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No. 27

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, the fountain of light and truth, we rise and stand because of Your mercies. You make our plans succeed.

Today, shine the light of Your presence upon our Senators. As they wrestle with complexity, show them the way. Lord, give them the wisdom You have promised to all who will simply request it. Remind them of Your mission to bring deliverance to captives and liberty to the bruised. May our lawmakers focus on pleasing You and not on political consequences. Give them contrite and humble spirits. Teach them new and creative ways to cooperate with each other for the common good.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 9, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

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

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 13 percent of the American people believe the state of our Union is strong—13 percent. Just 16 percent say they are

better off financially today than they were 2 years ago. But on Tuesday night, it took President Biden the most words in the history of the State of the Union to declare that everything is actually going swimmingly and he doesn't plan to change a thing.

To working families, who have been crushed by historic inflation because of his policies, President Biden offered to cut a few dollars off the fees of concert tickets and hotel stays they can't afford anyway. To Americans who are worried that he just let a Chinese spy balloon surveil our country from coast to coast, the President described his slow and unsteady reaction as a big success. To a country that is already teetering on the brink of recession because of him, President Biden proposed even more gigantic new tax hikes. To the American people who are frightened and curious about surging violent crime, President Biden took aim at the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens and implied that taxpayers need to pay for even more welfare spending before we can expect people not to commit murder.

The President paid lip service to the obscene quantities of foreign fentanyl that flow across our open borders and kill our people, but his main border proposal was to dangle the prospect of amnesty for people who come here illegally.

He repeated his broken promise not to sign tax hikes that hit the middle class when he has already hiked taxes on American jobs and American energy.

The country got to hear a lecture about treating political opponents with respect from the President who lied about State voting laws and compared half the country to Bull Connor and Jefferson Davis and a lecture about our democratic institutions from the President who endorsed permanently breaking the Senate so that his party could grab more power.

President Biden expressed not one ounce of contrition or accountability

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



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for the failures that have hurt families, cost his party the House, and left only 16 percent of Americans better off financially now than they were on Inauguration Day.

And the President's thin and paltry discussion of his failing foreign policy was downright alarming. Europe is in the grip of the continent's worst violent conflict since World War II. China is gaining as the largest strategic threat to American security since the Soviet Union. The Taliban has reinstated their oppressive regime and safe terrorist haven that America and our allies chased out more than two decades ago.

North Korea continues to modernize its nuclear and missile programs, making steady progress toward the leader's goal of being able to deliver Armageddon to our doorstep.

The Iranian regime continues to advance its own WMD programs while sponsoring terror campaigns all across the Middle East. Make no mistake, this radical regime is willing and eager to kill Americans if it is not deterred. And while the Iranian people protest nationwide against a brutal theocracy, President Biden couldn't even muster one mention of their struggle.

This is the state of the world on President Biden's watch. This is the state of America's interests under his leadership. But President Biden did not even mention the grave and growing challenges we face from abroad until the tail end of his lengthy remarks.

The President downplayed the threat posed by the People's Republic of China and claimed without any evidence that the United States was in its strongest position to compete with China in decades. I am not sure in what universe those remarks apply. Here in the real world, China's intelligence services just got a closeup look of the entire U.S. mainland. Reports indicate Chinese hypersonic weapons and land-based ICBM launchers exceed our own. And President Biden's last budget proposal tried to cut our national defense funding after inflation. The Commander in Chief seems more preoccupied with hidden "resort fees" than hidden Chinese malware in our phones, computers, and high-tech infrastructure.

Then there is Ukraine. President Biden said Putin's invasion of Ukraine has been a test of America's and our allies' resolve. That is certainly true, but, like the Chinese balloon, the Ukraine crisis was also a test of the Biden administration's response time, and they fell quite short.

Republicans tried to push the administration to better equip Ukraine to defend itself before the tanks rolled and to act more quickly and decisively in the early weeks to try to prevent a protracted stalemate. The indecision, hand-wringing, and sluggishness have carried a heavy price indeed. The President can't even get the bully pulpit right.

There is an overwhelmingly persuasive case that aiding Ukraine strongly

and directly serves our core American national interests, but President Biden seems incapable of articulating any of it. It is top Republicans who are filling the leadership vacuum, connecting the dots, and making the case. Yet again, Presidential leadership is missing in action, and it is Republicans filling the void. So let's hope President Biden's upcoming defense budget request will treat our national security challenges more seriously than his speech did on Tuesday night.

With fewer than one in five Americans calling the state of our Union strong, President Biden needed to pivot, but he failed to. He spent the wordiest State of the Union in American history making excuses, doubling down, and spinning alternate realities. But if Washington Democrats will not pivot, the American people will pivot away from them. It is already starting.

Seated behind the President Tuesday night was the new Republican Speaker of the House, KEVIN MCCARTHY, and following him on the airwaves was the youngest Governor in America, Sarah Huckabee Sanders of Arkansas—part of a whole wave of Republican Governors who are laser-focused on fighting crime, improving education, and lifting more working families into prosperity.

The American people know which principles and solutions will bring our country back, and they are seeing which party actually provides them.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the 11 a.m. vote today, the Senate recess until 1 p.m.

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

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, on Tuesday, President Biden delivered his State of the Union Address to Congress, and in this time of divided government, I was glad to see the President making more than one nod to bipartisanship. I do think this moment, with power split between Democrats and Republicans, provides a real oppor-

tunity to work together, to move away from the extreme partisanship of the past couple of years and make some real progress on some of the issues facing us.

But the President's speech also left me concerned because the President demonstrated almost no awareness of what actually happened as a result of his policies. Indeed, at times, it seemed as if the President had lived through a different reality from the one most Americans have been experiencing over the past 2 years.

The President rattled off a list of his supposed economic achievements, and I say "supposed" because he left out some vitally important context. He claimed credit for the historic job creation while leaving out the essential detail that a lot of that job creation was simply a result of the economy naturally adding back jobs temporarily lost during the pandemic. He talked about wage growth while leaving out the fact that real wages have declined—have declined—because of inflation over his Presidency. And he appeared to take credit for the fact that inflation has declined somewhat in recent months while neglecting to mention that it was his administration and congressional Democrats who helped create our inflation crisis with their American Rescue Plan spending spree.

Nor did the President spend any time discussing just how bad inflation still is and how many Americans are still suffering. Inflation in December was 6.5 percent. The last time inflation was that bad was in 1982—1982—40 years ago. I am glad inflation has declined somewhat, but I don't think the President has a lot to be congratulating himself about. Even if prices stopped increasing tomorrow, Americans would still be paying thousands of dollars more over the next year to achieve the same standard of living that they had when the President took office.

Again, the President and congressional Democrats and their American Rescue Plan spending spree bear a huge part of the responsibility for this situation. Or to quote former Obama economic adviser, Jason Furman:

The original sin was an oversized American Rescue Plan.

Another of the supposed economic achievements the President talked about Tuesday night was cutting the deficit. Yes, cutting the deficit. Well, let me just quote CNN on that claim. This is a quote:

Independent analysts say Biden's own actions, including his laws and executive orders, have had the overall effect of adding to current and projected future deficits, not reducing those deficits.

Let me just repeat that:

Independent analysts say Biden's own actions, including his laws and executive orders, have had the overall effect of adding to current and projected future deficits, not reducing those deficits.

The President failed to meaningfully address the economic crisis that his policies have helped to create. Instead,

he spent considerable time calling for spending proposals that would cost taxpayers trillions of more dollars.

He also failed to meaningfully address another crisis that has been raging over the past 2 years, and that is the security and humanitarian crisis at our southern border. It is a crisis that the President has spent 2 years ignoring. On Tuesday night, he essentially ignored it again. In a speech that was notable for being the most wordy State of the Union speech in the past 6 decades—clocking in at 9,191 words—the President devoted just 120 words, approximately 1 minute, to immigration. He spent a good chunk of that minute attempting to suggest that it is Congress and not he himself that needs to act. In fact, the President's brief 120 words on immigration managed to convey the impression the President had been trying to secure the border all along, instead of reflecting the reality that the President ignored this crisis—a crisis, I might add, that he, himself, triggered—for 2 years and only began to somewhat acknowledge it a mere month ago.

The President's speech was also strikingly light on a vision for our national security in spite of a war of aggression from Russia, which has made its imperial ambitions very clear, and continued troubling activity from China. There wasn't even a mention of Iran, which continues to be the leading state sponsor of terrorism, or North Korea, which just unveiled an alarming quantity of ICBMs.

The President devoted just nine words to the importance of modernizing our military, even though the past year and, indeed, the past week, has underscored the necessity of making sure our military is the top fighting force in the world so that we can deter and, if necessary, confront any threat.

While the President's speech was light on immigration and national security solutions and on any recognition of the economic crisis the President's policies helped create, the one thing his speech was not light on was the Democratic playbook on taxes and spending. The President kept bringing up and encouraging Congress to “finish the job.” It quickly became clear that was code for “spend more taxpayer dollars” or maybe “expand government,” even though it was excessive government spending that helped get us into this inflation crisis in the first place.

But if there was one thing that became clear Tuesday night, it was that the President wants to have it both ways. He wants to cut the deficit but simultaneously expand and grow government. He celebrates “Made in America,” but in nearly the same breath, demonizes businesses. He wants to boost American innovation, but he also wants to raise taxes and impose price controls.

Perhaps no example of this wanting to have it both ways was more telling than the President's clear belief that

oil companies should increase domestic oil production, despite the fact that the President campaigned on eliminating fossil fuels. The President recounted an exchange with oil industry representatives who told him that they were reluctant to invest because they were concerned the President would shut down oil wells and refineries. The President clearly intended the anecdote to illustrate the selfishness of Big Oil or Big Business, but the anecdote did a much better job of illustrating just how outrageous it is that the President assumes he should be able to get as much oil production as he wants while simultaneously working to sunset—to get rid of—oil companies.

The President might like to have it both ways, but he can't because policies have consequences; spending has consequences; taxation has consequences.

And the result of the Big Government tax-and-spend policies the President laid out Tuesday night would not be the prosperous future he imagines, but more economic pain for American families and businesses. And any bipartisan work that we do over the next 2 years needs to move away from the failed policies of the past 2 years and toward a more fiscally responsible future.

The upcoming debt limit debate represents an outstanding opportunity to take a good, hard look at government spending and see how we can handle taxpayer dollars more responsibly.

I was disappointed that despite his calls for bipartisanship, the President decided to call for a “clean” debt limit increase Tuesday night. In other words, an increase in the Nation's credit card limit unaccompanied by any effort to stop adding to our bill. The President's attitude was all too reminiscent of Democrats' partisan “my way or the highway” approach over the past 2 years. I sincerely hope he will rethink that position.

I was also disturbed by the President's attempt to suggest falsely that Republicans are interested in paying for the debt limit increase by cutting Medicare and Social Security. I suspect the President is well aware that is not the position of the Republican Party. And his scaremongering was not reflective of the kind of bipartisanship I hope we can achieve over the next 2 years.

What Democrats and Republicans should be doing is working together to put Medicare and Social Security on a more secure financial footing going forward, and that would be greatly helped by addressing excessive government spending and working to rein in our national debt.

I appreciated, as I said earlier, the fact that despite trotting out far too many of the tax-and-spend policies Tuesday night, the President did make a real nod toward bipartisanship. I truly believe that we can do a lot together over the next 2 years from passing a farm bill to reauthorizing the

Federal Aviation Administration and improving our Nation's air traffic control system to creating new market access for American producers and securing more transparency and accountability from Big Tech. I hope that the President's words in support of bipartisanship will be borne out by his actions in the coming months and that working together, we can build a record of achievement that will help make life better for the American people.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON BENJAMIN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Benjamin nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 7 Ex.]

YEAS—53

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

NAYS—44

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeben	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Mullin	

NOT VOTING—3

Coons	Fetterman	Schumer
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The nomination was confirmed.

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

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the Chung nomination.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 1 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11:46 a.m., recessed, and reassembled at 1 p.m., when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. PETERS).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

AMERICAN ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the Biden administration's war on American energy.

Over the last 2 years, Joe Biden's energy policies seem to have been based on two principles. One is restricting American energy production, and the second, regrettably, is a policy that benefits China.

Time and again, Joe Biden's energy policies have hurt America and have helped China. On Joe Biden's first day in office, he shut down the Keystone XL Pipeline, and I think he did it for spite. It would have brought 800,000 barrels of oil to this country every single day.

Joe Biden then stopped all new energy leases on Federal land, and in Wyoming we have a lot of Federal land. He did it in a way that was blatantly illegal. A Federal judge actually ordered Joe Biden to follow the law, to sell energy leases.

Follow the law, Mr. President.

As of today, Joe Biden has leased fewer acres of Federal land for energy than any President in modern times, and he raised the royalty rate for oil and gas development on Federal lands. Now, this is the fee that the government collects for energy that is produced on Federal lands. He raised it by half, and he did it overnight. These higher fees will get passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices, and—oh, by the way—people are noticing the price at the pump is going up—again.

Joe Biden also raised taxes on natural gas by billions of dollars. He raised taxes on coal by \$1 billion as well. As a nation today, we are still producing about 2 million barrels of oil less than was projected we would be producing every day, a number of years ago, before the pandemic.

With lower production and higher taxes, it is no wonder that energy

prices have been painful for the American people—punishing for the American people—who are just trying to make ends meet. Working families have lost nearly \$3,000 specifically because of Joe Biden's radical leftwing energy policy. We are paying a lot more than that for additional causes of inflation, but on energy alone, it has been about \$3,000 more than they should have spent in a normal situation.

And who have been the big winners under all of this? Well, regrettably, it has been China. We are really less independent, less competitive, and more dependent on China. This is compared to the day that Joe Biden took office. I am going to give you a couple of examples.

First, Joe Biden ended America's role in helping developing countries—other developing countries—explore for energy. Many countries are very poor, but they do have massive energy resources. They just need some help in getting to use them. Millions of people could have benefited and been lifted out of poverty if we had helped them use the energy that they already had.

Joe Biden stubbornly refuses. As a result, now these countries that need money to develop their energy resources—what are they doing? Go talk to a high school class. Joe Biden ought to try that. They will tell him what is happening. Those countries are turning to China. More and more countries, of course, then will owe money to China.

We know China uses debt and loans as a weapon. More debt to China means more control by China, overall, of these additional countries. Joe Biden won't let us in the United States help these countries or help the World Bank or help other lending institutions lend to those countries—and we see it all over Africa—because Joe Biden is too pure, and he doesn't like their energy. So he just turns them right over to China for predatory lending.

Joe Biden's obsession with electric vehicles also is turning over American power and money to China. The batteries in electric vehicles require a specific set of critical minerals—a specific set of critical minerals that goes into the batteries of electric vehicles. Well, we can mine it in this country. Oh, no, we can't. Joe Biden says: No, don't mine it in America. He is actually shutting down mining in this country, and he has been doing it since the day he took office. We are not going to let you use the minerals that are critical for the electric vehicles that he wants us to use that come from the United States.

So where are we going to go? Oh, but let's send more money to China. With supply and demand, our demand goes up. China has it to supply, and prices go up as well.

Just in the past few weeks, Joe Biden has shut down proposed copper mines in Minnesota and in Alaska. Well, where are we going to get the minerals for the electric vehicles that Joe Biden

and the Democrats want us to buy? China and countries under the influence of China.

China produces three-quarters of all of the lithium-ion batteries. China also has 70 percent of the world's production capacity for the key parts of EV batteries. China has a majority of the world's lithium, a majority of the world's cobalt, a majority of the world's graphite processing and refining capacity. All of these are necessary for the electric vehicles that the Democrats and Joe Biden say we must buy. Where are these going to come from? There is only one place, and they won't let us have it from America. They won't let us use what we have here.

China now dominates copper and cobalt mining in places like the Congo. The conditions at many of these mines—and this has been widely reported—are inhumane: child labor, brutal conditions. These are not like the mines that we have here in the United States or the mines like we have in Wyoming. Our mines in Wyoming and in the United States are technically sophisticated and professional. Many of the mines and the miners in the Congo are not professional at all. We are talking about young mothers who are working for a few dollars a day and are controlled by China. That is Joe Biden's answer to electric vehicles and every Democrat's answer to electric vehicles.

These young mothers often bring their babies with them to the mines. Not in the United States—oh, no, we are too pure here in the United States to be able to mine for the chemicals that are needed for the electric vehicles. So Joe Biden wants mothers to take babies into the mines in the Congo for the minerals for the electric vehicles that he is mandating that we drive here in the future.

So what happens to these mothers and these babies? Well, they inhale toxic cobalt all day long.

According to a United Nations report, 40,000 children are scavenging for cobalt in the Congo, for the electric vehicles, so China can sell us the chemicals that Joe Biden and the Democrats will not let us get out of the ground here in the United States. Most people would call this criminal. Women and children in Africa are inhaling toxic minerals so that the climate elites in San Francisco can drive their electric vehicles.

I guess that is the American dream. That is the Democrat dream for America: Force these people into this kind of labor so they can drive the electric vehicles of their dreams.

China also sells less expensive EVs, and they are for sale all over Europe. Well, they may be on the road in San Francisco and in Manhattan in just a few years.

Then there is the bloodshed and brutality that China uses to make solar panels. Joe Biden loves solar panels as much as he loves wind turbines. Well, there is a shortage of solar panels in

this country right now. Why? Because of the law we passed 2 years ago to stop buying Chinese products made by forced labor. Well, solar panels require something called polysilicon. Nearly half of the world's polysilicon is made now by forced labor in China. Democrats have to choose between their green energy fairy tales and upholding basic human rights. It seems like the church that they worship, the church of wind and solar and wishful thinking, is what they have chosen over human rights.

I hope the Democrats agree with me that we should not make a green transition on the backs of forced labor. The Democrats seem to feel more guilt about burning oil than about solar panels being made by slave labor. It is hard to imagine. This is just another in a long line of Democrat delusions.

As if this all weren't enough, Joe Biden is even giving our tax dollars to China. Two weeks ago today, the Department of Energy announced that Joe Biden was sending another \$1.6 million to a green energy company with ties to China. The company is called LanzaTech. It is a carbon capture company. Joe Biden has already given them \$10 million. He gave them money right after they signed a partnership with China's official energy company, Sinopec.

This company, LanzaTech, has disclosed that "the Chinese Government may intervene or influence our operations at any time."

So let's get this straight. Joe Biden is giving money to a company that says the Chinese Government "may intervene or influence our operations at any time."

What do we know about this company? Well, we know that it has some ties to the Democratic Party's top donors—the top donors—the people who contribute to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, Members of this body who go and ask them for more money.

Who is on the board? Well, former President Obama's campaign manager is a member of the board. Is this just a coincidence that, then, Joe Biden would move money, U.S. taxpayer dollars, to that company? Maybe it is not.

The Department of Energy has announced a \$200 million grant to a battery manufacturer with close ties to the communist Chinese Government. The company's financial filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission admit—and I had these filings at the Energy Committee just last week to show these to the Secretary of the Department of Energy. The filings say this—now, remember, this is a company to which the Democrat Department of Energy announced a \$200 million grant.

The FEC filing says that China "exerts substantial influence over the manner in which we must conduct our business activities and may intervene at any time with no notice."

In other words, the company admits that it is controlled by the Chinese

Communist Party. The Chinese Communist Party is controlling the company's U.S. Department of Energy's \$200 million grant.

So I wrote to the Department of Energy about the Department's review process for this grant. How can you do this? It says it in the filings.

Finally, last Thursday, I got a response. It says that now—now, this year—even though they did the grant last year of \$200 million, just now, they are going to do a due diligence review of the grant. That is from their letter.

My question is, Why don't we do a due diligence review in this country before we announce we are going to give \$200 million to a company so completely tied and controlled by the Chinese Communist Party? Why? Why doesn't the Department of Energy do their homework?

Last week, the Deputy Secretary of Energy testified before the Energy Committee. He said money hasn't yet gone out the door. I hope he is right. I hope money hasn't gone out the door. We need to stop it now before it goes out the door. We don't need to send any more money—our tax dollars—to China.

If we want carbon capture, it should come to Wyoming. They don't need to put money in these companies. We do it in Wyoming. We have a School of Energy Resources. We have a wonderful location. It is being done in the right way. They had a whole XPRIZE granted to the research being done at the University of Wyoming through the School of Energy Resources. The administration, it seems, when it comes to energy, would much rather go to China than go to the United States. That is Joe Biden's view of the world right now. Wyoming is ready to do carbon capture better than anybody in the world.

I am not sure why the administration turns to China rather than to America, just like I don't know why they have gone to Iran, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, or Russia in the past for energy rather than in America.

Joe Biden's policies continue to rob the American people and pay off China. Joe Biden even sold 1 million barrels of oil from our emergency petroleum reserve to China. Then he said he was doing all of us a favor because he was going to bring down prices. This is a President who has been wrong and wrong and wrong.

I have introduced legislation to ensure we never sell any of our emergency stockpile to China ever again. The House of Representatives has already passed legislation to do that. The legislation was actually bipartisan. It got 100 Democrats who voted for it. Why doesn't CHUCK SCHUMER bring it to the floor of the Senate today? Why not? Why isn't he here? A hundred Democrats joined Republicans to say we shouldn't do this.

People in this body get it. The White House clearly doesn't. The Department of Energy clearly doesn't. The adminis-

tration doesn't. Joe Biden is held hostage by the far left of his party.

Our Strategic Petroleum Reserve is for us, not for our enemies. America's energy policy is supposed to be for us, not for our enemies. It is not what we have gotten from this President.

Next week, I am going to introduce legislation to ban administration officials from going to work for China. For 2 years, Joe Biden has strangled American energy production; at the same time, he has made us more dependent on China for critical minerals and for so much of what this Nation needs.

It is time for Joe Biden and the Democrats in this body to remember whom we work for, and that is the American people.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 7.

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 Lindsay C. Jenkins, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. 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. 7, Lindsay C. Jenkins, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy

Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 12.

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 Matthew L. Garcia, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. 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. 12, Matthew L. Garcia, of New Mexico, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Brian Schatz, Edward J. Markey, Benjamin L. Cardin, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 15.

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 Adrienne C. Nelson, of Oregon, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. 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. 15, Adrienne C. Nelson, of Oregon, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon.

Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Brian Schatz, Edward J. Markey, Benjamin L. Cardin, Alex Padilla, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, February 9, be waived.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

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

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 5, Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Debbie Stabenow, Margaret Wood Hassan, Brian Schatz, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Tim Kaine, Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Christopher A. Coons, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination

of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 8 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Tuberville
Crapo	McConnell	Vance
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Mullin	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—2

Fetterman Schumer

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

REMEMBERING CHIEF VINCENT VESPIA, JR.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today with my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE to pay tribute to a legendary police officer, Vincent Vespia, Jr., whose distinguished career in Rhode Island law enforcement spanned 57 years, from a young State trooper, to a top organized crime investigator, to chief of police.

Vin passed away suddenly on January 24, 2023, at the age of 84, and we wanted to take a moment to honor this great hero—a police officer who was so beloved and respected by all, who practiced and taught the art of community policing, and who truly made a positive difference in the lives of countless Rhode Islanders.

Vin was a dear friend, and I will always remember with great fondness the time we spent together, especially when he came down to Washington

with his fellow chiefs of police. I deeply admired the chief, not just as a police officer but as a person with wisdom like no other.

In 2012, Chief Vespia, who was still actively serving as South Kingstown's police chief, was honored as the first-ever inductee into the Rhode Island Criminal Justice Hall of Fame.

At that time, he was well known for fearlessly pursuing investigations into organized crime and corruption and had already served 30 years as the chief of the South Kingstown Police Department. And he continued in that role for another 4 years.

Vin's courage and integrity made him, quite deservedly, one of the most respected and revered members of the State's not only law enforcement community but of the State overall.

As Stephen Pare, the former commissioner for public safety for the city of Providence put it, Vespia was "relentless and honest, and as strong as you can be as a police officer." He described him as a "no-nonsense chief" who was comfortable talking with anyone on the force. "He commanded respect because he gave respect," Pare said.

And that is an apt description and high praise, indeed, but well deserved.

Vincent Vespia grew up on Federal Hill and then the East Side of Providence. He served in the Army for 2 years and worked at the then "new" Bostitch factory in East Greenwich before finding his true calling in law enforcement.

Beginning as a motorcycle trooper in 1959, he served in the elite Rhode Island State Police for two decades before becoming chief of police of South Kingstown.

During his 21 years with the Rhode Island State Police Intelligence Unit, he focused on combating organized crime. Throughout the 1960s and seventies, Vin Vespia helped coordinate State and local efforts to successfully track, disrupt, and dismantle organized crime.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Mike Stanton chronicled some of those stories noting that, in his words:

Vespia grew up playing in the street with some of the wise guys he would later pursue as a cop.

