4.9 percent increase due to this policy, which fails to protect retired employees who are living on a fixed income.

That is why I am proud to introduce this legislation to fix this unfair system and ensure that all retired Federal employees receive full retirement benefits that keep up with the cost of living.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to ensure that retired Federal employees no longer pay the price of a misguided law and that their benefits fully keep pace with the cost of living.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 632—CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF RUSSIAN OPPOSITION LEADER VLADIMIR KARAMURZA, WHO WAS UNJUSTLY DETAINED ON APRIL 11, 2022

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. JOHNSON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 632

Whereas Vladimir Vladimirovich Karamurza (referred to in this preamble as "Mr. Kara-Murza") has tirelessly worked for decades to advance the cause of freedom, democracy, and human rights for the people of the Russian Federation;

Whereas, in retaliation for his advocacy, two attempts have been made on Mr. Karamurza's life, as—

(1) on May 26, 2015, Mr. Kara-Murza fell ill with symptoms indicative of poisoning and was hospitalized; and

(2) on February 2, 2017, he fell ill with similar symptoms and was placed in a medically induced coma;

Whereas independent investigations conducted by Bellingcat, the Insider, and Der Spiegel found that the same unit of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation responsible for poisoning Mr. Karamurza was responsible for poisoning Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny and activists Timur Kuashev, Ruslan Magomedragimov, and Nikita Isayev;

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, Vladimir Putin launched another unprovoked, unjustified, and illegal invasion into Ukraine in contravention of the obligations freely undertaken by the Russian Federation to respect the territorial integrity of Ukraine under the Budapest Memorandum of 1994, the Minsk protocols of 2014 and 2015, and international law;

Whereas, on March 5, 2022, Vladimir Putin signed a law criminalizing the distribution of truthful statements about the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and mandating up to 15 years in prison for such offenses;

Whereas, since February 24, 2022, Mr. Karamurza has used his voice and platform to join more than 15,000 citizens of the Russian Federation in peacefully protesting the war against Ukraine and millions more who silently oppose the war;

Whereas, on April 11, 2022, five police officers arrested Mr. Kara-Murza in front of his home and denied his right to an attorney, and the next day Mr. Kara-Murza was sentenced to 15 days in prison for disobeying a police order;

Whereas, on April 22, 2022, the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation charged Mr. Kara-Murza with violations under the law signed on March 5, 2022, for his fact-based statements condemning the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation;

Whereas Mr. Kara-Murza was then placed into pretrial detention and ordered to be held until at least June 12, 2022; and

Whereas, if convicted of those charges, Mr. Kara-Murza faces detention in a penitentiary system that human rights nongovernmental organizations have criticized for widespread torture, ill-treatment, and suspicious deaths of prisoners: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the unjust detention and indicting of Russian opposition leader Vladimir Vladimirovich Kara-Murza, who has courageously stood up to oppression in the Russian Federation;

(2) expresses solidarity with Vladimir Vladimirovich Kara-Murza, his family, and all individuals in the Russian Federation imprisoned for exercising their fundamental freedoms of speech, assembly, and belief;

(3) urges the United States Government and other allied governments to work to secure the immediate release of Vladimir Vladimirovich Kara-Murza, Alexei Navalny, and other citizens of the Russian Federation imprisoned for opposing the regime of Vladimir Putin and the war against Ukraine; and

(4) calls on the President to increase support provided by the United States Government for those advocating for democracy and independent media in the Russian Federation, which Vladimir Vladimirovich Kara-Murza has worked to advance.

SENATE RESOLUTION 633—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 1, 2022, AS “SILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY”

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 633

Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were wounded or became ill in combat in the wars fought by the United States;

Whereas the Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the people of the United States remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Silver Star Flags for that purpose;

Whereas the sole mission of the Silver Star Families of America is to evoke memories of the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States through the presence of a Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Flag flying;

Whereas the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States should never be forgotten; and

Whereas May 1, 2022, is an appropriate date to designate as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 1, 2022, as “Silver Star Service Banner Day”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe Silver Star Service Banner Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 634—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE CHALLENGES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, AND ENCOURAGING CONGRESS TO IMPLEMENT POLICIES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN,

Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CORNYN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 634

Whereas National Foster Care Month was established more than 30 years ago to—

(1) bring foster care issues to the forefront;

(2) highlight the importance of permanency for every child; and

(3) recognize the essential role that foster parents, social workers, and advocates have in the lives of children in foster care throughout the United States;

Whereas all children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home;

Whereas the primary goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety and well-being of children while working to provide a safe, loving, and permanent home for each child;

Whereas there are approximately 407,000 children living in foster care in the United States;

Whereas there were approximately 216,000 youths that entered the foster care system in 2020 in the United States, while more than 117,000 youths were awaiting adoption at the end of 2020;