Stanton tells the story of how, as a young trooper, Vespia arrested a former playmate from his old neighborhood with a truckload of stolen furs. Recognizing his childhood friend, the perpetrator asked Vespia:

How can you arrest me? We played kick the can together.

Vespia replied:

You went one way, I went another.

Indeed, he took the high road in everything he did.

In one of his most notable cases, Vin Vespia worked for years to gain the trust of a known hit man in order to collect evidence leading to the arrest and prosecution of notorious organized crime leader Raymond Patriarca, the head of organized crime in New England.

In addition to being an outstanding police officer, Vin Vespia was an incredible mentor. He taught generations of law enforcement officers the finer points of police work and leadership.

Toward the end of his career, a local television station asked the chief about his legacy, and he replied:

Forget about what I've done, what my rank was, where I've worked, and the cases I've made . . . forget about all that . . . if somebody would remember me as . . . a guy who tried to be a good cop, [then] I'm happy.

Mr. President, Vin Vespia was not only a guy who tried to be a good cop, he was a great cop.

And when he finally hung up holster and badge, the Providence Journal proclaimed:

Hail to the chief: Vincent Vespia, Jr., "most admired law enforcement officer" in R.I., retires after 35 years as town's top cop.

Along with Senator WHITEHOUSE, I want to express our condolences and gratitude to Chief Vespia's beloved wife and partner Judy. A police officer's family makes sacrifices so that their loved one may serve, and that is certainly true for Vin's beloved family.

And I want to recognize his children, including Renee Caouette and her husband Ron, Robin Vespia, and the late Rhonda Vespia.

Chief Vespia was also a doting and devoted grandfather to his grandchildren: Dylan, Tyler, Dante, and the late Chad O'Brien.

And I also salute his dear brothers, Jay and the late Robert Vespia.

And now, I yield to someone who worked closely with Chief Vespia in a variety of capacities—as the attorney general of the State of Rhode Island, as a Federal attorney for the District of Rhode Island, as one of the most successful, effective attorneys and Federal officers, as well as State officers, in the history of our State—my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE.

With that, I yield to Senator WHITEHOUSE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I am delighted to join my senior Senator to honor our common friend, Vincent Vespia, who was lately the chief of the South Kingstown, RI, police department.

He passed away on January 24, 2023, surrounded by his wife Judith-Ann and their cherished daughters Robin and Renee.

As Jack said, Vinnie Vespia grew up in Providence, and he served 2 years in the Army before returning home to Rhode Island and a career of service in the Rhode Island State Police.

Chief Vespia was a legend in our outstanding Rhode Island law enforcement community—famously fearless in his pursuit of justice.

During his 22-year career in the State police, Chief Vespia was at the center of the State's ongoing fight against organized crime, back in that day when the mob was a force in Rhode Island and the Rhode Island State Police was its counterforce.

His courageous police work led to the downfall of some of the State's most violent mobsters, including crime boss Raymond Patriarca and the notorious Gerald and Harold Tillinghast.

Along with his grit and toughness, Chief Vespia had style. In the book that Jack referenced, "The Prince of Providence," Mike Stanton wrote that:

One night Vespia came crashing through the second-floor window of Willie Marfeo's crap game on Federal Hill from the bucket of a cherry picker, waving a machine gun at two dozen stunned dice players.

Not everybody does that.

After his successful career with the State Police, Chief Vespia went on to take the helm of the South Kingstown Police Department, where he spent the next three and a half decades.

Chief Vespia was the longest serving leader of that department and will be fondly remembered for his pursuit of justice, for his unimpeachable sense of right and wrong, for his persistent good humor, and, of course, for the love and respect of that community that he leaves behind.

Hearing Vinnie Vespia tell stories of his law enforcement career with a twinkle in his eye is an indelible memory for me, and he was a mentor to me, as well as to the young officers who he brought up in law enforcement.

When Chief Vespia retired in 2016, it was widely accepted that he was one of the greatest to ever have worn our uniform.

I thank him and his family for supporting him in his devoted service. I, like many, will miss him dearly. Rhode Island was lucky to have this man, and we are safer because of him and many officers he mentored and trained who carry on the Vincent Vespia legacy to this day.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

WILLOW PROJECT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I was in Utqiagvik, AK, also known as Barrow, AK. It is the northernmost community in the United States. I was there for what some describe as a Messenger Feast. The Inupiat word is "Kivgiq." And it really was a reunion, a glorious family reunion, where the communities of the North Slope region, all eight communities and actually neighbors from Canada, gather together during the winter to celebrate family, to celebrate community. It is an extraordinary sharing.

It is very similar to the sharing that they have during the summer months, when the communities come together to celebrate the whale harvest, the Nalukataq, yet another extraordinary family-type reunion but one of a sharing in a region that is built on a culture of sharing—sharing of subsistence foods, sharing of resources—and that is what I want to focus my comments on today, the resources within the North Slope region.

As I was preparing to leave Utqiagvik on Sunday morning to go back to Anchorage, I was at the hotel and visiting

with people who were gathered there for coffee. And as one gentleman was leaving, he said: Lisa, I think there are just two things that we need you to do. We need you to make sure that you protect our whale quotas so we can continue to provide for the sustenance of the people in this region, and we need for you to ensure that Willow is opened up for oil production so that we can continue our lifestyle.

Some might suggest that there is some inconsistency between this culture of a traditional subsistence lifestyle and the harvest of a whale to feed entire communities and the production of oil in the Arctic region. And I would suggest that it is not only absolutely not inconsistent but absolutely compatible because it is with the sharing of these resources that the people of the North are able to have much of what we enjoy in other parts of America today: the opportunity to see our kids educated, the opportunity for healthcare, the opportunity to be safe in our communities, the opportunity to have economies.

So I am here today to speak in strongest possible terms of the Willow Master Development Project within the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. We just refer to it as the NPR-A. And what I hope to do, along with my colleague Senator SULLIVAN, is to further educate Members of the Senate and really people around the country about this project by explaining how it will help to benefit the nearly 11,000 Alaskan Native people and residents who call the North Slope home, how it will support good-paying union jobs, how it will reduce our energy imports from, quite honestly, some of the worst regimes in the world, and why its approval is both necessary and prudent.

And I want to start with a little bit of background just to put Willow in context. Our NPR-A is a Federal petroleum reserve. It is a Federal petroleum reserve. Its lands were explicitly designated back in 1923—so 100 years ago—designated under the Harding administration. It is an area that encompasses 23.4 million acres. It is roughly the size of Indiana up in the northwest corner of Alaska.

It is home to the Alaska Native communities of Wainwright, Utqiagvik, Atkasuk, and Nuiqsut. These people from these communities have been living in this region since time immemorial. They still practice a traditional lifestyle, but they live in this region, and they care what happens in their region.

I mention that the NPR-A is 100 years old this year. Yet it has only seen a few projects, and those have been in the very recent years. And, in part, ironically, that is because the Obama-Biden administration pushed for the oil companies to turn their focus there. They explicitly encouraged—they said: Go develop in the NPR-A—explicitly designated for oil and resource development. They said: Don't go in the offshore, don't go in the

nonwilderness part of ANWR. Go over to NPR-A.

That is exactly what ConocoPhillips decided to do. The company first acquired its leases for the Willow Project back in 1999. This was during the Clinton administration. They started developing them shortly thereafter, but they really accelerated that work during the Obama-Biden administration and then moved into Federal permitting in 2018. So they have been seeking Federal approval for 5 years now.

Then, last Monday, the Department of the Interior published its final supplemental environmental impact statement, the SEIS, for the Willow Project in order to address two issues that had been identified by the Federal court. So now where we are is, roughly, 30 days from now, in this time period, the Department of the Interior will be able to issue a final Record of Decision announcing its decision on whether and how this critical project should be allowed to proceed.

So you have got this final SEIS. This is a document that has been worked with career BLM officials. These are scientists. These are engineers. They have decades of experience evaluating environmental impacts of proposed projects. And they, together, with all of this analysis over this 5-year project, selected a new preferred alternative for the Willow Project. They call it Alternative E.

But keep in mind that these scientists, these engineers, these career Agency officials took years of analysis and very rigorous review. They had significant—significant—input and support—support—from the Alaska Native communities within the NPR-A and the North Slope Borough. So in other words, the people who live up there, the people whose home region it is, gave that input. There was back-and-forth. There was give-and-take. They listened to the Native people, and they worked to develop this Alternative E. Now, keep in mind, the Willow Project was already quite small when it was first advanced, in line with all modern development on the North Slope. But what BLM's preferred alternative—what Alternative E does is it reduces its footprint even further. So from what ConocoPhillips originally wanted to do to now this Alternative E is they have gone from five drill pads to now three, with a fourth deferred to later permitting. The project will have 19 percent fewer road miles, cover 11 percent fewer acres, avoid further—avoid ecologically important areas. These were all considerations that were taken into place and placed into this Alternative E.

So at this point, the total project will cover just over 400 acres. So I have already shared with you the size of the NPR-A. What we are talking about here with the Willow Project is that .002 percent of the NPR-A will be impacted. It will be in full compliance with all of the restrictions that are included in the land management plan

that the Obama-Biden administration issued back in 2013. So under that plan, they effectively took 50 percent—50 percent—of the NPR-A's surface area, some 11.8 million acres, they took that off the table to resource development. That is already off. We are not talking about that. We are talking about the area that is available now for development. The Willow Project is just .002 percent of the NPR-A.

The Willow Project itself is not going to cover all of its leased land, not by a long shot. There are areas that will have no development—no development will take place. There will be areas where development is only allowed with a waiver that would be required and areas where additional considerations will apply before any development takes place.

So, again, think about this. You have got 11.8 million acres of the NPR-A that has been taken off the table. This project is 429 acres. What we are trying to develop here, the project we are talking about developing, is literally 27,500 times smaller than what has already been taken off the table. I impress this upon folks because I think it is important to recognize that this is an extraordinarily significant project for the State of Alaska—for the resources that it will bring to my State, the economic development that it will spur. It is significant to the people of the North Slope Borough who call this region home and who rely on the revenue and the resources.

But as significant as it is, the footprint for Willow is miniscule. It has been meticulously planned to coexist with the wildlife, with the tundra, with the subsistence lifestyle on the North Slope.

Think about it. You would not have the two whaling captains who were wandering the halls here just this week—two whaling captains from the North Slope who are advocating for development of Willow if they felt that this was going to be harmful to their subsistence activity or to the subsistence caribou hunter who was also being interviewed by reporters and meeting Members of the Senate here just Tuesday to talk about why he believes that this coexistence with development, as proposed in the Willow Project, can proceed and is compatible with their life and their lifestyle.

ConocoPhillips, in moving forward with this, will have to abide by hundreds of lease stipulations and best practices. And best practices, keep in mind, when you are exploring and developing in the State of Alaska in the North Slope, it is not like Louisiana; it is not like New Mexico. They are operating in an Arctic environment, which means you have to work within the contours of the area around you. So best practices mean that exploration is effectively limited to about 90 days—90 days out of 365. You have got a lot more time that you can be building. We have to use ice ropes to help facilitate the exploration rigs that might go out.

You cannot be on the tundra when the tundra is not sufficiently frozen, but then that also means that you have got to get off the tundra as soon as the spring comes.

So these conditions, this scenario, is so different than anywhere else that we produce in the United States of America. Even with these lease stipulations, even with all that has to go on, Conoco believes that they can make this extraordinary environmental commitment. They believe that this project, this Alternative E, is viable for them to proceed.

You know, if you are following the news about Willow, you would probably get the sense that the support from most Alaskans is not there because there are a few voices whom we see in objection. I get that, but I will tell you that one of the reasons—probably the biggest reason—that has helped the Willow project garner support throughout the State is that the people of the North Slope who live there have come forward and have said: We believe that this will be helpful to us.

It is not just those who are living on the North Slope. The broader Alaska Federation of Natives has come together in support; bipartisan, non-partisan entities from around the State. One of the leaders in the region, the North Slope Borough mayor—and I had dinner with him and his wife on Saturday night. Mayor Brower is not only the mayor—a pretty extraordinary man—but he is also a whaling captain himself and is strongly, strongly in support of the Willow project.

In a letter to Secretary Haaland, he wrote:

Responsible oil and gas development is essential to the economic survival of the Borough and its residents. Oil and gas activities are the primary economic generator for our region, and . . . by far the most significant source of funding for the Borough's community services and infrastructure.

To put that into context, when he says "significant source of funding," over 95 percent of the Borough's revenues come from oil in the region.

So when we think about our communities and our counties and where they may gain sources of revenue, it is pretty, pretty extraordinary to find any area where 95 percent of your revenues come from one single source.

And what do these revenues provide? They enable the Borough to provide for basic, basic services and basic infrastructure like clean drinking water, like education, like healthcare, like emergency services. The Borough does it all. The Borough is funding their own government, their own government to include search and rescue. I just mentioned emergency services.

I mentioned that the NPR-A is the size of Indiana but that the North Slope Borough is pretty significant in its size and scope, with eight communities spread out over hundreds and hundreds of miles—no roads. In the wintertime, the way that you move around is by snow machine, and in the

summer, it might be by boat. But the reality is that the weather is very, very harsh, and snow machiners get lost. As people are trying to travel from one village to the next, who is there on a search and rescue? It is the local community, funded by the North Slope Borough. These are activities that, I think, most don't think that a borough would be providing, but they are able to do so—they are able to care for their people—because of the revenues that they receive from oil.

As one former mayor put it: Oil and gas activities are responsible for 200 years of development on the North Slope in the span of 30 years.

I was on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee when he made that statement on the record.

It is extraordinary how the quality of life has advanced since the days of revenue coming from our oil, and a recent study really kind of brings it home. It is not just about infrastructure that brings clean water or heat to your home, but it is what happens to one's health and well-being. When you have improved infrastructure, when you have sanitation systems, when you have medical care that these revenues have helped to facilitate, people are healthier, and people live longer.

There is an increased life expectancy among Alaska Natives who live on the North Slope. Get this: If you were born in 1985, your life expectancy is about aged 65—pretty young. For those born in 2014, the average life expectancy is 77 years. Think about that. Think about the dramatic leap in life expectancy. The only thing that has changed—because they still live a subsistence lifestyle; they are still living in a really harsh environment. The only thing that has changed is that they have access to resources that allow them to be better cared for, that allow them to have a quality of life that we would just accept as basic. I think clean running water is basic. I think a flushed toilet is basic. I can't tell you how many communities in my State I go to where they are waiting for the day—waiting for the day—that they will get running water and a flushed toilet—pretty basic.

I think this is important. I have been talking a lot about the benefits to the people of the North Slope region, but when I mentioned that the Kivgiq and the Nalukataq are celebrations of sharing—the sharing of gifts at Kivgiq, the sharing of the whale at Nalukataq—it is not just the subsistence lifestyle that our Native people share. It is in the structure of how ANCSA really came to be such an amazing benefit to the Alaska Native people. ANCSA is the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. There is a provision within ANCSA, section 7(i) that requires—and this was agreed to by the 12 regional Native corporations—that 70 percent of all revenues received by each regional corporation from timber and subsurface estates be divided annually according to the number of Natives who are enrolled in that region.

What I am sharing with you is that, of the resource wealth that comes from the North Slope, the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation is not the only Native corporation and beneficiaries to that. All Native shareholders throughout the State, through the 12 regional corporations, are entitled to that sharing of those benefits.

Think about what that means. If you are from a region where you don't have the resources, think about what that means to then have sharing coming to you from the north. When adjusted for inflation, between 1982 and 2015, a total of \$3.1 billion was shared between the regional corporations for the benefit of their shareholders, and 56 percent of that, or \$1.794 billion, came from oil and gas operations.

So when people ask what is the benefit that you receive from the oil sector in Alaska, it is certainly jobs. Absolutely. It certainly benefits our State, absolutely, in terms of our revenue, and you have all heard of our permanent fund dividend. But the immediate benefit—the real, tangible benefit—that is shared with the Alaska Native people is an extraordinary model. I think those of us here in the lower 48 think that corporations are all sharp elbows, you know, wanting to get as much as they possibly can for themselves. That is not who the Alaska Native people are. The value that they bring is truly one of sharing.

The North Slope is an amazing place, whether it is summer or whether it is the heart of winter, as it was just this weekend at 30 below. I know the Sun was up for a brief moment in time there for a period of time. Everyone is very excited that the Sun is coming back. You know, it is dark, and it is cold. But for those who would suggest that responsible resource development and a subsistence way of life are incompatible, I invite you to go up to Utqiagvik. Go to these communities and hear for yourselves and see for yourselves how it is just simply wrong, because you will be able to see the benefits of responsible resource extraction and what it can mean to the lives of people in their communities.

I was in Utqiagvik again this past weekend, but I was there in the first week of January for a memorial service for a friend of mine and a great, great Native leader, Oliver Leavitt. Oliver was not only the head of ASRC. As an extraordinary corporate leader, he helped, really, with the formation of the North Slope Borough, and he was a whaling captain. He spent a lot of time here in Washington, DC, trying to educate people.

He would always get grumpy with me when I would say: Oliver, I am so happy you are back.

He would say: I should be at hunting camp. The caribou are coming through.

You know, he was a man who lived in two worlds, but you listened. I listened. I share this. I went to the school of Oliver Leavitt, and I heard his stories about how hard it was for him as a

young boy and as a young man. His job was to go out before school and collect driftwood so that their family home could have some form of fuel.

Keep in mind that there are no trees on the North Slope. It is hard. It is hard.

He said: I went to school not because I wanted to learn but because there was heat in the school.

He saw a transformation of what it meant for the people when they were finally able to get natural gas into his community and how, now, an elder can turn on the heat by just turning on the thermostat. What a concept. Well, for us, we kind of expect that, but it is just a reminder, again, of the benefits that come to those who live there and who have lived there for generations and thousands of years—of how they are compatible with Alaska's future here.

The Willow project will allow development, health outcomes, and life expectancy all to improve—all to improve—on the North Slope.

You think about the resources that the people need and what will happen if they no longer have access to those resources. What will happen? They are telling me, LISA, we can't go back in time. We don't want to be left out in the cold. We will not be left out in the cold.

This is not social justice. So I ask us, as we are looking at this particular project, to keep in mind and keep in your hearts the people for whom it will most benefit.

But don't forget, the rest of Alaska and the country as a whole—they are also going to benefit. It is projected to create an estimated 2,500 construction jobs. Seventy-five percent of them will be filled by union labor, so unions are pretty supportive of this. Once complete, it will support 300 permanent jobs, which then in turn spins off thousands more across the State and across the country.

I mentioned the unions. If you support unions, you should be supporting Willow. The Alaska AFL-CIO, the Alaska District Council of Laborers, the North America's Building Trades Union, the Labors' International Union of North America, the International Union of Operating Engineers, the United Association—plumbers and pipefitters—they are all on board. They are all on board and strongly supportive. So are countless others who recognize the importance of creating good jobs in Alaska and around the country to help reverse our GDP decline.

We are in a tough place in Alaska right now. I think we are No. 47, if I am not mistaken, out of 50 States. We are seeing a net migration out of Alaska. That is greatly concerning—greatly concerning. We have a higher than average unemployment rate. So we are looking at this and saying that Alaska needs this project.

I know there is criticism out there. You have folks who are saying: Nope, can't move Willow forward. We all have

to address climate. We have to address the issue of climate change.

Let's talk about that for just a second because you know, Mr. President—you have heard me talk about it. You have heard me stand up and say that we need to be actively working to reduce emissions and increase our use of clean energy. I have been pushing policies to do just that. But I think we also recognize that you just can't flip a switch. You just can't get there from here overnight. There is a transition.

So I think what we need to focus on, the true choice that we have to face, is how painful, how chaotic do we want the transition to be for the people whom we serve?

On Tuesday night, when the President spoke at the State of the Union, he acknowledged it. He said we are going to need oil for at least another decade and beyond that. I would argue it is going to be longer than a decade, regardless of what we do at the policy level.

So the question is, What are we going to do to take care of our own needs with our own resources or are we going to empower OPEC at our own expense, and are we willingly going to return to the days of being highly dependent on foreign oil, with all of the economic, all of the environmental, all of the geostrategic consequences that entails?

We have seen what happens when we make poor choices and we don't plan for what a rational energy transition is going to look like. Europe is certainly one example there. But I would suggest—let's bring it a little closer to home. California is another example. Alaska's oil production has declined. We send a lot of our stuff to California. As our oil production has declined, what is happening in California is that their imports have risen and they have risen dramatically. They have turned where? They have turned to countries like Saudi Arabia and Russia for their supply. So now that the Russian supply is outlawed, we saw a recent New York Times article that noted that "one in every nine tanks of gas, diesel, or jet fuel pumped in California comes from the Amazon." So, really, are we OK with this? Are we really OK with this? I don't think California is going to be happy knowing their gas came from Russia. But now that we are not taking it from Russia, now it is going to come from the Amazon rather than from a petroleum reserve in Alaska.

The choice here is not whether we need to continue to develop our oil resources—we do; we clearly do—the choice is where the source is going to come from. We are going to need it for decades to come. I will tell you, I am going to choose Alaska anytime over foreign sources. I will choose Alaska because we have a better environmental track record, because development there benefits our people there, and it ultimately makes it a little easier to address climate.

So you can oppose production on the North Slope. You can impoverish Alas-

ka Natives and blame them for changes in the climate that they did not cause. But can you really feel good about that given the autocrats you are going to empower around the world and the harm and the devastation that come?

We have a better answer, and the better answer here is Willow. It is going to provide up to 180,000 barrels per day at peak production. This is going to help us refill our Trans-Alaska Pipeline. It is going to keep the lower 48 from having to import from some of the worst regimes in the world. So instead of importing from places with no environmental standards to speak of, we should be confident that the energy we need is coming from a project with a tiny footprint that is safely operated with as little impact as humanly possible. And we can ensure that the benefits of production go to the Alaska Natives of the North Slope and the communities around the State and around the country rather than petrocrats like Vladimir Putin.

All we need—all we need—is the approval of the Willow project, which will allow us to continue to tackle climate change while maintaining our energy security. It is not going to be a violation of the President's pledges, which were—I will remind you, they were to allow responsible development on existing leases to occur. Well, Willow—valid existing leases—was approved when he came into office. Its re-approval next month would simply signal to Alaska Natives, to Alaskans, to Americans, and the world that we are serious not only about our climate policies but also our energy policies.

I urge the Biden administration in the strongest possible terms to listen to all who support this important project, and I urge them to reject the false and misguided claims about impacts coming from some. I would urge them to issue a Record of Decision early next month selecting Alternative E without new limits or extraneous conditions. We need to get to work.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Mississippi.

TAIWAN

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, seven centuries ago, a Chinese novelist wrote:

The Empire long divided must unite; long united, must divide. Thus, it has ever been.

These are the opening words from the Chinese classic novel "Romance of the Three Kingdoms." Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, and Xi Jinping have drawn inspirations and quoted passages from this classic because the enduring prominence in the Chinese imagination can be traced back for centuries. They describe the long rhythm of Chinese history—a period of civil war and chaos followed by a period of stability. Now, after a century of perceived humiliation, the Chinese Communist Party believes it is destined to be whole and powerful again.

That is what makes China's current ambition to "unify," as they put it,

even more troubling. Just as Vladimir Putin seeks to use violence to reconstitute what he considers the old Soviet empire, the Chinese Communist Party has made it its mission to “reunite” all those it considers Chinese, including those who have gained freedom and liberty, like the people of Taiwan. The Taiwanese people want no part of Beijing’s communist vision, and they fully reject the idea that Beijing should impose its will on its neighbors.

Some may think Beijing has been hiding and biding its time, but, in fact, it has for decades been active and aggressive in expanding its claims of sovereignty and territory. In the last 60 years, China almost risked a nuclear conflict with the Soviet Union, fought a war with Vietnam, and engaged in multiple bloody skirmishes with India as recently as last month to assert their territorial claim. Today, it continues to make egregious territorial claims in the South and East China Sea, all in the name of expanding the reach of the Chinese Communist Party.

Americans saw firsthand President Xi’s disregard for our own sovereignty over the past week, as a Chinese spy balloon violated U.S. airspace uncontested for several days—just the latest in Beijing’s string of provocative actions.

To see his plans for Taiwan, look no further than Xi Jinping’s brutal repression of the people of Hong Kong. He continues to trample the freedoms they long enjoyed and indeed were promised by the Chinese Communist Party. We should have known that the idea of “one country, two systems” was always incompatible with the rule of the Chinese Communist Party.

Taiwan is the missing piece in President Xi’s puzzle. Without Taiwan, Xi Jinping, who wants to be remembered as one of the great emperors of Chinese history, will have failed. And make no mistake, he cannot accept a free Taiwan because Taiwan, situated 90 miles off the Chinese coast, is living proof that freedom and democracy can thrive in a Chinese-speaking nation. Taiwan is a powerful advertisement for liberty to the 1.4 billion people who suffer under the communist police state. For this reason more than any other, Xi Jinping wants what he views as the “Taiwan problem” resolved on his terms.

He and his comrades have spent the last several decades pursuing the fastest military buildup in history, achieving the world’s largest navy by sheer number of vessels and by far the largest fleet of advanced ballistic missiles. The Chinese Air Force now flies fifth-generation aircraft armed with air-to-air missiles that outrange our own. The entire People’s Liberation Army conducts advanced and realistic training. Our own top cyber officer, GEN Paul Nakasone, says the improvement in Chinese cyber capabilities is “unlike anything [he has] ever seen.”

All of the PLA’s capabilities are aimed across the Taiwan Strait. Just

last week, someone leaked a private memo from Gen. Mike Minihan, our air mobility chief, in which he urged troops to be ready for war in 2025. This is 2023; he urged that they be ready for war in 2025.

Despite all the hand-wringing, this is just the latest example of senior civilian and military officials who are increasingly worried about Chinese aggression over the next 4 years, during Xi Jinping’s third term. Even Secretary of State Blinken last year said Beijing remains determined “to pursue unification on a much faster timeline” than previously expected.

There should be no doubt that the potential for Chinese invasion of Taiwan is higher today than it has ever been. This raises the fair question of whether protecting Taiwan is feasible. Can the small island nation of 23 million souls really stand a chance against a nation of 1.4 billion? The answer is that Taiwan not only can stand a chance, it must be able to defend itself successfully because what is at stake in Taiwan is not just its own freedom and sovereignty but the stability of the region, the stability of the world economy and our own American economy and national security.

Standing tall against a powerful aggressor is no small task. We have seen this in Ukraine. Over the past year, we have seen the sacrifices of courageous Ukrainians who have taken the fight directly to the Russians and continually won despite many dismissing that possibility, including our own intelligence community. That very same heroic kind of resistance and the very same help from friends and allies will be required for Taiwan to preserve its freedom and democracy.

The conflict in Ukraine is closely related to what will happen in Taiwan. Indeed, China openly supports the brutal Russian invasion. This reflects Xi Jinping’s own ambition to launch a similar assault on Taiwan. He knows full well that if Putin can outlast the free world and get away with it, with murder and war crimes in Ukraine, his own chances of success against Taiwan will be stronger. U.S. support for a win in Ukraine enhances our ability to deter Beijing in Taiwan.

Congress has led the Biden administration to help Ukraine in its fight against Russia. Now, Congress should lead once again to help Taiwan defend itself against communist China. In fact, for decades, Congress has led the effort to preserve a free and democratic Taiwan. But to do this work on the timeline and scale required, we need first to understand the extraordinary ways in which Taiwan contributes to American interests.

I recently stood here and made the case for why Americans should care about supporting Ukraine. Today, I will pose a similar question: Why should Americans care about Taiwan?

Well, they should. We should.

First, failure to defend Taiwan would forever damage our position in the

Indo-Pacific, calling into question our credibility and capability to defend other allies and partners, such as Australia, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand.

Since the end of World War II, our allies have relied on the United States of America, underpinning more than seven decades of peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific. America has also benefited greatly from this peace and prosperity. Today, Japan is our fifth largest trading partner, and South Korea is our sixth largest trading partner. A failure to defend Taiwan would upend that stability, and our allies and partners could abandon America if that happens.

Simply put, peace in the Pacific means jobs for Americans. War in the Pacific, on the other hand, would put American economic freedom at risk.

In addition, what happens in Taiwan will have consequences for whether our allies decide to pursue new capabilities they have thus far forsaken. With open access to the Pacific Ocean, Beijing would almost certainly push Tokyo, Seoul, and others to seek to acquire nuclear weapons or perhaps even to rebalance from the United States to China. What this development would mean for the U.S. alliance network and stability in the Indo-Pacific is unthinkable.

Our allies and partners also play a pivotal role in providing key military basing in the Western Pacific. With U.S. bases in Japan, South Korea, and now the Philippines, our national defense in the Pacific is strong. Without those, our national defense would start on the shores of Guam or Hawaii, rendering America much harder to defend, rendering our homeland much harder to defend.

These allies want us in their countries. We are there because they have allowed us and asked us to be in their countries, and they have each spent billions of their own dollars to build military facilities for our forces. America’s web of alliances and partnerships is critical to our success in competing with China in the long run.

With 60 percent of the world’s population, the Indo-Pacific is projected to be the largest contributor to global economic growth over the next 30 years. If we lose these critical partners, we would also cede a critical advantage in our effort to compete economically with China, a nation with five times our population and an economy nearly our size.

So that is the first reason.

The second reason: Taiwan is a linchpin of the global economy. A war over Taiwan, launched by China, would immediately send the global economy into a depression the likes of which we have not seen in a century. Americans would lose access to key semiconductors that are in our laptops, phones, cars, and countless electronic products that have become the backbone of daily life.

As our colleague Senator DAN SULLIVAN of Alaska said in a strong December speech on Taiwan, the semiconductor shortage in 2021 already cost Americans \$240 billion and nearly 8 million cars—8 million cars that we don't have because of this shortage. Taiwan also exports a significant amount of advanced machine tools that underpin manufacturing jobs here in America.

Chinese aggression against Taiwan would send shock waves through the economy and upend daily life here in America. It would dwarf the economic effects of Russia's war in Ukraine, and we need to do whatever we can to prevent this aggression.

Thirdly, Chinese control of Taiwan's semiconductor industry would leave American supply chains extremely vulnerable to the influence of the Chinese Communist Party. Beijing wants to seize that lucrative industry in order to gain a clear upper hand in the world economy. This could cause massive economic pain for the United States. If Beijing gains control of Taiwan's semiconductor industry, it could rewrite the rules of the global economy. Beijing wants to dictate the terms of any negotiations with the United States, costing Americans tens of millions of jobs and stalling our economic growth.

To sum this all up, protecting Taiwan as a free and prosperous democratic nation is absolutely vital to the prosperity and security of our children and grandchildren. Taiwan should matter to every American.

Now, how do we ensure that a war over Taiwan never occurs—because that should be our goal—given what we know about Beijing's intentions and capabilities?

We should be vigilant about applying the lessons we have learned in Ukraine. That requires recognizing the differences between Ukraine and Taiwan.

The U.S. military began training Ukraine 8 years ago, following the Russian invasion of Crimea and eastern Ukraine in 2014, but we have done comparatively little to train the Taiwanese. With Taiwan, we are playing catchup. We arm Ukraine through multiple land routes by rail and vehicles. In wartime, quickly arming Taiwan by air and sea would prove extremely challenging. Also, the People's Liberation Army in China is not the Russian military. They are much more focused and serious.

So there is simply no time to waste, Mr. President. We need to get high-quality weapons into Taiwanese hands now, before the conflict breaks out. As Senator Phil Gramm and I wrote last year in the Wall Street Journal, we need to turn Taiwan into a porcupine so that Xi Jinping wakes up every day and concludes that an invasion is not worth the cost.

Well, why do you say a porcupine? Any wolf has the ability to kill a gentle porcupine. Yet such an attack rarely occurs in nature. The defense of the porcupine's quills, which can rip

through the predator's mouth and throat, is the deterrent that protects it from attack by the wolves. That should be our approach for Taiwan's defense.

Last year, to begin work on this issue, Congress passed the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act. Congress provided the Biden administration with the ability to send \$1 billion worth of U.S. weapons stocks to Taiwan. We also authorized up to \$10 billion in foreign military financing with matching contribution by Taiwan. This brought to fruition years of work by our colleagues Senator MENENDEZ and Senator RISCH.

We authorized the creation of a joint stockpile, accelerated foreign military sales reform, expanded U.S. military training, and established the first-ever comprehensive oversight regime on U.S. national security work with Taiwan.

Let's not forget, our friends the Taiwanese are accelerating their own defense for the sixth straight year, with a 14-percent increase in 2022. Their weapons purchases increasingly align with how our military experts envision a correct defense of the island, including with Harpoon anti-ship cruise missiles, Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, and secure communications systems. We should encourage this change in Taiwan's focus.

As Gen. James Mattis once said, we need a willing partner in the Biden administration to move at "the speed of relevance"—"at the speed of relevance." Last September, the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees asked the administration some very basic questions: Which weapons are most important in the Pacific? What training does Taiwan need? What weapons is Taiwan ready to buy?

The Biden administration has yet to respond to these questions, even though we know the State Department and Defense Department have completed the analysis. In this case, silence will only make the situation worse. We need answers.

I reiterate: Congress needs this information to perform our constitutional duties effectively. So I am calling on the Biden administration today to work with us to accelerate the transfer, financing, and sale of a key set of military capabilities to Taiwan. The President needs to use the authority that Congress provided to transfer \$1 billion in weapons to accelerate the expansion of our training programs in Taiwan. Make no mistake, the President's actions will have direct consequences for Taiwan's ability to defend itself and for our ability to prevent a war in the Pacific.

Without these tools, China will continue to gain the upper hand in the Taiwan Strait. We need to offset and deter the Chinese military from taking actions in the first place. An influx of American weapons will go a long way toward assuring that we stand with them against Chinese aggression and encourage other nations to join us.

As Ronald Reagan said, "peace does not exist of its own will. It depends on us, on our courage to build it and guard it and pass it on to future generations"—end of quote from Ronald Reagan, one of the great advocates of peace through strength. That is how we will help Taiwan preserve its freedom and democracy and how we can avoid war in the Pacific.

At the same time, the Armed Services Committee will intensify its focus on our own work, ensuring our military has every tool it needs to deter and, if necessary, defeat the People's Liberation Army. We must fix our munitions production problem and focus on the high-end weapons that our troops need. We need to modernize and expand the Air Force and the Navy while honing the Army and Marine Corps for their missions in the Western Pacific.

We also have to explore new ideas for nuclear modernization to respond to the unprecedented Chinese nuclear buildup, given that our commanders now tell us the Chinese have more ground-based launchers for nuclear weapons than we do. And we must continue our work to improve the quality of life for all of our servicemembers and their families so they can focus on the tasks at hand.

In conclusion, Mr. President, Congress has prioritized financial and material support for Ukraine to help turn the tide in that war. The security of Taiwan is no less important than the security of Ukraine. The threat to global and economic security from communist China has the potential to jeopardize the prosperity and safety of Americans here in the United States. It is time for our actions to reflect the significance of that threat.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to thank my good friend from the great State of Mississippi, who has been a fantastic leader on the Armed Services Committee, a fantastic leader on so many of these important national security topics. He and I share a very strong, similar, identical view on the importance of Taiwan, and we all need to be doing that. So I want to thank my good friend Senator WICKER from Mississippi for his leadership on this and so many other issues.

WILLOW PROJECT

Mr. President, I also want to thank my good friend from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI, who was just on the floor of the U.S. Senate talking about the importance of the Willow Project not just to Alaska but to America. She and I are going to be down here on the floor a lot in the next several weeks. I was here last week talking about this project.

Now, for those of you who haven't watched, a quick recap of the Willow Project: a very large-scale oil and gas project in the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska, so not a controversial area at all. It is not like ANWR or some of the other areas in our State.

NPRA, as we call it in Alaska, was set aside by the Federal Government decades ago for oil and gas development because we need oil and gas. We need it. Some people out there don't think we do, but we do. And if we need it, we should do it in America.

Just a quick, little summary of some of the key aspects of this: 2,500 jobs to build this. It is ready to build tomorrow. We have permission. It is completely shovel-ready. Seventy-five percent of those jobs will be union jobs, building trades jobs. It is one of the top priorities of unions. I will talk about that. Peak production: Almost 200,000 barrels a day—highest environmental standards in the world, by far; lowest greenhouse gas emissions of a major energy project in the world, by far; billions in revenues from the Federal Government, from State government, for local governments in Alaska, and broad-base support from every group in Alaska you can imagine.

So that is the Willow Project. We got the final EIS last week. And the Biden administration is still kind of saying: Maybe we are going to narrow this so much that we are going to kill it.

I am going to talk about that. That would be unbelievable. I have tried to work with this administration and, certainly, Senator MURKOWSKI has. We have made this the No. 1 issue from the Alaska delegation ever since Joe Biden stepped into office on day one.

I personally raised this with the President, every Cabinet official. Willow is No. 1. If you want cooperation from the Alaska delegation, you have to work with us. We are there. We are almost there. But I want to talk about some of what happened last week because our good friends in the media, who love to write about this story, Willow, because they hate the project, they are biased in the project. So when the EIS came out last week, if you read the national media—which there was a lot of—guess who they quote. Guess who they quote. Do you think they quote the Alaskans who want it? The Native people? The indigenous people in my State who really want it? The unions? No. No, no, no. Our friends in the national media never quote them. They quote Greenpeace, Center for Biological Diversity. Who are the other radical groups? Earthjustice. All the far left radical groups—none of whom live in Alaska, by the way—they get fully quoted: Climate Bomb—all this crazy stuff. It is not scientific-based at all. But they don't quote people, in my view, who really, really matter—who really, really matter; particularly the Native people.

You want to talk about racial justice; you want to talk about environmental justice; you want to talk about racial equity—buzz words the Biden administration uses all the time. The media does too. But somehow they always leave out the indigenous people of my State.

It is wrong. It is wrong. Media is wrong. The Biden administration is

wrong. I am going to go into this in a big way. But I just want to make one final point. When people talk about the science—the Democrats, we are the party of science—what happened last week was the final EIS came out, and that was the career staff at the Federal Agencies who came out with this final environmental impact statement. It wasn't great. It limited this project from five pads, which is where the Trump administration—their record of decision—concluded based on science that you can do this in an environmentally sensitive way. The Biden administration came out and said: No, we are going to move it to three pads. All right. That is the career staff. We can live with that.

The private sector company, ConocoPhillips, can live with that. The Native people can live with that. We have 30 days. If you are an American who cares about energy security, national security, weigh in with BLM.gov, the Department of the Interior. Say: We have got to get the Willow Project going.

If this gets limited beyond that, it is pure politics—pure politics. The Democrats, party of science—OK, prove it. If this gets limited more, it will kill the project. We know every far-left environmental group in the country—just read the paper—last week, they said, we are out to kill this thing. If this gets killed, it will be pure politics by Joe Biden, John Podesta—the whole group in the White House.

So the Native people are very upset in my State because overwhelmingly they support this. Every major Native Alaskan group in the country supports this. And they can't get one quote in the newspaper. The Washington Post—forget it. They won't quote a Native Alaskan who supports it. They find the one who is against it and quote her. But the vast majority support it. This is the voice of the Arctic Inupiat. They put this statement out a couple of weeks ago. I am just going to read it again.

“Outside activists groups”—that is the ones that always get quoted in the newspaper. You know the ones: Center for Biological Diversity, Greenpeace, Earthjustice. By the way, Center for American Progress—interesting about them—they are really against it.

Now, why is that so interesting? That was started by John Podesta. Until recently, he was the leader of it. They put statements out against Willow all the time. Now, he is in charge of making a decision on whether Willow should go forward. Is that fair? Boy, I hope he is being objective. Imagine if the shoe was on the other foot. I wouldn't even want to describe what that would look like.

So all these groups, they are always against it. But here are the Native people who want it. I will explain for a minute why they want it. So they said:

Outside activist groups opposing Willow have drowned out—

Certainly in the media—

[o]ur local perspectives and are actively working to supersede the views of the Alaska Native people.

True. By the way, the media—sorry, guys, but you are helping them in a great way to cancel the voices of the Native people.

This is not environmental justice or any other kind of justice.

It certainly is not racial equity. It is racial cancelization. I am continuing.

It is a direct attack on Alaska Native self-determination.

So that is going on right now. And it is very frustrating. It is very frustrating because the voices of some amazing people in my State—the indigenous people of Alaska—are being canceled and drowned out. And our national media has no problem quoting in every story the far-left radical enviros who want to shut down every energy project in America, and they won't quote these great people.

So why do they care about this project so much? Well, it is jobs. It is energy. It is revenues. But you know what? It is even bigger than that. Here is why they care.

I break out this chart a lot. I am going to explain it here. This is a chart from the American Medical Association. And what it does, it looks at the changes and life expectancy in America from 1980 to 2014, a 25-year period. Now, look, we are all Americans. We want progress. Where you see anywhere kind of yellow and then green and then blue and then dark blue and purple, that is good in our country. That means people's life expectancy is increasing. We all want that. We all want that.

Now, unfortunately, you see like orange and red—a couple of spots in America, orange, red—that is actually American life expectancies in the last 25 years decreasing. Nobody wants that.

This is another topic, but that is primarily parts of the country that were hit really hard by the opioid epidemic. We have to work together and improve it. We don't want to see any orange or red here. Nobody wants an American's life expectancy to decrease. That is bad.

But here is my broader commitment. What part of America had the biggest life expectancy increase from 1980 to 2014? Increase. My State—the great State of Alaska. If you look at this map, life expectancy—particularly in the rural areas, the Native areas, Native villages, Aleutian Islands chain, parts of the southeast—life expectancy went up 5, 6, 7—up to 13 years—13 years. The highest in the country. That is great. That is great.

As I have said to many folks when we have been debating these issues here on the Senate floor, give me one indicator of policy success more important than are your citizens living longer. I have never heard anyone come back to me and say: Here is something more important, Dan. I don't think there is.

So from 1980 to 2014, there are big swaths of Alaska where the life expectancy went like this. It is great. We

should all celebrate that. Why did that happen? Why did that happen? I will tell you why it happened. We had major resource development here. We have Prudhoe Bay—the development of Prudhoe Bay—the biggest oil and gas field in North America, other oil and gas fields. They had the development of the Aleutian Islands chain with the Magnuson-Stevens Act for resource development on fisheries. That is a huge legislative change. You had mining. You had resource development, which was jobs and revenues. And all of a sudden, these communities were able to get things like clinics and flushed toilets and running water and gymnasiums—things that in the lower 48, in New Jersey, or other places, you just take for granted. We didn't have them there.

And because we had jobs and resource development in an economy, you started having that, and you have people living longer.

So I think you are hopefully seeing the point. This Willow Project is a matter of life and death for my constituents. And that is why almost everybody—the Alaska Federation Native, every Native group, every group in Alaska—they are all for it. And that is why we get really mad and frustrated—I saw Senator MURKOWSKI down here a couple of minutes ago, and she was frustrated—when the big Washington Post and New York Times write their left-leaning, anti-Willows, and they have no idea what they are writing about.

This is a matter of life and death, and they are canceling the voices of the people I represent, particularly the Native people. That has to change. That has to change.

You know who else supports this? I had the great honor of giving my annual speech to the Alaska legislature 2 days ago in Juneau, AK. It is something Senator MURKOWSKI and I do every year. It is a huge honor. I made the pitch on Willow to all the State senators, State representatives. And I am pretty sure we are going to get a unanimous joint resolution from the house and senate, Alaska State Legislature, saying how important this project is and how everybody in elected office in my State supports it. That is very unusual. In any State, you would have outliers. I am pretty sure we are going to get something unanimous.

Why are we doing that? Again, to not just show the media but the Biden administration and the Congress that this issue unifies Alaskans. And we should be respected for this. We should be respected.

So the Native people of Alaska are very strongly supportive. They get canceled. You even have a couple of real clueless Congressmen on the other side of the Congress last week coming out saying Alaskans don't want the Willow Project, the Native people don't. I mean, these guys are clueless. I forget their names—some guy from Arizona—but they are wrong.

I am going to make another point, which is maybe even more frustrating. The media doesn't want to hear from the Native voice. Do you know who else doesn't want to hear? The Biden administration themselves—the Biden administration themselves. I can't tell you how many times I have heard the President, Cabinet officials, the Vice President talk about racial equity, racial justice, environmental justice all the time.

Last night, I was with a remarkable gathering of Alaskan Native people. This was a trilateral gathering from the people on the North Slope where this Willow Project is going to take place—right here. I call it a trilateral gathering because it was the leaders—dozens of them—flew 5,000 miles from here—Utqiagvik, the top of the world, by the way—they flew 5,000 miles to Washington, DC. We all met last night: Senator MURKOWSKI, Congresswoman PELTOLA. And it is the trilateral group because it is the Tribe, what I call Inupiaq Community of the Arctic Slope. This is a regionally, federally recognized Tribe of Inupiat people, their leadership. That was one part of this trilateral group.

The second part was the regional borough—like a county. That is right here, the North Slope Borough. By the way, it is bigger than Montana. That is the size I am talking about. These are elected officials—city council, the mayor. They are all Inupiat indigenous people. That is the second part.

The third part is the Alaska Native Regional Corporation called Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. Remember, it was created by Congress. It is an economic engine. It has Tribal and heritage components.

So it was the leaders of all these three organizations, the Tribe, the borough, and the Regional Alaska Native Corporation—all their leadership. I have known these people for a long time. They are amazing, incredible Americans. You would love them.

A couple dozen of them flew from right here, from Barrow, to Washington, DC. They wanted a meeting with the Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland. They wanted a meeting with her. They didn't get the meeting. You would think: Geez, it is pretty important. Do you want to hear the voice of the Native people? Do you want to talk about racial equity, racial justice, environmental justice? These people just flew 5,000 miles to Washington, DC. The Secretary doesn't have time to meet with them. That is not very respectful. They are all supportive, by the way—the Tribe—they are all supportive of the Willow Project.

But here is the thing. It wasn't just this week. This group of Alaska Natives, the trilateral group, some of the most important people in my State, have tried at least five different times to meet with the Secretary of the Interior. They have flown 5,000 miles to Washington, DC, to get one damn meeting with the Secretary of the Inte-

rior. Do you know what? Her office has said no every single time. Environmental justice, racial equity, respect for the Native people—come on. It is a bunch of baloney—five times at least. The only time Deb Haaland has ever given these people an audience was when she was up there for about 20 minutes.

It is shocking. She is canceling the voices of the Native people of Alaska who want this project. They flew 5,000 miles—this trilateral group, the Tribe, the borough, the ANC. Nope, the Secretary is too busy. Nope, the Secretary is too busy last time and last time and last time. At least five different times they tried to meet with her. She won't listen. That is what I call cancellation.

Media, you are welcome to write that. You won't, of course.

I guarantee you that in that time, she has probably met with representatives from some of these far-left radical groups—probably dozens of times—but she won't do it.

You want to hear some real irony? As I mentioned last week, the scientists came out from the Federal Agencies and said: Here is the final environmental impact. It was very long, very detailed, very data-filled scientific studies.

Remember, the normal course of business in the Federal Government is once you do an EIS, you have 30 days for the final Record of Decision. That almost always gets stamped "approved." Rarely, do you have the Record of Decision 30 days later changing the EIS. What is happening in America is all these radical lower 48 environmental groups are trying like crazy to pressure John Podesta and the President of the United States to change it. That would be pure politics.

The Democrats say they are the party of science. This wouldn't be science at all. This would be pure, raw political power to appease the Center for Biological Diversity and completely screw the people I represent on the North Slope. That would happen.

Here is the real irony. Last week, BLM put out this EIS. It was a pretty good statement. They narrowed it more. Then, the Department of the Interior put out a statement. They didn't attribute it to anybody. Deb Haaland certainly didn't say it was her statement. It was just a statement from the Department of the Interior saying the Department has substantial concerns about the Willow Project. Wait a minute. BLM is part of the Department, and BLM just came out with an EIS saying it was good. That is weird. It is the preferred alternative in the final EIS, which BLM just put out, so that is really strange.

And then they said: One of our concerns is direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. Indirect—I don't know what that means. Deb Haaland doesn't worry about greenhouse gas emissions from New Mexico, which has increased production in oil and gas in the last 3 years by 700,000 barrels a day. Where is that story, Washington Post?

But they also said they are concerned about the impacts to wildlife and Alaska Native subsistence. They might change it based on that. But who are the people who understand impacts to wildlife in Alaska Native subsistence on the North Slope? Who are they? They are the people I was with last night. They are the people Deb Haaland refuses to meet with.

So the Department of the Interior was really concerned about “impacts to wildlife and Alaska Native subsistence.” She had 30 Alaska Native leaders in DC yesterday to tell her about it. These are the whaling captains; these are the hunters; these are the people who know this issue more than anybody.