Whereas more than 75,000 children entered foster care in 2020 due to parental drug abuse;

Whereas children of color are more likely to stay in the foster care system for longer periods of time and are less likely to be reunited with their biological families;

Whereas foster parents are the front-line caregivers for children who cannot safely remain with their biological parents, and foster parents provide physical care, emotional support, and education advocacy, and are the largest single source of families providing permanent homes for children leaving foster care to adoption;

Whereas children in foster care who are placed with relatives, compared to children placed with non-relatives—

(1) have more stability, including fewer changes in placements;

(2) have more positive perceptions of their placements;

(3) are more likely to be placed with their siblings; and

(4) demonstrate fewer behavioral problems;

Whereas some relative caregivers receive less financial assistance and support services than do foster caregivers;

Whereas an increased emphasis on prevention and reunification services is necessary to reduce the number of children that enter or re-enter the foster care system;

Whereas the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic created additional challenges for youth and families in the child welfare system, including delays in permanency, economic hardship, and disruptions in education;

Whereas more than 20,000 youths aged out of foster care in 2020 without a legal permanent connection to an adult or family;

Whereas youth who age out of foster care lack the security or support of a biological or adoptive family and frequently struggle to secure affordable housing, obtain health insurance, pursue higher education, and acquire adequate employment;

Whereas foster care is intended to be a temporary placement, but children remain in the foster care system for an average of 21 months;

Whereas 35 percent of children in foster care experience more than 2 placements while in care, which often leads to disruption of routines and the need to change schools and move away from siblings, extended families, and familiar surroundings;

Whereas youth in foster care are much more likely to face educational instability with a study showing that 75 percent of foster youth experienced an unscheduled school change during a school year, compared to 21 percent of youth not in foster care;

Whereas children entering foster care often confront the widespread misperception that children in foster care are disruptive, unruly, and dangerous, even though placement in foster care is based on the actions of a parent or guardian, not the child;

Whereas 30 percent of children in foster care are taking not less than 1 anti-psychotic medication, and 34 percent of those children are not receiving adequate treatment planning or medication monitoring;

Whereas, due to heavy caseloads and limited resources, the average annual turnover rate is between 14 percent and 22 percent for child welfare workers;

Whereas States, localities, and communities should be encouraged to invest resources in preventative and reunification services and post-permanency programs to ensure that more children and older youth in foster care are provided with safe, loving, and permanent placements;

Whereas, in 2018, Congress passed the Family First Prevention Services Act (Public Law 115-123; 132 Stat. 232), which provided new investments in prevention and family reunification services to help more families stay together and ensure more children are in safe, loving, and permanent homes;

Whereas Federal legislation during the past 3 decades, including the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-272; 94 Stat. 500), the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-89; 111 Stat. 2115), the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-351; 122 Stat. 3949), the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-34; 125 Stat. 369), and the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (Public Law 113-183; 128 Stat. 1919) provided new investments and services to improve the outcomes of children in the foster care system;

Whereas May 2022 is an appropriate month to designate as National Foster Care Month to provide an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of the child welfare workforce, foster parents, advocacy community, and mentors for their dedication, accomplishments, and positive impact they have on the lives of children; and

Whereas much remains to be done to ensure that all children have a safe, loving, nurturing, and permanent family, regardless of age or special needs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 2022 as National Foster Care Month;

(2) recognizes National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges that children face in the foster care system;

(3) encourages Congress to implement policies to improve the lives of children in the foster care system;

(4) acknowledges the unique needs of children in the foster care system;

(5) recognizes foster youth throughout the United States for their ongoing tenacity, courage, and resilience while facing life challenges;

(6) acknowledges the exceptional alumni of the foster care system who serve as advocates and role models for youth who remain in care;

(7) honors the commitment and dedication of the individuals who work tirelessly to provide assistance and services to children in the foster care system;

(8) supports the designation of May 31, 2022, as National Foster Parent Appreciation Day;

(9) recognizes National Foster Parent Appreciation Day as an opportunity to recognize the efforts of foster parents to provide safe and loving care for children in need and raise awareness about the increasing need for foster parents to serve in their communities; and

(10) reaffirms the need to continue working to improve the outcomes of all children in the foster care system through parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and other programs designed to—

(A) support vulnerable families;

(B) invest in prevention and reunification services;

(C) promote adoption in cases where reunification is not in the best interests of the child;

(D) adequately serve those children brought into the foster care system; and

(E) facilitate the successful transition into adulthood for youth that “age out” of the foster care system.