Do you know what this is? This is just a ruse, right? If the Department of the Interior was really worried about impacts to wildlife and Alaska Native subsistence, don't you think Deb Haaland would at least have taken one meeting with these great leaders who are the leaders on Alaska Native subsistence and wildlife?

The North Slope Borough Project has the best wildlife experts in the world, and the borough was here yesterday—same with ICAS, the Native Tribe. They were here. It is a little fishy that the Secretary of the Interior won't meet with these great Alaska Natives. Why? Because they are going to say: Madam Secretary, respectfully, we really want this project.

Let me conclude with one other voice that is being ignored, canceled, whatever you want to talk about on the Willow Project. I like this picture. I love this picture, actually. It is a very iconic photo of men and women—actually, it is just all men in that photo. These are the great Americans who built this country. This is taking a lunch break while they are building the Empire State Building. I think they built that in 18 months, 12 months, something incredible like that. The reason I like this picture is because there has become a theme, unfortunately. Some of my Democratic colleagues don't like it when I say this, but there has become a theme that I have seen over the years—certainly in Alaska and maybe not in the rest of the country—but I think it is pretty much the rest of the country, and it is this. My friends in the Democratic Party used to say: We are the party of the working men and women, men and women who built stuff like the Empire State Building and build projects like Willow or the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

Here is the thing. Whenever the national Democrats—Joe Biden, you name it—whenever they have a choice, a choice between the radical far-left environmental elites who want to stop stuff and these men and women who build things, every time—every single time—they go with the radical elites and sell out the working men and women in America, every time. Some of my Democratic colleagues don't like it when I say that. Well, I am sorry, but I think it is truthful.

I will say—and I said it on the floor the other day—I have a lot of Senate colleagues, Republicans and, in particular, Democrats, and I am so thankful, who have called and reached out to the White House and said: Look, you guys, come on, this Willow project makes so much sense. It has been in permitting for decades. Every environmental review has passed with flying colors. The President is really going to Saudi Arabia to get on bended knee to beg for oil? He is really going to Venezuela to lift sanctions to get oil from them, and we are not letting Alaskans produce it? That is crazy.

A lot of my Democratic colleagues—I am not going to name them because they probably don't want to be named—I appreciate you guys calling the White House to say: Come on, you have to approve this Willow project.

But here is the thing. Last year, I had what is called a Congressional Review Act on a permitting issue. The White House, believe it or not, after the infrastructure bill, which I supported—we had good permitting reform in it. After the infrastructure bill passed, the White House put out a rule that would make infrastructure projects much harder to permit, particularly energy projects.

I brought what is called a Congressional Review Act piece of legislation to rescind the Biden administration rule so we could build things more quickly. I am proud to say, a bipartisan group of Senators supported it. President Biden said he was going to veto the Sullivan bill if it comes to his desk. All right. Mr. President, that is a bad idea.

But the reason I am mentioning that now was that was a test because I had every building trade in America supporting my Congressional Review Act resolution to rescind the Biden administration's arcane rule that would make permitting infrastructure projects harder, and the working men and women said we are supporting the Sullivan Congressional Review Act. And guess what. It passed. Now, the usual suspects, Center for Biological Diversity and all the left green groups, were against it. That was a test.

Whom are you with, the working men and women of America or far-left elite, radical environmental groups that want to shut it down again? That is a test. I posed it to my Senate colleagues. The Senate passed the test. It was bipartisan—not by much, but it was still bipartisan. Thank you, JOE MANCHIN.

Here is the thing. Willow is another test. It is not a test for my colleagues here. If we had a vote on Willow right now, I bet it would pass well over 60, 65 Senators.

So, again, I thank my Democratic colleagues for helping me. All my Republican colleagues want it done. They know it is good for Alaska and really good for America. But here is the thing: Once again, all the big building trades, all of them are coming out in

huge support for the Willow Project. They are making it—the laborers, the building tradesmen—they are making it one of their biggest priorities, if not their biggest priority, for these people. Why? As I mentioned, 2,500 construction jobs—that is the estimate to build this—75 percent of which will be labor and building trade union jobs.

Here are just a few of the statements from some of these great Americans—and they are great Americans. I have gotten to know these labor leaders, the heart and soul of the country.

Here is Terry O'Sullivan, Labors International, LIUNA:

Energy infrastructure, oil and natural gas in particular, is the largest privately funded job-creating sector for LIUNA construction workers. The oil and natural gas industry has provided tens of thousands of jobs, resulting in millions of work hours for our members. These are quality union jobs with families supporting wages and benefits. The same is true for the Willow project.

LIUNA, Terry O'Sullivan, laborer, pro-Willow.

Where is that story, Washington Post, New York Times? You won't write it. You never write it. You canceled these twice.

These are great Americans.

How about Mark McManus, general president of the Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Union? Let's see what he said about Willow:

It is long past time we create good-paying union jobs and invest in North Slope [Alaska] communities that will benefit directly from this project in the [NPR-A, as we call it].

NPR-A set aside 7 years ago for oil and gas development. The Willow Project will help deliver reliable energy to consumers and provide billions of dollars in economic investments in these communities.

There you go. Pipefitters.

Come on, national media, write that story. Just don't keep quoting the far-left environmental groups; quote working men and women who built this Nation.

Who else? James Callahan, president of the operating engineers. Willow will also put operating engineers to work. Those are his union members. He is in charge of them. He is another great American, along with others in the skilled trades. These jobs offer families sustaining wages and offer strong health and pension benefits. Furthermore, construction of the Willow Project will provide much needed revenue to Alaska and the North Slope communities, the Native communities.

Another union leader in America. Now, look, the President likes to call himself blue-collar Joe and working Joe and all of that.

Prove it, Mr. President. Prove it.

This is another example of a choice. The only groups in this country right now who want to shut down the Willow Project are far-left, radical environmental groups who don't want to build anything, who don't give a darn about working men and women in America

and certainly don't give a darn about the Native community on the North Slope.

I really wish our media friends would write this story. The unions support it; quote them. The Native people support it; quote them, don't cancel them.

This administration needs to wake up. The American people are getting tired of this. This is a test. The EIS came out last week. If it is changed, it will be because of raw political power by far-left environmental groups who forced the White House to kill this project.

I am just going to end with this. This is just an example. These are union members. These are broad-based groups of Alaska Native organizations. These are just economic groups in our State and nationally. This is not a hard call.

This project has the highest environmental standards in the world, and if we need oil and gas, which we do, why wouldn't we get it from American workers, like the people I just quoted, to help Alaska Native communities, like the people I just quoted? Why is the Federal Government—Joe Biden—going to Saudi Arabia to beg for oil? By the way, he got rejected. Why did we lift sanctions on Venezuela, a terrorist regime? To get more oil—whose production processes are 18 times more polluting than an American oil and gas project. Why? None of this makes sense.

So, again, I want to thank my Democratic Senate colleagues in particular. We have 30 days. If you are an American and you care about energy security and good jobs, if you are a union member, pick up the phone, send an email—blm.gov—and tell them: Stop the madness. Finalize the Willow Project for the benefit of the Native people in Alaska, for the benefit of working Americans, for the benefit of our national security, and for the benefit of our environment. That is what we need to do. I am hoping that the Biden administration makes the right call.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The Senator from Michigan.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Chung nomination be considered expired; that at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 13, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Chung nomination; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and finally, that the cloture motion with respect to the Mendez-Miro nomination ripen following the disposition of the Chung nomination.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

PROTECTING CHILDREN WITH FOOD ALLERGIES ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, every parent in America remembers the first day they sent their child off to school. For many parents, this is a day filled with tears of joy as they send their child off into the world alone for the first time. For others, it is a day of worry and fear. Parents wonder if their child will be able to find their classrooms or if they will make friends. Some even worry if their child's school could be the scene of the senseless violence that occurs all too often in this country. But for the parents of a child with severe allergies, there is another serious fear: the threat of anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis causes blood pressure to plummet, airways to constrict and close, and the heart to beat erratically and stop. It can turn deadly, quickly. Even a trace amount of an allergen can be enough to trigger anaphylaxis.

Only one drug can halt and reverse the progression of anaphylaxis: epinephrine. But as miraculous as the drug is, it can't help if it is not on hand when the unthinkable happens. That is why, in 2013, I introduced the School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act to make schools safer for children with food allergies. At the time, schools often did not stock epinephrine, or "EpiPens," as it is often called. This left children with food allergies vulnerable at school, especially those who may not have known they are allergic. Sometimes, children forget their EpiPens at home; others don't have EpiPens to begin with.

My 2013 bill encouraged more schools to keep epinephrine on hand by providing them with federal grants. It received bipartisan support, and it was signed into law by President Obama. Over the last 10 years, it has saved lives, and it has given parents and students alike greater peace of mind that their school will be prepared to respond to a life-threatening emergency. But, I have thought since then: What more can we do to prevent allergic reactions from occurring in the first place?

I hear from parents across my State of Illinois who are concerned about sending their children with food allergies to school. Tamara Hubbard from Lake Zurich, IL, is one of those parents. She is the mother of a teenage son who has food allergies. Ms. Hubbard also happens to be a therapist whose practice includes working with children who have food allergies and

their families. She wrote to me and told me that: "It takes a daily dose of blind faith mixed with hope" to send a child with food allergies to school. For a child with a peanut or sesame allergy, she said, going to school can be a lot like entering the lion's den. These and other common food allergens are often contained in school meals and in the snacks and lunches of other children. You have to be careful.

Ms. Hubbard said that the families she counsels are often left wondering, "Does our school staff understand allergen labeling? Are they aware of cross-contamination best practices and how to make safe ingredient substitutions for lunches?" And what if they are not aware? That last one is a hard question to contemplate because we know the worst can—and does—happen.

Last May, Tom Shaw, a father in Papillon, NE, just outside of Omaha, dropped his 14-year-old son, Jagger, off at school, gave him a hug and told him to have a good day—just as he had done every school day. But this was not a normal day. You see, like 1 in 50 American children, Jagger was allergic to peanuts. But at snack time, he was given a granola bar that had peanuts in it. Almost immediately, Jagger's heart started racing, and his throat began to swell. He went to the school nurse's office, where he was injected with an EpiPen. But his condition continued to worsen quickly. By the time Jagger was rushed to the hospital, his heart had stopped beating. He had to be resuscitated and put on a ventilator. He suffered serious damage to his heart and brain. Two days after eating that granola bar, Jagger died. Last month, a 10-year-old girl in Amarillo, TX, Emerson Kate Cole, also died after she went into anaphylaxis at school.

Nearly 1 million children nationwide have had an allergic reaction at school. And 25 percent of these reactions occur among children who have undiagnosed food allergies. We can and must do more to prevent children with allergies, diagnosed and undiagnosed, from experiencing potentially deadly reactions to food allergens in schools. That is why, 2 weeks ago, Senator DUCKWORTH and I introduced the Protecting Children with Food Allergies Act. Our bill would require cafeteria workers and other school nutrition workers to receive training in how to identify, prevent, and respond to food-related allergic reactions. That is it. It is a simple fix that would make our schools safer for children with food allergies so that they can focus on learning, not on whether or not they might have an allergic reaction at lunchtime. These cooks, servers, and other cafeteria workers already undergo other sorts of trainings, such as to prevent the spread of foodborne pathogens. We think they also should know the basics on food allergy safety, too. The Protecting Children with Food Allergies Act would move us in that direction.

We hope our colleagues will join us and support this bill with a strong bipartisan vote, just as we did in 2013.

Our kids are depending on us. Let's pass this bill and send it to the President's desk as soon as possible. When it comes to food allergies and potentially deadly anaphylaxis, every minute counts.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-03, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Singapore for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$55 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-03

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Singapore.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$37 million.

Other \$18 million.

Total \$55 million.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

One hundred (100) KMU-556 Tail Kits for Joint Direct-Attack Munition (JDAM) GBU-31

Nine hundred (900) KMU-572 Tail Kits for JDAM GBU-38 and Laser JDAM GBU-54

Two hundred fifty (250) MAU-169 Computer Control Group for 500lb Paveway II (PWII) GBU-12

Two hundred fifty (250) MXU-650 Air Foil Group for 500lb PWII GBU-12

Non-MDE: Also included are DSU-38 laser guidance sets; Common Munitions Built-In-

Test/Reprogramming Equipment; spare parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; aircraft and munitions support and support equipment; personnel training and training equipment; unclassified software; unclassified technical books and other publications; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (SN-D-YAJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: SN-D-YAH.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 9, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Singapore—Air-to-Ground Munitions Kits and Services

The Government of Singapore has requested to buy one hundred (100) KMU-556 Tail Kits for Joint Direct-Attack Munition (JDAM) GBU-31; nine hundred (900) KMU-572 Tail Kits for JDAM GBU-38 and Laser JDAM GBU-54; two hundred fifty (250) MAU-169 Computer Control Group for 500lb Paveway-II (PWII) GBU-12; and two hundred fifty (250) MXU-650 Air Foil Group for 500lb PWII GBU-12. Also included are DSU-38 laser guidance sets; Common Munitions Built-In-Test/Reprogramming Equipment; spare parts, consumables, accessories, and repair and return support; aircraft and munitions support and support equipment; personnel training and training equipment; unclassified software; unclassified technical books and other publications; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, studies and surveys; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total cost is \$55 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a strategic partner that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Asia.

The proposed sale will support the Republic of Singapore Air Force's capability to contribute to coalition operations and meet its national defense requirements. Singapore will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

This proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missile and Defense, Tucson, AZ. A portion of the defense articles is anticipated to come from U.S. Government stock. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Singapore.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-03

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Paveway II (PWII) is a maneuverable, free-fall Laser Guided Bomb (LGB) that guides to a spot of laser energy reflected off

the target. The LGB is delivered like a normal general purpose (GP) warhead, and the semi-active laser guidance corrects many of the normal errors inherent in any delivery system. Laser designation can be provided by a variety of laser target markers or designators. An LGB consists of a non-warhead-specific MAU-209 or MAU-169 Computer Control Group (CCG) and a warhead-specific Air Foil Group (AFG) that attaches to the nose and tail of the GP bomb body.

The GBU-12 is a 500lb GP bomb body fitted with the MXU-650 AFG to guide it to laser-designated targets.

2. Joint Direct-Attack Munitions (JDAM) consist of a bomb body paired with a warhead-specific tail kit containing an Inertial Navigation System (INS)/Global Positioning System (GPS) guidance capability that converts unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather "smart" munitions. The JDAM weapon can be delivered from modest standoff ranges at high or low altitudes against a variety of land and surface targets during the day or night. The JDAM is capable of receiving target coordinates via preplanned mission data from the delivery aircraft, by onboard aircraft sensors (i.e., FLIR, radar, etc.) during captive carry, or from a third-party source via manual or automated aircrew cockpit entry.

a. The GBU-38 is a 500lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-572 tail kit and BLU-111 or MK-82 bomb body.

b. The GBU-31 is a 2,000lb JDAM, consisting of a KMU-556 tail kit and BLU-109 or MK-84 bomb body.

c. The GBU-54 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition (LJDAM) is a 500lb JDAM that incorporates all the capabilities of the JDAM guidance tail kit and adds a precision laser guidance set. The LJDAM gives the weapon system an optional semi-active laser guidance in addition to the INS/GPS guidance. This provides the optional capability to strike moving targets. The GBU-54 consists of a DSU-38 laser guidance set, KMU-572 tail kit, and MK-82 or BLU-111 bomb body.

3. The Common Munitions Built-In-Test (BIT)/Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE) is support equipment used to interface with weapon systems to initiate and report Built-In-Test (BIT) results and upload/download flight software. The CMBRE supports multiple munitions platforms with a range of applications that perform preflight checks, periodic maintenance checks, loading of Operational Flight Program data, loading of munitions mission planning data, loading of GPS cryptographic keys, and declassification of munitions memory.

4. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

5. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

6. A determination has been made that Singapore can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

7. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Singapore.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, the Committee on Finance has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 118th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying rules for the Senate Committee on Finance be printed in the RECORD.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

I. RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1. *Regular Meeting Days.*—The regular meeting day of the committee shall be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, except that if there be no business before the committee the regular meeting shall be omitted.

Rule 2. *Committee Meetings.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 3 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to special meetings called by a majority of the committee) and subsection (b) of this rule, committee meetings, for the conduct of business, for the purpose of holding hearings, or for any other purpose, shall be called by the chairman after consultation with the ranking minority member. Members will be notified of committee meetings at least 48 hours in advance, unless the chairman determines that an emergency situation requires a meeting on shorter notice. The notification will include a written agenda together with materials prepared by the staff relating to that agenda. After the agenda for a committee meeting is published and distributed, no nongermane items may be brought up during that meeting unless at least two-thirds of the members present agree to consider those items.

(b) In the absence of the chairman, meetings of the committee may be called by the ranking majority member of the committee who is present, provided authority to call meetings has been delegated to such member by the chairman.

Rule 3. *Presiding Officer.*—(a) The chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the committee except that in his absence the ranking majority member who is present at the meeting shall preside.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a) any member of the committee may preside over the conduct of a hearing.

Rule 4. *Quorums.*—(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) one-third of the membership of the committee, including not less than one member of the majority party and one member of the minority party, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

(b) Notwithstanding the rule prescribed by subsection (a), one member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

Rule 5. *Reporting of Measures or Recommendations.*—No measure or recommendation shall be reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee is actually present and a majority of those present concur.

Rule 6. *Proxy Voting; Polling.*—(a) Except as provided by paragraph 7(a)(3) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitation on use of proxy voting to report a measure or matter), members who are unable to be present may have their vote recorded by proxy.

(b) At the discretion of the committee, members who are unable to be present and whose vote has not been cast by proxy may be polled for the purpose of recording their vote on any rollcall taken by the committee.

Rule 7. *Order of Motions.*—When several motions are before the committee dealing with related or overlapping matters, the chairman may specify the order in which the motions shall be voted upon.

Rule 8. *Bringing a Matter to a Vote.*—If the chairman determines that a motion or amendment has been adequately debated, he may call for a vote on such motion or amendment, and the vote shall then be taken, unless the committee votes to continue debate on such motion or amendment, as the case may be. The vote on a motion to continue debate on any motion or amendment shall be taken without debate.

Rule 9. *Public Announcement of Committee Votes.*—Pursuant to paragraph 7(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to public announcement of votes), the results of rollcall votes taken by the committee on any measure (or amendment thereto) or matter shall be announced publicly not later than the day on which such measure or matter is ordered reported from the committee.

Rule 10. *Subpoenas.*—Witnesses and memoranda, documents, and records may be subpoenaed by the chairman of the committee with the agreement of the ranking minority member or by a majority vote of the committee. Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and the production of memoranda, documents, and records shall be issued by the chairman, or by any other member of the committee designated by him.

Rule 11. *Nominations.*—In considering a nomination, the committee may conduct an investigation or review of the nominee's experience, qualifications, and suitability, to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. To aid in such investigation or review, each nominee may be required to submit a sworn detailed statement including biographical, financial, policy, and other information which the committee may request. The committee may specify which items in such statement are to be received on a confidential basis. Witnesses called to testify on the nomination may be required to testify under oath.

Rule 12. *Open Committee Hearings.*—To the extent required by paragraph 5 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to limitations on open hearings), each hearing conducted by the committee shall be open to the public.

Rule 13. *Announcement of Hearings.*—The committee shall undertake consistent with the provisions of paragraph 4(a) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate (relating to public notice of committee hearings) to issue public announcements of hearings it intends to hold at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearings.

Rule 14. *Witnesses at Hearings.*—(a) Each witness who is scheduled to testify at any hearing must submit his written testimony to the staff director not later than noon of the business day immediately before the last business day preceding the day on which he is scheduled to appear. Such written testimony shall be accompanied by a brief summary of the principal points covered in the written testimony. Having submitted his written testimony, the witness shall be allowed not more than ten minutes for oral presentation of his statement.

(b) Witnesses may not read their entire written testimony, but must confine their oral presentation to a summarization of their arguments.

(c) Witnesses shall observe proper standards of dignity, decorum, and propriety while presenting their views to the committee. Any witness who violates this rule shall be dismissed, and his testimony (both oral and written) shall not appear in the record of the hearing.

(d) In scheduling witnesses for hearings, the staff shall attempt to schedule witnesses so as to attain a balance of views early in the hearings. Every member of the committee may designate witnesses who will appear before the committee to testify. To the extent that a witness designated by a member cannot be scheduled to testify during the time set aside for the hearing, a special time will be set aside for the witness to testify if the member designating that witness is available at that time to chair the hearing.

Rule 15. *Audiences.*—Persons admitted into the audience for open hearings of the committee shall conduct themselves with the dignity, decorum, courtesy, and propriety traditionally observed by the Senate. Demonstrations of approval or disapproval of any statement or act by any member or witness are not allowed. Persons creating confusion or distractions or otherwise disrupting the orderly proceeding of the hearing shall be expelled from the hearing.

Rule 16. *Broadcasting of Hearings.*—(a) Broadcasting of open hearings by television or radio coverage shall be allowed upon approval by the chairman of a request filed with the staff director not later than noon of the day before the day on which such coverage is desired.

(b) If such approval is granted, broadcasting coverage of the hearing shall be conducted unobtrusively and in accordance with the standards of dignity, propriety, courtesy, and decorum traditionally observed by the Senate.

(c) Equipment necessary for coverage by television and radio media shall not be installed in, or removed from, the hearing room while the committee is in session.

(d) Additional lighting may be installed in the hearing room by the media in order to raise the ambient lighting level to the lowest level necessary to provide adequate television coverage of the hearing at the then current state of the art of television coverage.

(e) The additional lighting authorized by subsection (d) of this rule shall not be directed into the eyes of any members of the committee or of any witness, and at the request of any such member or witness, offending lighting shall be extinguished.

Rule 17. *Subcommittees.*—(a) The chairman, subject to the approval of the committee, shall appoint legislative subcommittees. The ranking minority member shall recommend to the chairman appointment of minority members to the subcommittees. All legislation shall be kept on the full committee calendar unless a majority of the members present and voting agree to refer specific legislation to an appropriate subcommittee.

(b) The chairman may limit the period during which House-passed legislation referred to a subcommittee under paragraph (a) will remain in that subcommittee. At the end of that period, the legislation will be restored to the full committee calendar. The period referred to in the preceding sentences should be 6 weeks, but may be extended in the event that adjournment or a long recess is imminent.

(c) All decisions of the chairman are subject to approval or modification by a majority vote of the committee.

(d) The full committee may at any time by majority vote of those members present discharge a subcommittee from further consideration of a specific piece of legislation.

(e) The chairman and ranking minority members shall serve as nonvoting *ex officio* members of the subcommittees on which they do not serve as voting members.

(f) Any member of the committee may attend hearings held by any subcommittee and question witnesses testifying before that subcommittee.

(g) Subcommittee meeting times shall be coordinated by the staff director to ensure that—

(1) no subcommittee meeting will be held when the committee is in executive session, except by unanimous consent;

(2) no more than one subcommittee will meet when the full committee is holding hearings; and

(3) not more than two subcommittees will meet at the same time.

Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), a subcommittee may meet when the full committee is holding hearings and two subcommittees may meet at the same time only upon the approval of the chairman and the ranking minority member of the committee and subcommittees involved.

(h) All nominations shall be considered by the full committee.

(i) The chairman will attempt to schedule reasonably frequent meetings of the full committee to permit consideration of legislation reported favorably to the committee by the subcommittees.

Rule 18. *Transcripts of Committee Meetings.*—An accurate record shall be kept of all mark-ups of the committee, whether they be open or closed to the public. A transcript, marked as “uncorrected,” shall be available for inspection by members of the Senate, or members of the committee together with their staffs, at any time. Not later than 21 business days after the meeting occurs, the committee shall make publicly available through the Internet—

(a) a video recording;

(b) an audio recording; or

(c) after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements, a corrected transcript.

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the record of an executive session of the committee that is closed to the public pursuant to Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the record shall not be published or made public in any way except by majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

Rule 19. *Amendment of Rules.*—The foregoing rules may be added to, modified, amended, or suspended at any time.

II. EXCERPTS FROM THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE RELATING TO STANDING COMMITTEES

RULE XXV

Standing Committees

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions:

(i) Committee on Finance, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Bonded debt of the United States, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

2. Customs, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery.

3. Deposit of public moneys.

4. General revenue sharing.

5. Health programs under the Social Security Act and health programs financed by a specific tax or trust fund.

6. National social security.

7. Reciprocal trade agreements.

8. Revenue measures generally, except as provided in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

9. Revenue measures relating to the insular possessions.

10. Tariffs and import quotas, and matters related thereto.

11. Transportation of dutiable goods.

RULE XXVI

Committee Procedure

2. Each committee shall adopt rules (not inconsistent with the Rules of the Senate) governing the procedure of such committee. The rules of each committee shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress, except that if any such committee is established on or after February 1 of a year, the rules of that committee during the year of establishment shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than sixty days after such establishment. Any amendment to the rules of a committee shall not take effect until the amendment is published in the Congressional Record.

5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the rules, when the Senate is in session, no committee of the Senate or any subcommittee thereof may meet, without special leave, after the conclusion of the first two hours after the meeting of the Senate commenced and in no case after two o'clock post meridian unless consent therefor has been obtained from the majority leader and the minority leader (or in the event of the absence of either of such leaders, from his designee). The prohibition contained in the preceding sentence shall not apply to the Committee on Appropriations or the Committee on the Budget. The majority leader or his designee shall announce to the Senate whenever consent has been given under this subparagraph and shall state the time and place of such meeting. The right to make such announcement of consent shall have the same priority as the filing of a cloture motion.

(b) Each meeting of a committee, or any subcommittee thereof, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by a committee or a subcommittee thereof on the same subject for a period of no more than fourteen calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in clauses (1) through (6) would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

(c) Whenever any hearing conducted by any such committee or subcommittee is open to the public, that hearing may be broadcast by radio or television, or both, under such rules as the committee or subcommittee may adopt.

(d) Whenever disorder arises during a committee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any person in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce order on his own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Senator. When the Chair finds it necessary to maintain order, he shall have the power to clear the room, and the committee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order.

(e) Each committee shall prepare and keep a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceeding of each meeting or conference whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed under this paragraph, unless a majority of its members vote to forgo such a record.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the following to be printed in the RECORD.

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

UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

RULES OF PROCEDURE, 118TH CONGRESS

1. Regular Meeting Day—The Committee shall meet at least once a month when Congress is in session. The regular meeting days of the Committee shall be Tuesday and Thursday, unless the Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, directs otherwise.

2. Additional Meetings—The Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may call such additional meetings as he deems necessary.

3. Special Meetings—special meetings of the Committee may be called by a majority of the members of the Committee in accordance with paragraph 3 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

4. Open Meetings—Each meeting of the Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the Committee or a subcommittee thereof on the same subject for a period of no more than fourteen (14) calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated below in clauses (a) through (t) would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of Committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with a crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

5. Presiding Officer—The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the Committee except that in his absence the Ranking Majority Member present at the meeting or hearing shall preside unless by majority vote the Committee provides otherwise.

6. Quorum—(a) A majority of the members of the Committee are required to be actually present to report a matter or measure from the Committee. (See Standing Rules of the Senate XXVI.7(a)(1)).

(b) Except as provided in subsections (a) and (c), and other than for the conduct of hearings, nine members of the Committee, including one member of the minority party; or a majority of the members of the Committee, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of such business as may be considered by the Committee.

(c) Three members of the Committee, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking sworn testimony, unless otherwise ordered by a majority of the full Committee.

(d) No measure or matter or recommendation shall be reported by the Committee in the absence of the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Committee who are present.

(e) Proxy votes may not be considered for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

7. Proxy Voting—Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the Committee. The vote by proxy of any member of the Committee may be counted for the purpose of reporting any measure or matter to the Senate if the absent member casting such vote has been informed of the matter on which the member is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that he or she be so recorded. Proxy must be given in writing. In order to report out a nomination, measure or treaty, the "yes" votes must come from those physically present in the room only and must outnumber the "no" votes—whether the no votes are cast by members present in the room or by proxy.

8. Announcement of Votes—The results of all roll call votes taken in any meeting of the Committee on any measure, or amendment thereto, shall be announced in the Committee report, unless previously announced by the Committee. The announce-

ment shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor and votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment by each member of the Committee who was present at such meeting. The Chairman, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may hold open a roll call vote on any measure or matter which is before the Committee until no later than midnight of the day on which the Committee votes on such measure or matter.

9. Subpoenas—Subpoenas for attendance of witnesses and for the production of memoranda, documents, records, and the like may be issued, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, by the Chairman or any other member designated by the Chairman, but only when authorized by a majority of the members of the Committee. The subpoena shall briefly state the matter to which the witness is expected to testify or the documents to be produced.

10. Hearings—(a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, at least 1 week in advance of such hearing, unless the Committee or subcommittee determines that good cause exists for beginning such hearings at an earlier time.

(b) Hearings may be initiated only by the specified authorization of the Committee or subcommittee.

(c) Hearings shall be held only in the District of Columbia unless specifically authorized to be held elsewhere by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee conducting such hearings.

(d) The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member thereof before naming witnesses for a hearing.

(e) Witnesses appearing before the Committee shall file with the clerk of the Committee a written statement of their proposed testimony prior to the hearing at which they are to appear unless the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member determine that there is good cause not to file such a statement. Witnesses testifying on behalf of the Administration shall furnish an additional 50 copies of their statement to the Committee. All statements must be received by the Committee at least 48 hours (not including weekends or holidays) before the hearing.

(f) Confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in a closed hearing of the Committee or subcommittee or any report of the proceedings of such hearing shall not be made public in whole or in part or by way of summary unless authorized by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(g) Any witness summoned to give testimony or evidence at a public or closed hearing of the Committee or subcommittee may be accompanied by counsel of his own choosing who shall be permitted at all times during such hearing to advise such witness of his legal rights.

(h) Witnesses providing unsworn testimony to the Committee may be given a transcript of such testimony for the purpose of making minor grammatical corrections. Such witnesses will not, however, be permitted to alter the substance of their testimony. Any question involving such corrections shall be decided by the Chairman.

11. Nominations—Unless otherwise ordered by the Committee, nominations referred to the Committee shall be held for at least seven (7) days before being voted on by the Committee. Each member of the Committee shall be furnished a copy of all nominations referred to the Committee.

12. Real Property Transactions—Each member of the Committee shall be furnished with a copy of the proposals of the Secre-

taries of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, submitted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2662 and with a copy of the proposals of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, submitted pursuant to 50 U.S.C. App. 2285, regarding the proposed acquisition or disposition of property of an estimated price or rental of more than \$750,000. Any member of the Committee objecting to or requesting information on a proposed acquisition or disposal shall communicate his objection or request to the Chairman of the Committee within thirty (30) days from the date of submission.

13. Legislative Calendar—(a) The clerk of the Committee shall keep a printed calendar for the information of each Committee member showing the bills introduced and referred to the Committee and the status of such bills. Such calendar shall be revised from time to time to show pertinent changes in such bills, the current status thereof, and new bills introduced and referred to the Committee. A copy of each new revision shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

(b) Unless otherwise ordered, measures referred to the Committee shall be referred by the clerk of the Committee to the appropriate department or agency of the Government for reports thereon.

14. Except as otherwise specified herein, the Standing Rules of the Senate shall govern the actions of the Committee. Each subcommittee of the Committee is part of the Committee, and is therefore subject to the Committee's rules so far as applicable.

15. Powers and Duties of Subcommittees—Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it. Subcommittee chairmen, after consultation with Ranking Minority Members of the subcommittees, shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY RULES OF PROCEDURE

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 118th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator BOOZMAN, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY—118TH CONGRESS RULE I—MEETINGS

1.1 Regular Meetings.—Regular meetings shall be held on the first and third Wednesday of each month when Congress is in session.

1.2 Additional Meetings.—The Chairman, in consultation with the ranking minority member, may call such additional meetings as he deems necessary.

1.3 Notification.—In the case of any meeting of the committee, other than a regularly scheduled meeting, the clerk of the committee shall notify every member of the

committee of the time and place of the meeting and shall give reasonable notice which, except in extraordinary circumstances, shall be at least 24 hours in advance of any meeting held in Washington, DC, and at least 48 hours in the case of any meeting held outside Washington, DC.

1.4 Called Meeting.—If three members of the committee have made a request in writing to the Chairman to call a meeting of the committee, and the Chairman fails to call such a meeting within 7 calendar days thereafter, including the day on which the written notice is submitted, a majority of the members may call a meeting by filing a written notice with the clerk of the committee who shall promptly notify each member of the committee in writing of the date and time of the meeting.

1.5 Adjournment of Meetings.—The Chairman of the committee or a subcommittee shall be empowered to adjourn any meeting of the committee or a subcommittee if a quorum is not present within 15 minutes of the time scheduled for such meeting.

RULE 2—MEETINGS AND HEARINGS IN GENERAL

2.1 Open Sessions.—Business meetings and hearings held by the committee or any subcommittee shall be open to the public except as otherwise provided for in Senate Rule XXVI, paragraph 5.

2.2 Transcripts.—A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting and hearing of the committee or any subcommittee unless a majority of the committee or the subcommittee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

2.3 Reports.—An appropriate opportunity shall be given the Minority to examine the proposed text of committee reports prior to their filing or publication. In the event there are supplemental, minority, or additional views, an appropriate opportunity shall be given the Majority to examine the proposed text prior to filing or publication.

2.4 Attendance.—(a) Meetings. Official attendance of all markups and executive sessions of the committee shall be kept by the committee clerk. Official attendance of all subcommittee markups and executive sessions shall be kept by the subcommittee clerk.

(b) Hearings. Official attendance of all hearings shall be kept, provided that, Senators are notified by the committee Chairman and ranking minority member, in the case of committee hearings, and by the subcommittee Chairman and ranking minority member, in the case of subcommittee hearings, 48 hours in advance of the hearing that attendance will be taken. Otherwise, no attendance will be taken. Attendance at all hearings is encouraged.

RULE 3—HEARING PROCEDURES

3.1 Notice.—Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the committee or any subcommittee at least 1 week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full committee or the subcommittee determines that the hearing is noncontroversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of the committee or the subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than 24 hours notice.

3.2 Witness Statements.—Each witness who is to appear before the committee or any subcommittee shall file with the committee or subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony and as many copies as the Chairman of the committee or subcommittee prescribes.

3.3 Minority Witnesses.—In any hearing conducted by the committee, or any subcommittee thereof, the minority members of

the committee or subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by the ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee to call witnesses of their selection during at least 1 day of such hearing pertaining to the matter or matters heard by the committee or subcommittee.

3.4 Swearing in of Witnesses.—Witnesses in committee or subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee deems such to be necessary.

3.5 Limitation.—Each member shall be limited to 5 minutes in the questioning of any witness until such time as all members who so desire have had an opportunity to question a witness. Questions from members shall rotate from majority to minority members in order of seniority or in order of arrival at the hearing.

RULE 4—NOMINATIONS

4.1 Assignment.—All nominations shall be considered by the full committee.

4.2 Standards.—In considering a nomination, the committee shall inquire into the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated.

4.3 Information.—Each nominee shall submit in response to questions prepared by the committee the following information:

(1) A detailed biographical resume which contains information relating to education, employment, and achievements;

(2) Financial information, including a financial statement which lists assets and liabilities of the nominee; and

(3) Copies of other relevant documents requested by the committee. Information received pursuant to this subsection shall be available for public inspection except as specifically designated confidential by the committee.

4.4 Hearings.—The committee shall conduct a public hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to his or her suitability for office. No hearing shall be held until at least 48 hours after the nominee has responded to a prehearing questionnaire submitted by the committee.

4.5 Action on Confirmation.—A business meeting to consider a nomination shall not occur on the same day that the hearing on the nominee is held. The Chairman, with the agreement of the ranking minority member, may waive this requirement.

RULE 5—QUORUMS

5.1 Testimony.—For the purpose of receiving evidence, the swearing of witnesses, and the taking of sworn or unsworn testimony at any duly scheduled hearing, a quorum of the committee and the subcommittee thereof shall consist of one member.

5.2 Business.—A quorum for the transaction of committee or subcommittee business, other than for reporting a measure or recommendation to the Senate or the taking of testimony, shall consist of one-third of the members of the committee or subcommittee, including at least one member from each party.

5.3 Reporting.—A majority of the membership of the committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting bills, nominations, matters, or recommendations to the Senate. No measure or recommendation shall be ordered reported from the committee unless a majority of the committee members are physically present. The vote of the committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of those members who are physically present at the time the vote is taken.

RULE 6—VOTING

6.1 Rollcalls.—A roll call vote of the members shall be taken upon the request of any member.

6.2 Proxies.—Voting by proxy as authorized by the Senate rules for specific bills or subjects shall be allowed whenever a quorum of the committee is actually present.

6.3 Polling.—The committee may poll any matters of committee business, other than a vote on reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations or a vote on closing a meeting or hearing to the public, provided that every member is polled and every poll consists of the following two questions:

(1) Do you agree or disagree to poll the proposal; and

(2) Do you favor or oppose the proposal.

If any member requests, any matter to be polled shall be held for meeting rather than being polled. The chief clerk of the committee shall keep a record of all polls.

RULE 7—SUBCOMMITTEES

7.1 Assignments.—To assure the equitable assignment of members to subcommittees, no member of the committee will receive assignment to a second subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the committee have chosen assignments to one subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignment to a third subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two subcommittees.

7.2 Attendance.—Any member of the committee may sit with any subcommittee during a hearing or meeting but shall not have the authority to vote on any matter before the subcommittee unless he or she is a member of such subcommittee.

7.3 Ex Officio Members.—The Chairman and ranking minority member shall serve as nonvoting ex officio members of the subcommittees on which they do not serve as voting members. The Chairman and ranking minority member may not be counted toward a quorum.

7.4 Scheduling.—No subcommittee may schedule a meeting or hearing at a time designated for a hearing or meeting of the full committee. No more than one subcommittee business meeting may be held at the same time.

7.5 Discharge.—Should a subcommittee fail to report back to the full committee on any measure within a reasonable time, the Chairman may withdraw the measure from such subcommittee and report that fact to the full committee for further disposition. The full committee may at any time, by majority vote of those members present, discharge a subcommittee from further consideration of a specific piece of legislation.

7.6 Application of Committee Rules to Subcommittees.—The proceedings of each subcommittee shall be governed by the rules of the full committee, subject to such authorizations or limitations as the committee may from time to time prescribe.

RULE 8—INVESTIGATIONS, SUBPOENAS AND DEPOSITIONS

8.1 Investigations.—Any investigation undertaken by the committee or a subcommittee in which depositions are taken or subpoenas issued, must be authorized by a majority of the members of the committee voting for approval to conduct such investigation at a business meeting of the committee convened in accordance with Rule 1.

8.2 Subpoenas.—The Chairman, with the approval of the ranking minority member of the committee, is delegated the authority to subpoena the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials at a hearing of the committee or a subcommittee or in connection with the conduct of an investigation authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.1. The Chairman may subpoena attendance or production without the approval of the ranking minority member when the

Chairman has not received notification from the ranking minority member of disapproval of the subpoena within 72 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, of being notified of the subpoena. If a subpoena is disapproved by the ranking minority member as provided in this paragraph the subpoena may be authorized by vote of the members of the committee. When the committee or Chairman authorizes subpoenas, subpoenas may be issued upon the signature of the Chairman or any other member of the committee designated by the Chairman.

8.3 Notice for Taking Depositions.—Notices for the taking of depositions, in an investigation authorized by the committee, shall be authorized and be issued by the Chairman or by a staff officer designated by him. Such notices shall specify a time and place for examination, and the name of the Senator, staff officer or officers who will take the deposition. Unless otherwise specified, the deposition shall be in private. The committee shall not initiate procedures leading to criminal or civil enforcement proceedings for a witness' failure to appear unless the deposition notice was accompanied by a committee subpoena.

8.4 Procedure for Taking Depositions.—Witnesses shall be examined upon oath administered by an individual authorized by local law to administer oaths. The Chairman will rule, by telephone or otherwise, on any objection by a witness. The transcript of a deposition shall be filed with the committee clerk.

RULE 9—AMENDING THE RULES

These rules shall become effective upon publication in the Congressional Record. These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by the committee, provided that all members are present or provide proxies or if a notice in writing of the proposed changes has been given to each member at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken. The changes shall become effective immediately upon publication of the changed rule or rules in the Congressional Record, or immediately upon approval of the changes if so resolved by the committee as long as any witnesses who may be affected by the change in rules are provided with them.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION RULES OF PROCEDURE

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 118th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying rules for the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION—118TH CONGRESS

RULE I—MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. IN GENERAL.—The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as the Chair may deem necessary, or pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

2. OPEN MEETINGS.—Meetings of the Committee, or any subcommittee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the Committee, or any subcommittee, on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (A) through (F) would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the members of the Committee, or any subcommittee, when it is determined that the matter to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(A) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(B) will relate solely to matters of Committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(C) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(D) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interest of effective law enforcement;

(E) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of, or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to, a given person if—

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(F) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

3. STATEMENTS.—Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any subcommittee shall file with the Committee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of the witness's testimony in as many copies as the Chair of the Committee or subcommittee prescribes. In the event a witness fails to file a timely written statement in accordance with this rule, the Chair of the Committee or subcommittee, as applicable, may permit the witness to testify, or deny the witness the privilege of testifying before the Committee, or permit the witness to testify in response to questions from members without the benefit of giving an opening statement.

4. FIELD HEARINGS.—Field hearings of the full Committee, and any subcommittee thereof, shall be scheduled only when authorized by the Chair and ranking minority member of the full Committee.

RULE II—QUORUMS

1. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, AND NOMINATIONS.—A majority of the members, which includes at least 1 minority member, shall constitute a quorum for official action of the Committee when reporting a bill, resolution, or nomination. Proxies may not be counted in making a quorum for purposes of this paragraph.

2. OTHER BUSINESS.—One-third of the entire membership of the Committee shall con-

stitute a quorum for the transaction of all business as may be considered by the Committee, except for the reporting of a bill, resolution, or nomination or authorizing a subpoena. Proxies may not be counted in making a quorum for purposes of this paragraph.

3. TAKING TESTIMONY.—For the purpose of taking sworn testimony a quorum of the Committee and each subcommittee thereof, now or hereafter appointed, shall consist of 1 member of the Committee.

RULE III—PROXIES

When a record vote is taken in the Committee on any bill, resolution, amendment, or any other question, the required quorum being present, a member who is unable to attend the meeting may submit his or her vote by proxy, in writing or through personal instructions.

RULE IV—CONSIDERATION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

It shall not be in order during a meeting of the Committee to move to proceed to the consideration of any bill or resolution unless the bill or resolution has been filed with the Clerk of the Committee not less than 48 hours in advance of the Committee meeting, in as many copies as the Chair of the Committee prescribes. This rule may be waived with the concurrence of the Chair and the ranking minority member of the full Committee.

RULE V—SUBPOENAS; COUNSEL; RECORD

1. SUBPOENAS.—The Chair, with the approval of the ranking minority member of the Committee, may subpoena the attendance of witnesses for hearings and the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials. The Chair may subpoena such attendance of witnesses or production of materials without the approval of the ranking minority member if the Chair or a member of the Committee staff designated by the Chair has not received notification from the ranking minority member or a member of the Committee staff designated by the ranking minority member of disapproval of the subpoena within 72 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, of being notified of the subpoena. If a subpoena is disapproved by the ranking minority member as provided in this paragraph, the subpoena may be authorized by vote of the Members of the Committee, the quorum required by paragraph 1 of rule II being present. When the Committee or Chair authorizes a subpoena, it shall be issued upon the signature of the Chair or any other Member of the Committee designated by the Chair. At the direction of the Chair, with notification to the ranking minority member of not less than 72 hours, the staff is authorized to take depositions from witnesses. The ranking minority member, or a member of the Committee staff designated by the ranking minority member, shall be given the opportunity to attend and participate in the taking of any deposition. Witnesses at depositions shall be examined upon oath administered by an individual authorized by law to administer oaths, or administered by any member of the Committee if one is present.

2. COUNSEL.—Witnesses may be accompanied at a public or executive hearing, or the taking of a deposition, by counsel to advise them of their rights. Counsel retained by any witness and accompanying such witness shall be permitted to be present during the testimony of the witness at any public or executive hearing, or the taking of a deposition, to advise the witness, while the witness is testifying, of the witness's legal rights. In the case of any witness who is an officer or employee of the government, or of a corporation or association, the Chair may rule that representation by counsel from the government, corporation, or association or by counsel representing other witnesses, creates a

conflict of interest, and that the witness may only be represented during testimony before the Committee by personal counsel not from the government, corporation, or association or by personal counsel not representing other witnesses. This paragraph shall not be construed to excuse a witness from testifying in the event the witness's counsel is ejected for conducting himself or herself in such manner as to prevent, impede, disrupt, obstruct, or interfere with the orderly administration of a hearing or the taking of a deposition. This paragraph may not be construed as authorizing counsel to coach the witness or to answer for the witness. The failure of any witness to secure counsel shall not excuse the witness from complying with a subpoena.

3. RECORD.—An accurate electronic or stenographic record shall be kept of the testimony of all witnesses in executive and public hearings and depositions. If testimony given by deposition is transcribed, the individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn in his or her presence and the transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony. The transcript with these certifications shall be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee. The record of a witness's testimony, whether in public or executive session or in a deposition, shall be made available for inspection by the witness or the witness's counsel under Committee supervision. A copy of any testimony given in public session, or that part of the testimony given by the witness in executive session or deposition and subsequently quoted or made part of the record in a public session, shall be provided to that witness at the witness's expense if so requested. Upon inspecting the transcript, within a time limit set by the Clerk of the Committee, a witness may request changes in the transcript to correct errors of transcription and grammatical errors. The witness may also bring to the attention of the Committee errors of fact in the witness's testimony by submitting a sworn statement about those facts with a request that it be attached to the transcript. The Chair or a member of the Committee staff designated by the Chair shall rule on such requests.

RULE VI—BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS

Public hearings of the full Committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall be televised or broadcast only when authorized by the Chair and the ranking minority member of the full Committee.

RULE VII—SUBCOMMITTEES

1. HEARINGS.—Any member of the Committee may sit with any subcommittee during its hearings.

2. CHANGE OF CHAIR.—Subcommittees shall be considered de novo whenever there is a change in the Chair, and seniority on the particular subcommittee shall not necessarily apply.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 118th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1.—Subject to the provisions of rule XXVI, paragraph 5, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, regular meetings of the committee shall be held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD-430, Dirksen Senate Office Building. The chair may, upon proper notice, call such additional meetings as the chair deems necessary.

Rule 2.—The chair of the committee or of a subcommittee, or if the chair is not present, the ranking majority member present, shall preside at all meetings. The chair may designate the ranking minority member to preside at hearings of the committee or subcommittee.

Rule 3.—Meetings of the committee or a subcommittee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public except as otherwise specifically provided in subsections (b) and (d) of rule XXVI, paragraph 5, of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rule 4.—(a) Subject to paragraph (b), one-third of the membership of the committee, actually present, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business. Any quorum of the committee which is composed of less than a majority of the members of the committee shall include at least one member of the majority and one member of the minority.

(b) A majority of the members of a subcommittee, actually present, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business; provided, no measure or matter shall be ordered reported unless such majority shall include at least one member of the minority who is a member of the subcommittee. If, at any subcommittee meeting, a measure or matter cannot be ordered reported because of the absence of such a minority member, the measure or matter shall lay over for a day. If the presence of a member of the minority is not then obtained, a majority of the members of the subcommittee, actually present, may order such measure or matter reported.

(c) No measure or matter shall be ordered reported from the committee or a subcommittee unless a majority of the committee or subcommittee is physically present.

Rule 5.—With the approval of the chair of the committee or subcommittee, one member thereof may conduct public hearings other than taking sworn testimony.

Rule 6.—Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the committee or a subcommittee if the absent member has been informed of the matter on which the member is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that the member be so recorded. While proxies may be voted on a motion to report a measure or matter from the committee, such a motion shall also require the concurrence of a majority of the members who are actually present at the time such action is taken.

The committee may poll any matters of committee business as a matter of unanimous consent; provided that every member is polled and every poll consists of the following two questions:

(1) Do you agree or disagree to poll the proposal; and

(2) Do you favor or oppose the proposal.

Rule 7.—There shall be prepared and kept a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceedings of each committee meeting, subcommittee meeting, or conference, whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed pursuant to the specific provisions of subsections (b) and (d) of rule XXVI, paragraph 5, of the

Standing Rules of the Senate, unless a majority of said members vote to forgo such a record. Such records shall contain the vote cast by each member of the committee or subcommittee on any question on which a "yea and nay" vote is demanded, and shall be available for inspection by any committee member. The clerk of the committee, or the clerk's designee, shall have the responsibility to make appropriate arrangements to implement this rule.