SENATE RESOLUTION 635—DESIGNATING MAY 2022 AS “ALS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 635

Whereas amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this preamble as “ALS”) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord;

Whereas the life expectancy for an individual with ALS is between 2 and 5 years after the date on which the individual receives an ALS diagnosis;

Whereas ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender, or socioeconomic boundaries;

Whereas ALS may affect any individual in any location;

Whereas the cause of ALS is unknown in up to 90 percent of cases;

Whereas approximately 10 percent of ALS cases have a strong known genetic driver;

Whereas, on average, the period between the date on which an individual first experiences symptoms of ALS and the date on which the individual is diagnosed with ALS is more than 1 year;

Whereas the onset of ALS often involves muscle weakness or stiffness, and the progression of ALS results in the further weakening, wasting, and paralysis of—

(1) the muscles of the limbs and trunk; and

(2) the muscles that control vital functions, such as speech, swallowing, and breathing;

Whereas ALS can strike individuals of any age, but it predominantly strikes adults;

Whereas it is estimated that tens of thousands of individuals in the United States have ALS at any given time;

Whereas, based on studies of the population of the United States, slightly more than 5,000 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each year, and 15 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each day;

Whereas, between 2015 and 2040, the number of ALS cases around the world is expected to increase by nearly 70 percent;

Whereas the majority of individuals with ALS die of respiratory failure;

Whereas, in the United States, military veterans are approximately twice as likely to be diagnosed with ALS than the general public;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, there is no cure for ALS;

Whereas the spouses, children, and family members of individuals living with ALS provide support to those individuals with love, day-to-day care, and more; and

Whereas an individual with ALS, and the caregivers of such an individual, can be required to bear significant costs for medical care, equipment, and home care services for the individual as the disease progresses: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 2022 as “ALS Awareness Month”;

(2) affirms the dedication of the Senate to—

(A) ensuring individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (referred to in this resolving clause as “ALS”) have access to effective treatments as soon as possible;

(B) identifying risk factors and causes of ALS to prevent new cases;

(C) empowering individuals with ALS to engage with the world in the way they want;

(D) reducing the physical, emotional, and financial burdens of living with ALS; and

(E) ensuring all individuals with ALS and their caregivers receive high quality services and supports that benefit them; and

(3) commends the dedication of the family members, friends, organizations, volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the United States who are working to improve the quality and length of life of ALS patients and the development of treatments and cures that reach patients as soon as possible.

SENATE RESOLUTION 636—URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY TO COUNTER THE RISE IN VIOLENT CRIME ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 636

Whereas rising crime, especially violent crime, in the United States poses a threat to the national interest, as well as to the safety and security of individuals, communities, businesses, law enforcement officers, and the rule of law;

Whereas, for the purposes of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, violent crimes consist of offenses that involve force or the threat of force, namely—

(1) murder and non-negligent manslaughter;

(2) forcible rape;

(3) robbery; and

(4) aggravated assault;

Whereas violent crimes are occurring every day in major cities across the United

States in part due to progressive prosecutors declining to charge violent offenders and certain bail reform policies allowing dangerous criminals back into society;

Whereas released offenders go on to commit more violent crimes and inflict more terror and death on other individuals in the United States;

Whereas rising violent crime destroys families and should be combated by criminal justice systems that prosecute the offenders as offenders, and not as victims;

Whereas the murder rate in the United States rose 30 percent between 2019 and 2020, the largest single-year increase in more than a century;

Whereas there was a 59 percent increase in murders of police officers in 2021;

Whereas, as of April 1, 2022, 101 police officers had been shot this year, 17 of whom were killed by gunfire;

Whereas at least 16 cities in the United States set murder records in 2021;

Whereas organized retail crime threats in 2020 cost retailers an average of \$720,000 for every \$1,000,000,000 in sales, and 69 percent of retailers surveyed in 2021 had seen an increase in organized retail crime in 2021;

Whereas organized retail crime threatens the safety of retail workers as organized crime groups, gangs, and individuals use weapons other than guns, such as mace chemical spray and Taser stun guns, to rob and assault hard-working retail employees;

Whereas rising violent crime in the United States can be directly correlated to a surge in illegal immigration at the southern border of the United States and a surge in the sale, distribution, and consumption of illegal drugs;

Whereas, in December 2021, 178,840 illegal immigrants were apprehended attempting to cross the United States-Mexico border, the highest total for December in the history of the Department of Homeland Security, and a 142 percent increase from December 2020;

Whereas more than 2,500,000 illegal immigrants have been caught attempting to cross the United States-Mexico border since January 2021, with more apprehended in the 3-month period from November 2021 through January 2022 than in all of fiscal year 2020;

Whereas 461 pounds of fentanyl were seized at the southern border in December 2021 alone, enough to kill more than 30 percent of the United States population;

Whereas drug cartels have overburdened Border Patrol resources by surging illegal immigrants into strategic locations so that the cartels can traffic narcotics and other contraband into the United States undetected;

Whereas violent crimes related to illegal immigration and the illegal drug trade must stop for the sake of the sovereignty of the United States and the safety of the people of the United States;

Whereas, with overdose deaths at an all-time high, every State is a border State, as the flow of illegal drugs from the United States-Mexico border puts all States at risk regardless of proximity to the border;

Whereas securing the southern border and ensuring the safety of citizens of the United States is one of the most important responsibilities of the Federal Government;

Whereas the current Administration's alleged violent crime reduction strategy is actually a gun control strategy and wrongly puts lawful gun owners and dealers at the center of enforcement efforts instead of focusing on the criminals perpetuating violence, insecurity, and fear across the United States;

Whereas the same gun violence reduction strategy unfairly puts the blame for gun violence in major, Democrat-run cities and

States on neighboring States with lower crime rates; and

Whereas violent crimes can only be combated if the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, other law enforcement agencies, and the private sector work together: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the President should work with Congress to develop and execute a strategy, drawing on the multiple instruments of power and resources of the United States—

(1) to counter the rise in violent crime across the country by reinforcing strong criminal justice policies, by laying blame on the perpetrators of violent acts, and by securing the southern border; and

(2) to coordinate with Federal, State, and local agencies and authorities to—

(A) implement the strategy; and

(B) exhort all those agencies and authorities to strengthen their approaches to combat the violent crime epidemic within the country.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5033. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7691, making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5034. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1596, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5033. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7691, making emergency supplemental appropriations for assistance for the situation in Ukraine for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . OFFSET OF COSTS USING UNOBLIGATED FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021.

Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, of the unobligated balances made available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2; 135 Stat. 4), or an amendment made by such Act, there is rescinded, on a pro rata basis, the amount necessary to reduce the total amount of such unobligated balances by an amount equal to the total amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SA 5034. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1596, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) The National World War II Memorial was dedicated in Washington, DC, on May 29, 2004, and is located on the east end of the Reflecting Pool on the National Mall, opposite the Lincoln Memorial and west of the Washington Monument.

(2) The dedication of the National World War II Memorial was the culmination of a 17-year effort that started on December 10, 1987 when the World War II Memorial Act was first introduced in the House of Representatives, and was authorized by an Act of Congress signed into law on May 25, 1993. Construction began September 4, 2001, after several years of fundraising and public hearings.

(3) Opening to the public on April 29, 2004, the World War II Memorial is the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II and acknowledges the commitment and achievement of the entire Nation.

(4) The Memorial honors the more than 16,000,000 who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home.

(5) It is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the Nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.

(6) Today, the Memorial is a top destination for millions of annual visitors from all over the country and the world. For many young visitors, their visit to the Memorial is a first glimpse to a grateful Nation’s remembrance of the sacrifices made by the World War II generation.

(7) For World War II veterans, the Memorial is a special destination, a rendezvous point, and a gathering place for reunions and commemoration programs.

(8) The Friends of the National World War II Memorial play a vital role in the preservation and maintenance of the National World War II Memorial as a treasure for the American people, while helping to facilitate key commemorative and educational programs at the Memorial to pay tribute to America’s “Greatest Generation” and their efforts to preserve liberty for generations to come.

(9) The National World War II Memorial stands as an important symbol of America’s national unity, a timeless reminder of the moral strength and power that flows when free people are at once united and bonded together in a common and just cause for liberty.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coin:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 8.359 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

(A) weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the National World War II Memorial and the service and sacrifice of American soldiers and civilians during World War II.

(2) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2024”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The designs for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the Friends of the National World War II Memorial; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2024.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include a surcharge of—

(1) \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

(2) \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

(3) \$5 per coin for the half-dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Friends of the National World War II Memorial to support the National Park Service in maintaining and repairing the National World War II Memorial, and for educational and commemorative programs.

(c) AUDITS.—The Friends of the National World War II Memorial shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, shall be disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 17,
2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 17; that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of

proceedings being approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day and morning business be closed; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 368, H.R. 7619, a bill to provide aid to Ukraine, postcloture; further, that all postcloture debate time expire at 4 p.m., and that if the motion to proceed is agreed to, it be in order to file cloture on the bill during Tuesday's session; further, that following the disposition of the motion to proceed, the Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the Rochon, Thompson, and Sykes nominations; and that if cloture is invoked on any of the nominations, all postcloture time be expired and confirmation votes be at a time to be determined by the majority leader or his designee in consultation with the Republican leader; finally, that following the cloture vote on the Sykes

nomination, the Senate resume legislative session and proceed to Calendar No. 368, H.R. 7691.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of Senators, the Senate will begin gathering in the Senate Chamber at 10:20 a.m. and depart at 10:35 to proceed as a body to the Hall of the House for the joint meeting.

Senators should also expect four roll-call votes beginning at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 2:30 P.M.
TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:24 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 2:30 p.m.