Rule 8.—The committee and each subcommittee shall undertake, consistent with the provisions of rule XXVI, paragraph 4, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, to issue public announcement of any hearing or executive session it intends to hold at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearing or executive session. In the case of an executive session, the text of any bill or joint resolution to be considered must be provided to the chair for prompt electronic distribution to the members of the committee.

Rule 9.—The committee or a subcommittee shall require all witnesses heard before it to file written testimony at least 48 hours before a hearing, unless the chair and the ranking minority member determine that there is good cause for failure to so file, and to limit their oral presentation to brief summaries of their arguments. Written testimony may be filed electronically. The presiding officer at any hearing is authorized to limit the time of each witness appearing before the committee or a subcommittee. The committee or a subcommittee shall, as far as practicable, utilize testimony previously taken on bills and measures similar to those before it for consideration.

Rule 10.—Should a subcommittee fail to report back to the full committee on any measure within a reasonable time, the chair may withdraw the measure from such subcommittee and report that fact to the full committee for further disposition.

Rule 11.—No subcommittee may schedule a meeting or hearing at a time designated for a hearing or meeting of the full committee. No more than one subcommittee executive meeting may be held at the same time.

Rule 12.—It shall be the duty of the chair in accordance with section 133(c) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, to report or cause to be reported to the Senate, any measure or recommendation approved by the committee and to take or cause to be taken, necessary steps to bring the matter to a vote in the Senate.

Rule 13.—Whenever a meeting of the committee or subcommittee is closed pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) or (d) of rule XXVI, paragraph 5, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no person other than members of the committee, members of the staff of the committee, and designated assistants to members of the committee shall be permitted to attend such closed session, except by special dispensation of the committee or subcommittee or the chair thereof.

Rule 14.—The chair of the committee or a subcommittee shall be empowered to adjourn any meeting of the committee or a subcommittee if a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes of the time scheduled for such meeting.

Rule 15.—Whenever a bill or joint resolution shall be before the committee or a subcommittee for final consideration, the clerk shall distribute to each member of the committee or subcommittee a document prepared by the sponsor of the bill or joint resolution. If the bill or joint resolution has no underlying statutory language, the document shall consist of a detailed summary of the purpose and impact of each section. If the bill or joint resolution repeals or amends any statute or part thereof, the document

shall consist of a detailed summary of the underlying statute and the proposed changes in each section of the underlying law and either a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or replaced showing by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted and, in italics, the matter proposed to be added, along with a summary of the proposed changes; or a side-by-side document showing a comparison of current law, the proposed legislative changes, and a detailed description of the proposed changes.

Rule 16.—An appropriate opportunity shall be given the minority to examine the proposed text of committee reports prior to their filing or publication. In the event there are supplemental, minority, or additional views, an appropriate opportunity shall be given the majority to examine the proposed text prior to filing or publication. Unless the chair and ranking minority member agree on a shorter period of time, the minority shall have no fewer than three business days to prepare supplemental, minority, or additional views for inclusion in a committee report from the time the majority makes the proposed text of the committee report available to the minority.

Rule 17.—(a) The committee, or any subcommittee, may issue subpoenas, or hold hearings to take sworn testimony or hear subpoenaed witnesses, only if such investigative activity has been authorized by a majority vote of the committee.

(b) For the purpose of holding a hearing to take sworn testimony or hear subpoenaed witnesses, three members of the committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum; provided, with the concurrence of the chair and ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee, a single member may hear subpoenaed witnesses or take sworn testimony.

(c) The committee may, by a majority vote, delegate the authority to issue subpoenas to the chair of the committee or a subcommittee, or to any member designated by such chair. Prior to the issuance of each subpoena, the ranking minority member of the committee or subcommittee, and any other member so requesting, shall be notified regarding the identity of the person to whom it will be issued and the nature of the information sought and its relationship to the authorized investigative activity, except where the chair of the committee or subcommittee, in consultation with the ranking minority member, determines that such notice would unduly impede the investigation. All information obtained pursuant to such investigative activity shall be made available as promptly as possible to each member of the committee requesting the information, or to any assistant to a member of the committee designated by such member in writing, but the use of any such information is subject to restrictions imposed by the rules of the Senate. Such information, to the extent that it is relevant to the investigation shall, if requested by a member, be summarized in writing as soon as practicable. Upon the request of any member, the chair of the committee or subcommittee shall call an executive session to discuss such investigative activity or the issuance of any subpoena in connection therewith.

(d) Any witness summoned to testify at a hearing, or any witness giving sworn testimony, may be accompanied by counsel of the witness's own choosing who shall be permitted, while the witness is testifying, to advise the witness of any legal rights.

(e) No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in an executive hearing, or any report of the proceedings of such an executive hearing, shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way

of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee.

Rule 18.—Presidential nominees shall submit a statement of the nominee's background and financial interests, including the financial interests of the nominee's spouse and children living in the household, on a form approved by the committee which shall be sworn to as to its completeness and accuracy. The committee form shall be in two parts—

(I) information relating to employment, education, and background of the nominee relating to the position to which the individual is nominated, and which is to be made public; and,

(II) information relating to financial and other background of the nominee, to be made public when the committee determines that such information bears directly on the nominee's qualifications to hold the position to which the individual is nominated.

Information relating to background and financial interests (parts I and II) shall not be required of nominees for less than full-time appointments to councils, commissions, or boards when the committee determines that some or all of the information is not relevant to the nature of the position. Information relating to other background and financial interests (part II) shall not be required of any nominee when the committee determines that it is not relevant to the nature of the position.

Committee action on a nomination, including hearings or meetings to consider a motion to recommend confirmation, shall not be initiated until at least five days after the nominee submits the form required by this rule unless the chair, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, waives this waiting period.

Rule 19.—Subject to statutory requirements imposed on the committee with respect to procedure, the rules of the committee may be changed, modified, amended, or suspended at any time; provided, not less than a majority of the entire membership so determine at a regular meeting with due notice, or at a meeting specifically called for that purpose.

Rule 20.—When the ratio of members on the committee is even, the term "majority" as used in the committee's rules and guidelines shall refer to the party of the chair for purposes of party identification. Numerical requirements for quorums, votes, and the like shall be unaffected.

Rule 21.—First degree amendments must be filed with the chair at least 24 hours before an executive session. The chair shall promptly distribute all filed amendments electronically to the members of the committee. The chair may modify the filing requirements to meet special circumstances with the concurrence of the ranking minority member.

Rule 22.—In addition to the foregoing, the proceedings of the committee shall be governed by the Standing Rules of the Senate and the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended.

GUIDELINES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS WITH RESPECT TO HEARINGS, MARKUP SESSIONS, AND RELATED MATTERS

HEARINGS

Section 133A(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act requires each committee of the Senate to publicly announce the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing at least one week prior to the commencement of such hearing.

The spirit of this requirement is to assure adequate notice to the public and other members of the Senate as to the time and subject matter of proposed hearings. In the

spirit of section 133A(a) and in order to assure that members of the committee are themselves fully informed and involved in the development of hearings:

1. Public notice of the date, place, and subject matter of each committee or subcommittee hearing should be inserted in the Congressional Record seven days prior to the commencement of such hearing.

2. At least seven days prior to public notice of each committee or subcommittee hearing, the majority should provide notice to the minority of the time, place, and specific subject matter of such hearing.

3. At least three days prior to the date of such hearing, the committee or subcommittee should provide to each member a list of witnesses who have been or are proposed to be invited to appear.

4. The committee and its subcommittee should, to the maximum feasible extent, enforce the provisions of rule 9 of the committee rules as it relates to the submission of written testimony of witnesses 48 hours in advance of a hearing. Witnesses will be urged to submit written testimony even earlier whenever possible. When written testimony is received in advance of a hearing, the committee or subcommittee (as appropriate) should distribute copies of such testimony to each of its members. Witness testimony may be submitted and distributed electronically.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MARKING UP BILLS

In order to expedite the process of marking up bills and to assist each member of the committee so that there may be full and fair consideration of each bill which the committee or a subcommittee is marking up the following procedures should be followed:

1. Seven days prior to the proposed date for an executive session for the purpose of marking up bills the committee or subcommittee (as appropriate) should provide written notice to each of its members as to the time, place, and specific subject matter of such session, including an agenda listing each bill or other matters to be considered, and:

(a) a copy of each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter (or committee print thereof) to be considered at such executive session; and

(b) a copy of a summary of the provisions of each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter to be considered at such executive session including, whenever possible, an explanation of changes to existing law proposed to be made.

2. Insofar as practical, prior to the scheduled date for an executive session for the purpose of marking up bills, the committee or a subcommittee (as appropriate) should provide each member with a copy of the printed record or a summary of any hearings conducted by the committee or a subcommittee with respect to each bill, joint resolution, or other legislative matter to be considered at such executive session.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following rules adopted by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

(Amended February 11, 2021)

RULE 1.—REGULAR MEETING DATE FOR
COMMITTEE

The regular meeting day for the Committee to transact its business shall be the last Tuesday in each month that the Senate is in Session; except that if the Committee has met at any time during the month prior to the last Tuesday of the month, the regular meeting of the Committee may be canceled at the discretion of the Chairman.

RULE 2.—COMMITTEE

[a] Investigations.—No investigation shall be initiated by the Committee unless the Senate, or the full Committee, or the Chairman and Ranking Member have specifically authorized such investigation.

[b] Hearings.—No hearing of the Committee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia except by agreement between the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[c] Confidential testimony.—No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Committee or any report of the proceedings of such executive session shall be made public either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[d] Interrogation of witnesses.—Committee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Committee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee.

[e] Prior notice of markup sessions.—No session of the Committee or a Subcommittee for marking up any measure shall be held unless [1] each member of the Committee or the Subcommittee, as the case may be, has been notified in writing via electronic mail or paper mail of the date, time, and place of such session and has been furnished a copy of the measure to be considered, in a searchable electronic format, at least 3 business days prior to the commencement of such session, or [2] the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee determines that exigent circumstances exist requiring that the session be held sooner.

[f] Prior notice of first degree amendments.—It shall not be in order for the Committee or a Subcommittee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless fifty written copies of such amendment have been delivered to the office of the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. It shall be in order, without prior notice, for a Senator to offer a motion to strike a single section of any measure under consideration. Such a motion to strike a section of the measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee shall not be amendable. This section may be waived by a majority of the members of the Committee or Subcommittee voting, or by agreement of the Chairman and Ranking Member. This subsection shall apply only when the conditions of subsection [e][1] have been met.

[g] Cordon rule.—Whenever a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part thereof shall be before the Committee or Subcommittee, from initial consideration in hearings through final consideration, the Clerk shall place before each member of the Committee or Subcommittee a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or repealed showing

by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted, and in italics, the matter proposed to be added. In addition, whenever a member of the Committee or Subcommittee offers an amendment to a bill or joint resolution under consideration, those amendments shall be presented to the Committee or Subcommittee in a like form, showing by typographical devices the effect of the proposed amendment on existing law. The requirements of this subsection may be waived when, in the opinion of the Committee or Subcommittee Chairman, it is necessary to expedite the business of the Committee or Subcommittee.

RULE 3.—SUBCOMMITTEES

[a] Authorization for.—A Subcommittee of the Committee may be authorized only by the action of a majority of the Committee.

[b] Membership.—No member may be a member of more than three Subcommittees and no member may chair more than one Subcommittee. No member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

[c] Investigations.—No investigation shall be initiated by a Subcommittee unless the Senate or the full Committee has specifically authorized such investigation.

[d] Hearings.—No hearing of a Subcommittee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia without prior consultation with the Chairman and then only by agreement between the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee or by a majority vote of the Subcommittee.

[e] Confidential testimony.—No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Subcommittee or any report of the proceedings of such executive session shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, or by a majority vote of the Subcommittee.

[f] Interrogation of witnesses.—Subcommittee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Subcommittee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee.

[g] Special meetings.—If at least three members of a Subcommittee desire that a special meeting of the Subcommittee be called by the Chairman of the Subcommittee, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman of the Subcommittee for that special meeting. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of the Subcommittee of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman of the Subcommittee does not call the requested special meeting, to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Subcommittee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Subcommittee will be held, specifying the date and hour of that special meeting. The Subcommittee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Clerk of the Committee shall notify all members of the Subcommittee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour. If the Chairman of the Subcommittee is not present at any regular

or special meeting of the Subcommittee, the Ranking Member of the majority party on the Subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

[h] Voting.—No measure or matter shall be recommended from a Subcommittee to the Committee unless a majority of the Subcommittee are actually present. The vote of the Subcommittee to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee shall require the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Subcommittee voting. On Subcommittee matters other than a vote to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee no record vote shall be taken unless a majority of the Subcommittee is actually present. Any absent member of a Subcommittee may affirmatively request that his or her vote to recommend a measure or matter to the Committee or his vote on any such other matters on which a record vote is taken, be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter and to inform the Subcommittee as to how the member wishes his or her vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman of the Subcommittee any time before the record vote on the measure or matter concerned is taken, the member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies shall be kept in the files of the Committee.

RULE 4.—WITNESSES

[a] Filing of statements.—Any witness appearing before the Committee or Subcommittee [including any witness representing a Government agency] must file with the Committee or Subcommittee [24 hours preceding his or her appearance] 30 copies of his or her statement to the Committee or Subcommittee, and the statement must include a brief summary of the testimony. In the event that the witness fails to file a written statement and brief summary in accordance with this rule, the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee has the discretion to deny the witness the privilege of testifying before the Committee or Subcommittee until the witness has properly complied with the rule.

[b] Length of statements.—Written statements properly filed with the Committee or Subcommittee may be as lengthy as the witness desires and may contain such documents or other addenda as the witness feels is necessary to present properly his or her views to the Committee or Subcommittee. The brief summary included in the statement must be no more than 3 pages long. It shall be left to the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee as to what portion of the documents presented to the Committee or Subcommittee shall be published in the printed transcript of the hearings.

[c] Five-minute duration. Oral statements of witnesses shall be based upon their filed statements but shall be limited to 5 minutes duration. This period may be limited or extended at the discretion of the Chairman presiding at the hearings.

[d] Subpoena of witnesses.—Witnesses may be subpoenaed by the Chairman of the Committee or a Subcommittee with the agreement of the Ranking Member of the Committee or Subcommittee or by a majority vote of the Committee or Subcommittee.

[e] Counsel permitted.—Any witness subpoenaed by the Committee or Subcommittee to a public or executive hearing may be accompanied by counsel of his or her own choosing who shall be permitted, while the witness is testifying, to advise him or her of his or her legal rights.

[f] Expenses of witnesses.—No witness shall be reimbursed for his or her appearance at a

public or executive hearing before the Committee or Subcommittee unless such reimbursement is agreed to by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee.

[g] Limits of questions.—Questioning of a witness by members shall be limited to 5 minutes duration. Members may be permitted further questions of the witness after all members have been given an opportunity to question the witness.

Additional opportunity to question a witness shall be limited to a duration of 5 minutes until all members have been given the opportunity to question the witness for a second time. This 5-minute period per member will be continued until all members have exhausted their questions of the witness.

After a witness has completed his or her testimony before the Committee or Subcommittee, members may submit questions in writing to the Clerk for the record, which shall be due to the Clerk by a date determined by the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, but such due date shall be no later than 7 calendar days after the witness's appearance before the Committee or Subcommittee. Any such witness shall respond in writing to any such written question for the record no later than 45 calendar days after the witness's date of appearance before the Committee or Subcommittee. For nominees before the Committee, the Chairman shall, in consultation with the Ranking Member, determine the time periods for the submission of member questions and the receipt of responses from nominees.

RULE 5.—VOTING

[a] Vote to report a measure or matter.—No measure or matter shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee is actually present. The vote of the Committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Committee who are present.

Any absent member may affirmatively request that his or her vote to report a matter be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter, and to inform the Committee as to how the member wishes his vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman any time before the record vote on the measure or matter concerned is taken, any member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies shall be kept in the files of the Committee, along with the record of the rollcall vote of the members present and voting, as an official record of the vote on the measure or matter.

[b] Vote on matters other than to report a measure or matter. On Committee matters other than a vote to report a measure or matter, no record vote shall be taken unless a majority of the Committee are actually present. On any such other matter, a member of the Committee may request that his or her vote may be cast by proxy. The proxy shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently clear to identify the subject matter, and to inform the Committee as to how the member wishes his or her vote to be recorded thereon. By written notice to the Chairman any time before the vote on such other matter is taken, the member may withdraw a proxy previously given. All proxies relating to such other matters shall be kept in the files of the Committee.

RULE 6.—QUORUM

No executive session of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be called to order unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, are actually present. Unless the Committee otherwise provides or is required by the Rules of the Senate, one member shall constitute a

quorum for the receipt of evidence, the swearing in of witnesses, and the taking of testimony.

RULE 7.—STAFF PRESENT ON DAIS

Only members and the Clerk of the Committee shall be permitted on the dais during public or executive hearings, except that a member may have one staff person accompany him or her during such public or executive hearing on the dais. If a member desires a second staff person to accompany him or her on the dais he or she must make a request to the Chairman for that purpose.

RULE 8.—COINAGE LEGISLATION

At least 67 Senators must cosponsor any gold medal or commemorative coin bill or resolution before consideration by the Committee.

EXTRACTS FROM THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

RULE XXV. STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions:

[d][1] Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Banks, banking, and financial institutions.
2. Control of prices of commodities, rents, and services.
3. Deposit insurance.
4. Economic stabilization and defense production.
5. Export and foreign trade promotion.
6. Export controls.
7. Federal monetary policy, including Federal Reserve System.
8. Financial aid to commerce and industry.
9. Issuance and redemption of notes.
10. Money and credit, including currency and coinage.
11. Nursing home construction.
12. Public and private housing [including veterans' housing].
13. Renegotiation of Government contracts.
14. Urban development and urban mass transit.

[2] Such committee shall also study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to international economic policy as it affects United States monetary affairs, credit, and financial institutions; economic growth, urban affairs, and credit, and report thereon from time to time.

COMMITTEE PROCEDURES FOR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES

Procedures formally adopted by the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, February 11, 2021., establish a uniform questionnaire for all Presidential nominees whose confirmation hearings come before this Committee.

In addition, the procedures establish that:

[1] A confirmation hearing shall normally be held at least 5 days after receipt of the completed questionnaire by the Committee unless waived by a majority vote of the Committee.

[2] The Committee shall vote on the confirmation not less than 24 hours after the Committee has received transcripts of the hearing unless waived by unanimous consent.

[3] All nominees routinely shall testify under oath at their confirmation hearings.

This questionnaire shall be made a part of the public record except for financial and

other personal information, which shall be kept confidential as indicated on the questionnaire.

Nominees are requested to answer all questions, and to add additional pages where necessary.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedure of the committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. Today, the Committee on the Budget adopted committee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have a copy of the rules of procedure of the Committee on the Budget printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, U.S. SENATE—RULES FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS

RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. MEETINGS

(1) Meeting Schedule. The committee shall hold its regular meeting on the first Thursday of each month. Additional meetings may be called by the chair as the chair deems necessary to expedite committee business.

(2) Open to the Public. Each meeting of the committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a portion or portions of any such meeting may be closed to the public if the committee determines by record vote in open session of a majority of the members of the committee present that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such portion or portions—

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of the committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(i) an act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(ii) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations.

(3) Notice. Notice of, and the agenda for, any business meeting or markup shall be provided to each member and made available to the public at least 72 hours prior to such meeting or markup.

II. CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

(1) Amendment Consideration Generally. If the chair of the committee makes proposed legislative text of a budget resolution available to all committee members by 12:00 p.m., five days prior to the start of a meeting or markup to consider the resolution, during that meeting or markup:

(a) it shall not be in order to consider a first degree amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. two days prior to the start of the meeting or markup, except that an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by the chair of the committee shall not be required to be filed in advance;

(b) it shall not be in order to consider a second degree amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the start of the meeting or markup; and

(c) it shall not be in order to consider a side-by-side amendment unless the amendment has been submitted to the chief clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the start of the meeting or markup, and the amendment is filed in relation to a particular first degree amendment that is considered by the committee.

(2) Amendments with No Force or Effect. During consideration of a budget resolution, it shall not be in order to consider an amendment that would have no force or effect if adopted.

III. ORDER OF RECOGNITION

Those members who are present at the start of any meeting of the committee including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be recognized in order of seniority based on time served as a member of the committee. Any members arriving after the start of the meeting shall be recognized, in order of appearance, after the most junior member.

IV. QUORUMS AND VOTING

(1) Definition of Quorum. Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this section, a quorum for the transaction of committee business shall consist of not less than one-third of the membership of the entire committee: Provided, that proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

(2) Reporting. A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting budget resolutions, legislative measures, or recommendations: Provided, that proxies shall not be counted in making a quorum.

(3) Testimony. For the purpose of taking sworn or unsworn testimony, a quorum of the committee shall consist of one Senator.

(4) Polling Authority. (a) The committee may poll—

(i) internal committee matters including those concerning the committee's staff, records, and budget;

(ii) steps in an investigation, including issuance of subpoenas, applications for immunity orders, and requests for documents from agencies; and

(iii) other committee business that the committee has designated for polling at a meeting, except that the committee may not vote by poll on reporting to the Senate any measure, matter, or recommendation, and may not vote by poll on closing a meeting or hearing to the public.

(b) To conduct a poll, the chair shall circulate polling sheets to each member specifying the matter being polled and the time limit for completion of the poll. If any member requests, the matter shall be held for a meeting rather than being polled. The chief

clerk shall keep a record of polls; if the committee determines by record vote in open session of a majority of the members of the committee present that the polled matter is one of those enumerated in Committee on the Budget Rules of Procedure I(2)(a)–(f), then the record of the poll shall be confidential. Any member may move at the committee meeting following a poll for a vote on the polled decision.

V. PROXIES

When a record vote is taken in the committee on any bill, resolution, amendment, or any other question, a quorum being present, a member who is unable to attend the meeting may vote by proxy if the absent member has been informed of the matter on which the vote is being recorded and has affirmatively requested to be so recorded; except that no member may vote by proxy during the deliberations on budget resolutions unless a member is experiencing a health issue and the chair and ranking member agree to allow that member to vote by proxy on amendments to a budget resolution.

VI. HEARINGS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

(1) Notice. The committee shall make public announcement of the date, place, time, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least 1 week in advance of such hearing, unless the chair and ranking member determine that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date.

(2) Witness Testimony Deadline. At least 24 hours prior to the scheduled start time of the hearing, a witness appearing before the committee shall file a written statement of proposed testimony, including visual exhibits intended for display during testimony, with the chief clerk who is responsible for circulating the proposed testimony to all members at the same time. The requirement that a witness submit testimony 24 hours prior to a hearing may be waived by the chair and the ranking member, following their determination that there is good cause for the failure of compliance.

(3) Witness Testimony Time Limit. Oral statements of witnesses shall be based upon their filed statements but shall be limited to 5 minutes duration. This period may be limited or extended at the discretion of the chair presiding at the hearings.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(1) Report Generally. When the committee has ordered a measure or recommendation reported, following final action, the report thereon shall be filed in the Senate at the earliest practicable time.

(2) Supplemental Report. A member of the committee, who gives notice of an intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views at the time of final committee approval of a measure or matter, shall be entitled to not less than 3 calendar days in which to file such views, in writing, with the chief clerk of the committee. Such views shall then be included in the committee report and printed in the same volume, as a part thereof, and their inclusions shall be noted on the cover of the report. In the absence of timely notice, the committee report may be filed and printed immediately without such views.

VIII. USE OF DISPLAY MATERIALS IN COMMITTEE

Committee members may use the electronic display system provided in the committee hearing room or physical graphic displays during any meetings or hearings of the committee. Physical graphic displays are limited to the following: Charts, photographs, or renderings:

Size: no larger than 36 inches by 48 inches.
Where: on an easel stand next to the member's seat or at the rear of the committee room.

When: only at the time the member is speaking.

Number: no more than two may be displayed at a time.

IX. CONFIRMATION STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

(1) Standards. In considering a nomination, the committee shall inquire into the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which he or she has been nominated. The committee shall recommend confirmation if it finds that the nominee has the necessary integrity and is affirmatively qualified by reason of training, education, or experience to carry out the functions of the office to which he or she was nominated.

(2) Information Concerning the Nominee. Each nominee shall submit the following information to the chief clerk, who will distribute to the chair and ranking member at the same time:

(a) A detailed biographical resume which contains information concerning education, employment, and background which generally relates to the position to which the individual is nominated, and which is to be made public;

(b) Information concerning financial and other background of the nominee which is to be made public; provided, that financial information that does not relate to the nominee's qualifications to hold the position to which the individual is nominated, tax returns or reports prepared by federal agencies that may be submitted by the nominee shall, after review by the chair, ranking member, or any other member of the committee upon request, be maintained in a manner to ensure confidentiality; and

(c) Copies of other relevant documents and responses to questions as the committee may so request, such as responses to questions concerning the policies and programs the nominee intends to pursue upon taking office.

(3) Report on the Nominee. After a review of all information pertinent to the nomination, a confidential report on the nominee may be prepared by the committee staff for the chair, the ranking member, and, upon request, for any other member of the committee. The report shall summarize the steps taken and the results of the committee inquiry, including any unresolved matters that have been raised during the course of the inquiry.

(4) Hearings. The committee shall conduct a hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to the nominee's suitability for office, including the policies and programs which the nominee would pursue while in that position. No hearing or meeting to consider the confirmation shall be held until at least 72 hours after the following events have occurred: the nominee has responded to the requirements set forth in subsection (2), and, if a report described in subsection (3) has been prepared, it has been presented to the chair and ranking member, and is available to other members of the committee, upon request.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 118th Congress. Pursuant to rules XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Ranking Member MORAN, I

ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
RULES OF PROCEDURE 118TH CONGRESS

I. MEETINGS

(A) Unless otherwise ordered, the Committee shall meet on the first Wednesday of each month. The Chairman may, upon proper notice, call such additional meetings as deemed necessary.

(B) Except as provided in subparagraphs (b) and (d) of paragraph 5 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public. The Committee shall prepare and keep a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceedings of each meeting whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed to the public.

(C) The Chairman of the Committee, or the Ranking Majority Member present in the absence of the Chairman, or such other Member as the Chairman may designate, shall preside over all meetings.

(D) Except as provided in rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no meeting of the Committee shall be scheduled except by majority vote of the Committee or by authorization of the Chairman of the Committee.

(E) The Committee shall notify the office designated by the Committee on Rules and Administration of the time, place, and purpose of each meeting. In the event such meeting is canceled, the Committee shall immediately notify such designated office.

(F) Written or electronic notice of a Committee meeting, accompanied by an agenda enumerating the items of business to be considered, shall be sent to all Committee Members at least 72 hours (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays) in advance of each meeting. In the event that the giving of such 72-hour notice is prevented by unforeseen requirements or Committee business, the Committee staff shall communicate notice by the quickest appropriate means to Members or appropriate staff assistants of Members and an agenda shall be furnished prior to the meeting.

(G) Subject to the second sentence of this paragraph, it shall not be in order for the Committee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee unless a written or electronic copy of such amendment has been delivered to each Member of the Committee at least 24 hours (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays) before the meeting at which the amendment is to be proposed. This paragraph may be waived by a majority vote of the Members and shall apply only when 72-hour written notice has been provided in accordance with paragraph (F).

II. QUORUMS

(A) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (B), ten Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting or approving of any measure or matter or recommendation. Seven Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting any other business.

(B) In order to transact any business at a Committee meeting, at least one Member of the minority shall be present. If, at any meeting, business cannot be transacted because of the absence of such a Member, the matter shall lay over for a calendar day. If the presence of a minority Member is not then obtained, business may be transacted by the appropriate quorum.

(C) One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of receiving testimony.

III. VOTING

(A) Votes may be cast by proxy. A proxy shall be written and may be conditioned by personal instructions. A proxy shall be valid only for the day given.

(B) There shall be a complete record kept of all Committee actions. Such record shall contain the vote cast by each Member of the Committee on any question on which a roll call vote is requested.

IV. HEARINGS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

(A) Except as specifically otherwise provided, the rules governing meetings shall govern hearings.

(B) At least one week in advance of the date of any hearing, the Committee shall undertake, consistent with the provisions of paragraph 4 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, to make public announcements of the date, place, time, and subject matter of such hearing.

(C) (1) Each witness who is scheduled to testify at a hearing of the Committee shall submit 40 copies of such witness' testimony to the Committee not later than 48 hours (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays) before the witness' scheduled appearance at the hearing.

(2) Any witness who fails to meet the deadline specified in paragraph (1) shall not be permitted to present testimony but may be seated to take questions from Committee members, unless the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member determine there is good cause for the witness' failure to meet the deadline or it is in the Committee's interest to permit such witness to testify.

(D) The presiding Member at any hearing is authorized to limit the time allotted to each witness appearing before the Committee.

(E) The Chairman, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of memoranda, documents, records, and any other materials. If the Chairman or a Committee staff member designated by the Chairman has not received from the Ranking Minority Member or a Committee staff member designated by the Ranking Minority Member notice of the Ranking Minority Member's non concurrence in the subpoena within 48 hours (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays) of being notified of the Chairman's intention to subpoena attendance or production, the Chairman is authorized following the end of the 48-hour period involved to subpoena the same without the Ranking Minority Member's concurrence. Regardless of whether a subpoena has been concurred in by the Ranking Minority Member, such subpoena may be authorized by vote of the Members of the Committee. When the Committee or Chairman authorizes a subpoena, the subpoena may be issued upon the signature of the Chairman or of any other Member of the Committee designated by the Chairman.

(F) Except as specified in Committee Rule VII (requiring oaths, under certain circumstances, at hearings to confirm Presidential nominations), witnesses at hearings will be required to give testimony under oath whenever the presiding Member deems such to be advisable.

V. MEDIA COVERAGE

Any Committee meeting or hearing which is open to the public may be covered by television, radio, and print media. Photographers, reporters, and crew members using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position and use their equipment so as not to interfere with the

seating, vision, or hearing of the Committee Members or staff or with the orderly conduct of the meeting or hearing. The presiding Member of the meeting or hearing may for good cause terminate, in whole or in part, the use of such mechanical devices or take such other action as the circumstances and the orderly conduct of the meeting or hearing may warrant.

VI. GENERAL

All applicable requirements of the Standing Rules of the Senate shall govern the Committee.

VII. PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS

(A) Each Presidential nominee whose nomination is subject to Senate confirmation and referred to this Committee shall submit a statement of his or her background and financial interests, including the financial interests of his or her spouse and of children living in the nominee's household, on a form approved by the Committee, which shall be sworn to as to its completeness and accuracy. The Committee form shall be in two parts:

1) Information concerning employment, education, and background of the nominee, which generally relates to the position to which the individual is nominated and which is to be made public; and

2) Information concerning the financial and other background of the nominee, to be made public when the Committee determines that such information bears directly on the nominee's qualifications to hold the position to which the individual is nominated.

(B) At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any other witness shall be under oath.

(C) Committee action on a nomination, including hearings or a meeting to consider a motion to recommend confirmation, shall not occur until at least five days (not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays) after the nominee submits with respect to the currently pending nomination the form required by this rule unless the Chairman, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, waives this waiting period.

VIII. NAMING OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES

It is the policy of the Committee that a Department of Veterans Affairs facility may be named only after a deceased individual and only under the following circumstances:

(A) Such individual was:

(1) A veteran who (i) was instrumental in the construction or the operation of the facility to be named, or (ii) was a recipient of the Medal of Honor or, as determined by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, otherwise performed military service of an extraordinarily distinguished character;

(2) A Member of the United States House of Representatives or Senate who had a direct association with such facility;

(3) An Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, a Secretary of Veterans Affairs, a Secretary of Defense or of a service branch, or a military or other Federal civilian official of comparable or higher rank; or

(4) An individual who, as determined by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, performed outstanding service for veterans.

(B) Each Member of the Congressional delegation representing the State in which the designated facility is located must indicate in writing such Member's support of the proposal to name such facility after such individual. It is the policy of the Committee that sponsoring or cosponsoring legislation to name such facility after such individual will not alone satisfy this requirement.

(C) The pertinent State department or chapter of each Congressionally chartered veterans' organization having a national membership of at least 500,000 must indicate in writing its support of such proposal. Under certain circumstances, the Committee may grant a waiver to accept written support from pertinent chapters or posts of chartered veterans' organizations in lieu of the State department.

(D) The above criteria for naming a VA facility may be waived by unanimous consent.

IX. AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES

The rules of the Committee may be changed, modified, amended, or suspended at any time provided, however, that no less than a majority of the entire membership so determine at a regular meeting with due notice or at a meeting specifically called for that purpose. The rules governing quorums for reporting legislative matters shall govern rules changes, modification, amendments, or suspension.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit the rules governing the procedure of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, as supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. (a) The Committee shall meet on the third Thursday of each month while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless, for the convenience of Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he or she may deem necessary.

(b) Hearings of any Subcommittee may be called by the Chairman of such Subcommittee, provided that no Subcommittee hearing, other than a field hearing, shall be scheduled or held concurrently with a full Committee meeting or hearing, unless a majority of the Committee concurs in such concurrent hearing.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3. (a) All hearings and business meetings of the Committee and all the hearings of any of its Subcommittees shall be open to the public unless the Committee or Subcommittee involved, by majority vote of all the Members of the Committee or such Subcommittee, orders the hearing or meeting to be closed in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) A transcript shall be kept of each hearing of the Committee or any Subcommittee.

(c) A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting of the Committee unless a majority of all the Members of the Committee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

HEARING PROCEDURES

Rule 4. (a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any

hearing to be held by the Committee or any Subcommittee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full Committee or the Subcommittee involved determines that the hearing is non-controversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of all the Members of the Committee or the Subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than twenty-four hours' notice. Any document or report that is the subject of a hearing shall be provided to every Member of the Committee or Subcommittee involved at least 72 hours before the hearing unless the Chairman and Ranking Member determine otherwise.

(b) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Committee or Subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

(c) Each Member shall be limited to five minutes in the questioning of any witness until such time as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness.

(d) No staff member may question a witness at a hearing.

BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURES

Rule 5. (a) A legislative measure, nomination, or other matter shall be included on the agenda of the next following business meeting of the full Committee if a written request by a Member of the Committee for such inclusion has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include a legislative measure, nomination, or other matter on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b) The agenda for any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least three days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is so published except by the approval of a majority of all the Members of the Committee on matters not included on the public agenda. The Staff Director shall promptly notify absent Members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included on the published agenda.

(c) As warranted, the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, may impose a filing deadline for first degree amendments for any legislative business meeting of the Committee.

QUORUMS

Rule 6. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), seven Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee.

(b) No measure or matter shall be ordered reported from the Committee unless 10 Members of the Committee are actually present at the time such action is taken.

(c) One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure or matter before the Committee or any Subcommittee.

VOTING

Rule 7. (a) A roll call of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member. Any Member who does not vote on any roll call at the time the roll is called, may vote (in person or by proxy) on that roll call at any later time during the same business meeting.

(b) Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the

presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only upon the date for which it is given and upon the items published in the agenda for that date.

(c) Each Committee report shall set forth the vote on the motion to report the measure or matter involved. Unless the Committee directs otherwise, the report will not set out any votes on amendments offered during Committee consideration. Any Member who did not vote on any roll call shall have the opportunity to have his or her position recorded in the appropriate Committee record or Committee report.

(d) The Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the staff of the Committee to make necessary technical and clerical corrections in the measure.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Rule 8. (a) The number of Members assigned to each Subcommittee and the division between Majority and Minority Members shall be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

(b) Assignment of Members to Subcommittees shall, insofar as possible, reflect the preferences of the Members. No Member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no Member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

(c) Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during its hearings but shall not have the authority to vote on any matters before the Subcommittee unless he or she is a Member of such Subcommittee.

NOMINATIONS

Rule 9. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any other witness shall be under oath. Every nominee shall submit the financial disclosure report filed pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. Such report is made available to the public.

INVESTIGATIONS

Rule 10. (a) Neither the Committee nor any of its Subcommittees may undertake an investigation unless specifically authorized by the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of all the Members of the Committee.

(b) A witness called to testify in an investigation shall be informed of the matter or matters under investigation, given a copy of these rules, given the opportunity to make a brief and relevant oral statement before or after questioning, and be permitted to have counsel of his or her choosing present during his or her testimony at any public or closed hearing, or at any unsworn interview, to advise the witness of his or her legal rights.

(c) For purposes of this rule, the term "investigation" shall not include a review or study undertaken pursuant to paragraph 8 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate or a preliminary inquiry, undertaken at the direction of the Chairman or the Ranking Member, intended to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence that would warrant an investigation.

SWORN TESTIMONY

Rule 11. Witnesses in Committee or Subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee deems such to be necessary. If one or more witnesses at a hearing are required to testify under oath, all witnesses at such hearing shall be required to testify under oath.

SUBPOENAS

Rule 12. The Chairman shall have authority to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials (1) with the agreement of the Ranking Minority Member, (2) when authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee, or (3) when within the scope of an investigation authorized under Rule 10(a).

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 13. No confidential testimony taken by or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee or Subcommittee meeting shall be made public, in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 14. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee or Subcommittee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 15. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee or any Subcommittee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by web, television, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the seating, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 16. These rules may be amended only by vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee: Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least three days in advance of such meeting.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs rules for the 118th Congress be printed in the RECORD.

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS—118TH CONGRESS COMMITTEE RULES

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, Senate Resolution 4, and the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, as supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee to the extent the provisions of such Rules, Resolution, and Acts are applicable to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. The Committee shall meet on Wednesday while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless for the convenience of the Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a

meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he or she may deem necessary.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3(a). Hearings and business meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public except when the Chairman by a majority vote orders a closed hearing or meeting.

(b). Except as otherwise provided in the Rules of the Senate, a transcript or electronic recording shall be kept of each hearing and business meeting of the Committee.

HEARING PROCEDURE

Rule 4(a). Public notice, including notice to Members of the Committee, shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the Committee, with the concurrence of the Vice Chairman, determines that holding the hearing would be non-controversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of the Committee Members attending concur. In no case shall a hearing be conducted within less than 24 hours' notice.

(b). Each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall submit his or her testimony by way of electronic mail, at least two (2) business days prior to a hearing, in a format determined by the Committee and sent to an electronic mail address specified by the Committee. In the event a federal witness fails to timely file the written statement in accordance with this rule, the federal witness shall testify as to the reason the testimony is late.

(c). Each Member shall be limited to five (5) minutes of questioning of any witness until such time as all Members attending who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness unless the Committee shall decide otherwise.

(d). The Chairman, in consultation with the Vice Chairman, may authorize remote hearings via video conference.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Rule 5(a). A legislative measure or subject shall be included in the agenda of the next following business meeting of the Committee if a written request by a Member for consideration of such measure or subject has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include legislative measures or subjects on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b). Any bill, resolution, or other matter to be considered by the Committee at a business meeting shall be filed with the Clerk of the Committee. Notice of, and the agenda for, any business meeting of the Committee, and a copy of any bill, resolution, or other matter to be considered at the meeting, shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least three (3) business days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is published, except by the approval of the Chairman with the concurrence of the Vice Chairman or by a majority of the Members of the Committee. The notice and agenda of any business meeting may be provided to the Members by electronic mail, provided that a paper copy will be provided to any Member upon request. The Clerk shall promptly notify absent Members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included in the published agenda.

(c). Any amendment(s) to any bill or resolution to be considered shall be filed by a Member of the Committee with the Clerk not less than 48 hours in advance of the scheduled business meeting. This rule may be

waived by the Chairman with the concurrence of the Vice Chairman.

QUORUM

Rule 6(a). Except as provided in subsection (b), a majority of the Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Committee. Except as provided in Senate Rule XXVI 7(a), a quorum is presumed to be present unless a Committee Member notes the absence of a quorum.

(b). One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure or matter before the Committee.

VOTING

Rule 7(a). A recorded vote of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member.

(b). A measure may be reported without a recorded vote from the Committee unless an objection is made by any Member, in which case a recorded vote by the Members shall be required. A Member shall have the right to have his or her additional views included in the Committee report on the measure in accordance with Senate Rule XXVI 10.

(c). A Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the staff of the Committee to make necessary technical and conforming changes to the measure.

(d). Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only for the date for which it is given and upon the terms published in the agenda for that date.

SWORN TESTIMONY AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rule 8(a). Witnesses in Committee hearings who are required to give testimony shall be deemed under oath.

(b). At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any other witnesses that come before the Committee shall also be under oath. Every nominee shall submit a questionnaire on forms to be provided by the Committee, ethics agreement, and public financial disclosure report, (OGE Form 278 or a successor form) which shall be sworn to by the nominee as to its completeness and accuracy and be accompanied by a letter issued by the nominee within five (5) days immediately preceding the hearing affirming that nothing has changed in their financial status or documents since the documents were originally filed with the Committee. The public financial disclosure report and ethics agreement shall be made available to the public by the Committee unless the Committee, in executive session, determines that special circumstances require a full or partial exception to this rule.

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 9. No confidential testimony taken by, or confidential material presented to the Committee, or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee hearing or business meeting shall be made public in whole or in part, or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 10. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affects his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 11. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee which is open to the public may

be covered in whole or in part by television, Internet, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the sight, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AUTHORIZING SUBPOENAS

Rule 12. The Chairman may, with the agreement of the Vice Chairman, or the Committee may, by majority vote, authorize the issuance of subpoenas.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 13. These rules may be amended only by a vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee: Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedure of the committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. Today, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs adopted committee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have a copy of the rules of procedure of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

PURSUANT TO RULE XXVI, SEC. 2, STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

RULE 1. MEETINGS AND MEETING PROCEDURES OTHER THAN HEARINGS

A. Meeting dates. The Committee shall hold its regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, when the Congress is in session, or at such other times as the Chair shall determine. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as the Chair deems necessary to expedite Committee business. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Calling special Committee meetings. If at least three Members of the Committee desire the Chair to call a special meeting, they may file in the offices of the Committee a written request therefor, addressed to the Chair. Immediately thereafter, the clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chair of such request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of such request, the Chair fails to call the requested special meeting, which is to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of such request, a majority of the Committee Members may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special Committee meeting will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the Committee shall meet on that date and hour. Im-

mediately upon the filing of such notice, the Committee chief clerk shall notify all Committee Members that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Meeting notices and agenda. Written notices of Committee meetings, accompanied by an agenda, enumerating the items of business to be considered, shall be sent to all Committee Members at least 5 calendar days in advance of such meetings, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session. The written notices required by this Rule may be provided by electronic mail. In the event that unforeseen requirements or Committee business prevent sufficient notice of either the meeting or agenda, the Committee staff shall communicate such notice and agenda, or any revisions to the agenda, as soon as practicable by telephone or otherwise to Members or appropriate staff assistants in their offices.

D. Open business meetings. Meetings for the transaction of Committee or Subcommittee business shall be conducted in open session, except that a meeting or series of meetings on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in clauses (1) through (6) below would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee Members when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of Committee or Subcommittee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of an informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.) Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever disorder arises during a Committee or Subcommittee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any person in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce order on the Chair's own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Member of the Committee or Subcommittee; provided, fur-

ther, that when the Chair finds it necessary to maintain order, the Chair shall have the power to clear the room, and the Committee or Subcommittee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(d), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

E. Prior notice of first degree amendments. It shall not be in order for the Committee, or a Subcommittee thereof, to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless a written copy of such amendment has been delivered to each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, and to the office of the Committee or Subcommittee, by no later than 4:00 p.m. two calendar days before the meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee at which the amendment is to be proposed, and, in the case of a first degree amendment in the nature of a substitute proposed by the manager of the measure, by no later than 4:00 p.m. five calendar days before the meeting. The written copy of amendments in the first degree required by this Rule may be provided by electronic mail. This subsection may be waived by a majority of the Members present, or by consent of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee. This subsection shall apply only when at least 5 calendar days written notice of a session to mark-up a measure is provided to the Committee or Subcommittee.

F. Meeting transcript. The Committee or Subcommittee shall prepare and keep a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to fully record the proceeding of each meeting whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed to the public, unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee Members vote to forgo such a record. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(e), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 2. QUORUMS

A. Reporting measures and matters. A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(1), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Transaction of routine business. One-third of the membership of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of routine business, provided that one Member of the Minority is present. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "routine business" includes the convening of a meeting and the consideration of subpoenas or any business of the Committee other than reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(1), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Taking testimony. One Member of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for taking sworn or unsworn testimony. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(2) and 7(c)(2), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

D. Subcommittee quorums. Subject to the provisions of sections 7(a) (1) and (2) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Subcommittees of this Committee are authorized to establish their own quorums for the transaction of business and the taking of sworn testimony.

E. Proxies prohibited in establishment of quorum. Proxies shall not be considered for the establishment of a quorum.

RULE 3. VOTING

A. Quorum required. Subject to the provisions of subsection (E), no vote may be taken by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, on any measure or matter unless a quorum, as prescribed in the preceding section, is actually present.

B. Reporting measures and matters. No measure, matter or recommendation shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee Members are actually present, and the vote of the Committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of those Members who are actually present at the time the vote is taken. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a) (1) and (3), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Proxy voting. Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures, matters, and routine business before the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, provided:

(1) When the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, is voting to report a measure or matter, proxy votes shall be allowed solely for the purpose of recording a Member's position on the pending question. Proxy votes are not included in the vote tally when reporting the measure or matter.

(2) Proxy voting shall be allowed only if the absent Committee or Subcommittee Member has been informed of the matter on which the Member is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that the vote be so recorded.

(3) All proxies shall be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee or Subcommittee thereof, as the case may be. All proxies shall be in writing and shall contain sufficient reference to the pending matter as is necessary to identify it and to inform the Committee or Subcommittee as to how the Member establishes the vote to be recorded thereon. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(3) and 7(c)(1), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

D. Announcement of vote. (1) Whenever the Committee by roll call vote reports any measure or matter, the report of the Committee upon such a measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to such measure or matter by each Member of the Committee. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(2) Whenever the Committee by roll call vote acts upon any measure or amendment thereto, other than reporting a measure or matter, the results thereof shall be announced in the Committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the Committee, and such announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment thereto by each Member of the Committee who was present at the meeting. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(3) In any case in which a roll call vote is announced, the tabulation of votes shall state separately the proxy vote recorded in favor of and in opposition to that measure, amendment thereto, or matter. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(b) and (c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

E. Polling. (1) The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, may poll (a) internal Committee or Subcommittee matters including the Committee's or Subcommittee's staff, records and budget; (b) steps in an investigation, including issuance of subpoenas, applications for immunity orders, and requests for documents from agencies; and (c) other Committee or Subcommittee business other than a vote on reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations or a vote on closing a meeting or hearing to the public.

(2) Only the Chair, or a Committee Member or staff officer designated by the Chair, may undertake any poll of the Members of the Committee. If any Member requests, any matter to be polled shall be held for meeting rather than being polled. The chief clerk of the Committee shall keep a record of polls; if a majority of the Members of the Committee determine that the polled matter is in one of

the areas enumerated in subsection (D) of Rule 1, the record of the poll shall be confidential. Any Committee Member may move at the Committee meeting following the poll for a vote on the polled decision, such motion and vote to be subject to the provisions of subsection (D) of Rule 1, where applicable.

F. Naming postal facilities. The Committee will not consider any legislation that would name a postal facility for a living person with the exception of bills naming facilities after former Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States, former Members of Congress over 70 years of age, former State or local elected officials over 70 years of age, former judges over 70 years of age, or wounded veterans. The Committee will not consider legislation that would name a postal facility unless it has the support of both Senators in the delegation of the state in which the facility is located.

G. Technical and conforming changes. A Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the Committee Chair and Ranking Member by mutual agreement to make any required technical and conforming changes to the measure.

RULE 4. PRESIDING AT MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

The Chair shall preside at all Committee meetings and hearings except that the Chair shall designate a temporary Chair to act in the Chair's place if the Chair is unable to be present at a scheduled meeting or hearing. If the Chair (or a designee) is absent 10 minutes after the scheduled time set for a meeting or hearing, the Ranking Majority Member present shall preside until the Chair's arrival. If there is no Member of the Majority present, the Ranking Minority Member present, with the prior approval of the Chair, may open and conduct the meeting or hearing until such time as a Member of the Majority arrives.

RULE 5. HEARINGS AND HEARING PROCEDURES

A. Announcement of hearings. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall make public announcement of the date, time, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least 5 calendar days in advance of such hearing, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, unless the Committee, or Subcommittee, determines that there is good cause to begin such hearing at an earlier date. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 4(a), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Open hearings. Each hearing conducted by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall be open to the public, except that a hearing or series of hearings on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in clauses (1) through (6) below would require the hearing to be closed, followed immediately by a record vote in open session by a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee Members when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such hearing or hearings—

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of Committee or Subcommittee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of an informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever disorder arises during a Committee or Subcommittee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any person in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair to enforce order on the Chair's own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Member of the Committee or Subcommittee; provided, further, that when the Chair finds it necessary to maintain order, the Chair shall have the power to clear the room, and the Committee or Subcommittee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(d), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Full Committee subpoenas. The Chair, with the approval of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses at a hearing or deposition or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials. The Chair may subpoena attendance or production without the approval of the Ranking Minority Member where the Chair has not received a letter of disapproval signed by the Ranking Minority Member within 3 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, of the Ranking Minority Member's receipt of a letter signed by the Chair providing notice of the Chair's intent to issue a subpoena, including an identification of all individuals and items sought to be subpoenaed. Delivery and receipt of the signed notice and signed disapproval letters and any additional communications related to the subpoena may be carried out by staff officers of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, and may occur through electronic mail. If a subpoena is disapproved by the Ranking Minority Member as provided in this subsection, the subpoena may be authorized by vote of the Members of the Committee. When the Committee or Chair authorizes subpoenas, subpoenas may be issued upon the signature of the Chair or any other Member of the Committee designated by the Chair.

D. Witness counsel. Counsel retained by any witness and accompanying such witness shall be permitted to be present during the testimony of such witness at any public or executive hearing or deposition to advise such witness while the witness is testifying, of the witness's legal rights; provided, however, that in the case of any witness who is an officer or employee of the Government, or of a corporation or association, the Committee Chair may rule that representation by counsel from the Government, corporation, or association or by counsel representing other witnesses, creates a conflict

of interest, and that the witness may only be represented during interrogation by staff or during testimony before the Committee by personal counsel not from the Government, corporation, or association or by personal counsel not representing other witnesses. This subsection shall not be construed to excuse a witness from testifying in the event the witness's counsel is ejected for conduct that prevents, impedes, disrupts, obstructs or interferes with the orderly administration of the hearings; nor shall this subsection be construed as authorizing counsel to coach the witness or answer for the witness. The failure of any witness to secure counsel shall not excuse such witness from complying with a subpoena or deposition notice.

E. Witness transcripts. An accurate electronic or stenographic record shall be kept of the testimony of all witnesses in executive and public hearings. The record of a witness's testimony whether in public or executive session shall be made available for inspection by the witness or the witness's counsel under Committee supervision; a copy of any testimony given in public session or that part of the testimony given by the witness in executive session and subsequently quoted or made part of the record in a public session shall be provided to any witness at the witness's expense if the witness so requests. Upon inspecting that transcript, within a time limit set by the chief clerk of the Committee, a witness may request changes in the transcript to correct errors of transcription and grammatical errors; the Chair or a staff officer designated by the Chair shall rule on such requests.

F. Impugned persons. Any person whose name is mentioned or is specifically identified, and who believes that evidence presented, or comment made by a Member of the Committee or staff officer, at a public hearing or at a closed hearing concerning which there have been public reports, tends to impugn the person's character or adversely affect the person's reputation may:

(a) File a sworn statement of facts relevant to the evidence or comment, which statement shall be considered for placement in the hearing record by the Committee;

(b) Request the opportunity to appear personally before the Committee to testify in the person's own behalf, which request shall be considered by the Committee; and

(c) Submit questions in writing which the person requests be used for the cross-examination of other witnesses called by the Committee, which questions shall be considered for use by the Committee.

G. Radio, television, and photography. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, may permit the proceedings of hearings which are open to the public to be photographed and broadcast by radio, television or both, subject to such conditions as the Committee, or Subcommittee, may impose. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

H. Advance statements of witnesses. A witness appearing before the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall provide electronically a written statement of the witness's proposed testimony at least 2 calendar days prior to the witness' appearance, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session. This requirement may be waived by the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member following their determination that there is good cause for failure of compliance. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 4(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

I. Minority witnesses. In any hearings conducted by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, the Minority Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a

Majority of Minority Members, to call witnesses of their selection during at least 1 day of such hearings. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 4(d), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

J. Swearing in witnesses. In any hearings conducted by the Committee, the Chair or the Chair's designee may swear in each witness prior to their testimony.

K. Full Committee depositions. Depositions may be taken prior to or after a hearing as provided in this subsection.

(1) Notices for the taking of depositions shall be authorized and issued by the Chair, with the approval of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. The Chair may initiate depositions without the approval of the Ranking Minority Member where the Chair has not received a letter of disapproval of the deposition notice signed by the Ranking Minority Member within 3 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, of the Ranking Minority Member's receipt of a letter signed by the Chair providing notification of the Chair's intent to issue a deposition notice, including identification of all individuals sought to be deposed. Delivery and receipt of the signed notification letter and signed disapproval letter and any additional communications related to the deposition may be carried out by staff officers of the Chair and Ranking Member, and may occur through electronic mail. If a deposition notice is disapproved by the Ranking Minority Member as provided in this subsection, the deposition notice may be authorized by a vote of the Members of the Committee. Committee deposition notices shall specify a time and place for examination, and the name of the Committee Member or Members or staff officer or officers who will take the deposition. Unless otherwise specified, the deposition shall be in private. The Committee shall not initiate procedures leading to criminal or civil enforcement proceedings for a witness' failure to appear or produce unless the deposition notice was accompanied by a Committee subpoena.

(2) Witnesses may be accompanied at a deposition by counsel to advise them of their legal rights, subject to the provisions of Rule 5D.

(3) Oaths at depositions may be administered by an individual authorized by local law to administer oaths. Questions shall be propounded orally by a Committee Member or Members or staff. If a witness objects to a question and refuses to testify, the objection shall be noted for the record and the Committee Member or Members or staff may proceed with the remainder of the deposition.

(4) The Committee shall see that the testimony is transcribed or electronically recorded (which may include audio or audio/video recordings). If it is transcribed, the transcript shall be made available for inspection by the witness or the witness's counsel under Committee supervision. The witness shall sign a copy of the transcript and may request changes to it, which shall be handled in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (E). If the witness fails to sign a copy, the staff shall note that fact on the transcript. The individual administering the oath shall certify on the transcript that the witness was duly sworn in their presence, the transcriber shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall then be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee. The Chair or a staff officer designated by the Chair may stipulate with the witness to changes in the procedure; deviations from this procedure which do not substantially impair the reliability of the record shall not relieve the witness from the witness's obligation to testify truthfully.

RULE 6. COMMITTEE REPORTING PROCEDURES

A. Timely filing. When the Committee has ordered a measure or matter reported, fol-

lowing final action, the report thereon shall be filed in the Senate at the earliest practicable time. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 10(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Supplemental, Minority, and additional views. A Member of the Committee who gives notice of an intention to file supplemental, Minority, or additional views at the time of final Committee approval of a measure or matter shall be entitled to not less than 3 calendar days excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, in which to file such views, in writing, with the chief clerk of the Committee. Such views shall then be included in the Committee report and printed in the same volume, as a part thereof, and their inclusion shall be noted on the cover of the report. In the absence of timely notice, the Committee report may be filed and printed immediately without such views. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 10(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Notice by Subcommittee Chair. The Chair of each Subcommittee shall notify the Chair of the Committee in writing whenever any measure has been ordered reported by such Subcommittee and is ready for consideration by the full Committee.

D. Draft reports of Subcommittees. All draft reports prepared by Subcommittees of this Committee on any measure or matter referred to it by the Chair shall be in the form, style, and arrangement required to conform to the applicable provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and shall be in accordance with the established practices followed by the Committee. Upon completion of such draft reports, copies thereof shall be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee at the earliest practicable time.

E. Impact statements in reports. All Committee reports, accompanying a bill or joint resolution of a public character reported by the Committee, shall contain (1) an estimate, made by the Committee, of the costs which would be incurred in carrying out the legislation for the then current fiscal year and for each of the next 5 years thereafter (or for the authorized duration of the proposed legislation, if less than 5 years); and (2) a comparison of such cost estimates with any made by a Federal agency; or (3) in lieu of such estimate or comparison, or both, a statement of the reasons for failure by the Committee to comply with these requirements as impracticable, in the event of inability to comply therewith. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 11(a), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

Each such report shall also contain an evaluation, made by the Committee, of the regulatory impact which would be incurred in carrying out the bill or joint resolution. The evaluation shall include (a) an estimate of the numbers of individuals and businesses who would be regulated and a determination of the groups and classes of such individuals and businesses, (b) a determination of the economic impact of such regulation on the individuals, consumers, and businesses affected, (c) a determination of the impact on the personal privacy of the individuals affected, and (d) a determination of the amount of paperwork that will result from the regulations to be promulgated pursuant to the bill or joint resolution, which determination may include, but need not be limited to, estimates of the amount of time and financial costs required of affected parties, showing whether the effects of the bill or joint resolution could be substantial, as well as reasonable estimates of the recordkeeping requirements that may be associated with the bill or joint resolution. Or, in lieu of the foregoing evaluation, the report shall include a statement of the reasons for failure by the

Committee to comply with these requirements as impracticable, in the event of inability to comply therewith. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 11(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 7. COMMITTEE CONFIDENTIALITY

Any Senator, officer, or employee of the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate, including the business and proceedings of the committees, subcommittees, and offices of the Senate, shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body; and if an officer or employee, to dismissal from the service of the Senate, and to punishment for contempt. (Rule XXIX, Sec. 5, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEDURES

A. Regularly established Subcommittees. The Committee shall have three regularly established Subcommittees. The Subcommittees are as follows:

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND SPENDING OVERSIGHT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND BORDER MANAGEMENT

B. Ad hoc Subcommittees. Following consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chair shall, from time to time, establish such ad hoc Subcommittees as the Chair deems necessary to expedite Committee business.

C. Subcommittee membership. Following consultation with the Majority Members, and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, the Chair shall announce selections for membership on the Subcommittees referred to in paragraphs A and B, above.

(1) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall serve as nonvoting *ex officio* members of the subcommittees on which they do not serve as voting members.

(2) Any Member of the Committee may attend hearings held by any subcommittee and question witnesses testifying before that Subcommittee, subject to the approval of the Subcommittee Chair and Ranking Member.

D. Subcommittee meetings and hearings. Each Subcommittee of this Committee is authorized to establish meeting dates and adopt rules not inconsistent with the rules of the Committee except as provided in Rules 2(D) and 8(E).

E. Subcommittee subpoenas. Each Subcommittee is authorized to adopt rules concerning subpoenas which need not be consistent with the rules of the Committee; provided:

(1) A written notice of intent to issue the subpoena shall be provided to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, or staff officers designated by them, by the Subcommittee Chair or a staff officer designated by the Subcommittee Chair immediately upon such authorization, and no subpoena shall be issued for at least 2 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, from delivery to the appropriate offices, unless the Chair and Ranking Minority Member waive the notice period or unless the Subcommittee Chair certifies in writing to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member that, in the Subcommittee Chair's opinion, it is necessary to issue a subpoena immediately.

F. Subcommittee budgets. During the first year of a new Congress, each Subcommittee that requires authorization for the expenditure of funds for the conduct of inquiries and investigations, shall file with the chief clerk of the Committee, by a date and time prescribed by the Chair, its request for funds for the two (2) 12-month periods beginning on

March 1 and extending through and including the last day of February of the 2 following years, which years comprise that Congress. Each such request shall be submitted on the budget form prescribed by the Committee on Rules and Administration, and shall be accompanied by a written justification addressed to the Chair of the Committee, which shall include (1) a statement of the Subcommittee's area of activities, (2) its accomplishments during the preceding Congress detailed year by year, and (3) a table showing a comparison between (a) the funds authorized for expenditure during the preceding Congress detailed year by year, (b) the funds actually expended during that Congress detailed year by year, (c) the amount requested for each year of the Congress, and (d) the number of professional and clerical staff members and consultants employed by the Subcommittee during the preceding Congress detailed year by year and the number of such personnel requested for each year of the Congress. The Chair may request additional reports from the Subcommittees regarding their activities and budgets at any time during a Congress. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 9, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 9. CONFIRMATION STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

A. Standards. In considering a nomination, the Committee shall inquire into the nominee's experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity to serve in the position to which the nominee has been nominated. The Committee shall recommend confirmation, upon finding that the nominee has the necessary integrity and is affirmatively qualified by reason of training, education, or experience to carry out the functions of the office to which the nominee was nominated.

B. Information concerning the Nominee. Each nominee shall submit the following information to the Committee:

(1) A detailed biographical resume which contains information relating to education, employment, and achievements;

(2) Financial information, in such specificity as the Committee deems necessary, including a list of assets and liabilities of the nominee and tax returns for the 3 years preceding the time of the person's nomination, and copies of other relevant documents requested by the Committee, such as a proposed blind trust agreement, necessary for the Committee's consideration; and

(3) Copies of other relevant documents the Committee may request, such as responses to questions concerning the policies and programs the nominee intends to pursue upon taking office. At the request of the Chair or the Ranking Minority Member, a nominee shall be required to submit a certified financial statement compiled by an independent auditor. Information received pursuant to this subsection shall be made available for public inspection; provided, however, that tax returns shall, after review by persons designated in subsection (C) of this rule, be placed under seal to ensure confidentiality.

C. Procedures for Committee inquiry. The Committee shall conduct an inquiry into the experience, qualifications, suitability, and integrity of nominees, and shall give particular attention to the following matters:

(1) A review of the biographical information provided by the nominee, including, but not limited to, any professional activities related to the duties of the office to which the person is nominated;

(2) A review of the financial information provided by the nominee, including tax returns for the 3 years preceding the time of the person's nomination;

(3) A review of any actions, taken or proposed by the nominee, to remedy conflicts of interest; and

(4) A review of any personal or legal matter which may bear upon the nominee's qualifications for the office to which the person is nominated. For the purpose of assisting the Committee in the conduct of this inquiry, a Majority investigator or investigators shall be designated by the Chair and a Minority investigator or investigators shall be designated by the Ranking Minority Member. The Chair, Ranking Minority Member, other Members of the Committee, and designated investigators shall have access to all investigative reports on nominees prepared by any Federal agency, including access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Committee may request the assistance of the U.S. Government Accountability Office and any other such expert opinion as may be necessary in conducting its review of information provided by nominees.

D. Report on the Nominee. After a review of all information pertinent to the nomination, a confidential report on the nominee shall be made in the case of judicial nominees and may be made in the case of non-judicial nominees by the designated investigators to the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member and, upon request, to any other Member of the Committee. The report shall summarize the steps taken by the Committee during its investigation of the nominee and the results of the Committee inquiry, including any unresolved matters that have been raised during the course of the inquiry.

E. Hearings. The Committee shall conduct a public hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to the nominee's suitability for office, including the policies and programs which the nominee will pursue while in that position. No hearing shall be held until at least 3 calendar days after the following events have occurred: The nominee has responded to prehearing questions submitted by the Committee; and, if applicable, the report described in subsection (D) has been made to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, and is available to other Members of the Committee, upon request.

F. Action on confirmation. A mark-up on a nomination shall not occur on the same day that the hearing on the nominee is held. In order to assist the Committee in reaching a recommendation on confirmation, the staff may make an oral presentation to the Committee at the mark-up, factually summarizing the nominee's background and the steps taken during the pre-hearing inquiry.

G. Application. The procedures contained in subsections (C), (D), (E), and (F) of this rule shall apply to persons nominated by the President to positions requiring their full-time service. At the discretion of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, those procedures may apply to persons nominated by the President to serve on a part-time basis.

RULE 10. PERSONNEL ACTIONS AFFECTING COMMITTEE STAFF

In accordance with Rule XLII of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-1), all personnel actions affecting the staff of the Committee shall be made free from any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, state of physical handicap, or disability.

RULE 11. APPRISAL OF COMMITTEE BUSINESS

The Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall keep each other apprised of hearings, investigations, and other Committee business.

RULE 12. PER DIEM FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL

A per diem allowance provided a Member of the Committee or staff of the Committee

in connection with foreign travel shall be used solely for lodging, food, and related expenses and it is the responsibility of the Member of the Committee or staff of the Committee receiving such an allowance to return to the United States Government that portion of the allowance received which is not actually used for necessary lodging, food, and related expenses. (Rule XXXIX, Paragraph 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the lives lost during the tragic earthquake that shook southern Turkey and northwestern Syria and to reaffirm the American commitment to provide assistance to recover from this disaster. In the early morning hours of February 6, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake, one of the strongest quakes in the region's history, struck near the city of Gaziantep, causing the deaths of thousands of innocent individuals and wreaking disaster and destruction on many communities that were already struggling from the effects of war.

I am devastated by the growing loss of life and injuries in Turkey and Syria. As of today, the earthquake has left more than 20,000 dead in Turkey and Syria and over 50,000 injured. Rescue missions continue to search for scores more that remain missing. In this great time of sadness for their countries, the United States will stand in humanitarian solidarity to provide relief, recovery, and efforts to build back even stronger.

Within hours, the U.S. Agency for International Development activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team—DART—to lead the U.S. Government's humanitarian response to the disaster. The DART is working closely with Turkish authorities on the frontlines and will continue provide search and rescue support and identify priority humanitarian needs in the days to come.

Globally, the outpouring of support in resources and rescue workers has been encouraging. The White Helmets, a volunteer organization that has assisted in the rescue of the many civilians suffering from attacks by the Syrian regime, has sprung into action. The internationally renowned group is currently working around the clock and has sent out over 300 search and rescue teams—several times their normal operating capacity.

Over 20 NATO allies and partners have provided more than 1,400 emergency response personnel, including firefighters, engineers, search-and-rescue and medical teams. I am heartened by the generosity of individuals, countries, and organizations, which include the Catholic Relief Services—CRS—a humanitarian agency based in Baltimore, MD. CRS is supporting emergency relief efforts by local partners in Turkey and Syria, including partner organizations Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria, and Caritas Anatolia.

Today, we honor those lost and injured in this week's disaster. We will

continue to provide rescue support, and send our thoughts and prayers to the people of Turkey and Syria.

REMEMBERING ROBERT "BOBBY" SILVERSTEIN

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the life of Robert "Bobby" Silverstein, a leader in the disability rights movement, who passed away on November 17, 2022.

Bobby was a true public servant having worked in the Labor Department, the Health, Education and Welfare Department, the House of Representatives, and the Senate, including as staff director and chief counsel for the Subcommittee on Disability Policy of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources—now the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. He was known as the "behind-the-scenes architect" of the Americans with Disabilities Act and served as a consensus-builder making bipartisan disability legislation a reality.

Bobby changed the lives of millions of people with disabilities by his work in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. I join former chairs of the HELP Committee in honoring his contributions to the disability and civil rights movement.

Bobby was steadfast in his many roles fighting for disability rights after his time working in Congress. He will be remembered for the significant impacts his work made to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Finally, all who worked with Bobby tell of how kind and humble he was. He was beloved by all who knew him.

May the memory of Bobby Silverstein be for a blessing.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OHIO UNIVERSITY SCRIPPS CENTENNIAL

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the Ohio University E.W. Scripps School of Journalism on their centennial. One hundred years ago, Scripps first opened its doors and, since then, has shaped generations of journalists and reporters and writers. The E.W. Scripps School of Journalism is one of our Nation's best journalism schools and provides a unique experience where faculty empower students to think critically, write clearly, and expand their horizons. The curriculum extends far outside of the classroom with student newspapers, internship opportunities, and student-run media platforms to ensure that students have the skills necessary to excel after graduation.

Scripps students go on to do great things. Scripps alums are leading their industries, whether it is broadcast, print or digital media. They are producing award-winning content, reporting at the national, State, and local level and delivering the stories that

matter most to Ohioans and Americans. Scripps journalists tell the stories that impact our daily lives and dig for those that might not be told otherwise. They are tenacious and dedicated in their pursuit of knowledge. They ask tough questions, challenge conventional wisdom, and connect us all with our communities and our world. That wouldn't be possible without their time at Ohio University.

Most importantly, Scripps is rooted in the values essential for a democratic society, the values of truth, accuracy, and independence. I can't think of better values to instill in the next generation of journalists.

In recent years, we have seen attacks on the free press, making it even more important that the journalists of today and tomorrow are prepared to fight for truth and transparency. A free, independent press is vital to our democracy. It is enshrined in our Constitution. And Scripps journalists uphold it daily. To the faculty and staff at Scripps, the students, and the alumni: Thank you for all you do to make Scripps the institution what it is today, an institution respected around the world for its ability to create the leaders of tomorrow. Thank you for your commitment to journalism and dedication to the college. And thank you to Dr. Hugh Sherman and Dean Scott Titsworth for your leadership.

I am proud that Scripps calls Ohio home, and I look forward to its next hundred years. Congratulations on the centennial.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:07 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 299. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

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

EC-387. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13936 with respect to Hong Kong; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-388. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14078 with respect to hostage-taking and the wrongful detention of United States nationals abroad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-389. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-390. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-391. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-392. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-393. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-394. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Australia and Israel in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-058); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-395. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Sweden in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-057); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-396. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Argentina in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-055); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-397. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Brazil in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-063); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-398. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Brazil in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-067); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-399. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-048); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-400. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Japan in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-048); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-401. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2023-0001–2023-0014); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-402. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program; Addition of Uterine Cancer to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions" (RIN0920-AA82) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-403. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Civil Penalties for Inflation" (RIN1212-AB45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-404. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustment of Civil Penalties for Inflation" (29 CFR Part 4044) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-405. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mitigating the Spread of COVID-19 in Head Start Programs" (RIN0970-AC90) received during

adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-406. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Programs" (RIN0925-AA68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-407. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Conduct of Persons and Traffic on the National Institutes of Health Federal Enclave" (RIN0925-AA67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-408. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Radiological Health Regulations; Amendments to Records and Reports for Radiation Emitting Electronic Products; Amendments to Performance Standards for Diagnostic X-ray, Laser, and Ultrasonic Products" (RIN0910-AH65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-409. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives Permitted for Direct Addition to Food for Human Consumption; Vitamin D3" (Docket No. FDA-2019-F-3519) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-410. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Treatment, Recovery, and Workforce Support (TRWS) Program Preliminary Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-411. A communication from the Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, Secretary of Labor's response to the Office of the Ombudsman's 2021 Annual Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-412. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Aging (and Administrator for Community Living), Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 26, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-413. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 19, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-414. A communication from the Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2022 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-415. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-776, "Fair Meals Delivery Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-416. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-777, "Domestic Worker Employment Rights Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-417. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-778, "Second Chance Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-418. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-782, "Safe Streets for Students Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-419. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-757, "Internet Equity Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-420. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-758, "Attorney General Civil Rights Enforcement Clarification Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-421. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-759, "St. Elizabeths East Parcel 13 Surplus Declaration and Disposition Approval Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-422. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-760, "Opioid Litigation Proceeds Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-423. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-761, "Malcolm X Surplus Declaration and Disposition Approval Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-424. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-762, "Educator Background Check Streamlining Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-425. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-763, "Hill East Phase II Bundle 1 Surplus Declaration and Disposition Approval Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-426. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-764, "Battery and Electronic Stewardship Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-427. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-765, "Hill East Phase II Bundle 2 Surplus Declaration and Disposition Approval Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-428. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-766, "Child Wealth Building Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-429. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-767, "Howard University Property Tax Exemption Clarification Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-430. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-783, "Uniform Electronic Wills Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-431. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-784, "Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-432. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-784, "Schools First in Budgeting Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-433. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-788, "Ignition Interlock System Program Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-434. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-797, "Fare-Free Bus Funding Temporary Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-435. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-5, "Law Enforcement Career Opportunities for District Residents Expansion Temporary Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-436. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-790, "Ruth Bader Ginsburg Way Designation Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-437. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-791, "Business and Entrepreneurship Support to Thrive Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-438. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Colum-

bia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-792, "Theresa Howe Jones Way Designation Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-439. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-793, "Metro for D.C. Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-440. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-794, "Migratory Local Wildlife Protection Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-441. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-795, "Wilhelmina and Calvin Rolark Way Designation Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-442. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-790, "Protecting Adjacent and Adjoining Property Owners from Construction Damage Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-443. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-798, "Medical Cannabis Amendment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-444. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24-799, "Office of District Waterways Management Establishment Act of 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. REED, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. Res. 38. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenses by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WARNER, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. Res. 40. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 41. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. Res. 42. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 43. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. Res. 44. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 47. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. Res. 48. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. Res. 50. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. Res. 51. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Res. 52. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Laura Taylor-Kale, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit.

Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Colleen R. Lawless, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois.

Hernan D. Vera, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Dale E. Ho, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Jessica G. L. Clarke, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Kenly Kiya Kato, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Natasha C. Merle, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Robert Stewart Ballou, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

Todd E. Edelman, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Kymerly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Jonathan James Canada Grey, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Julia E. Kobick, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Rita F. Lin, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Ramon Ernesto Reyes, Jr., of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

James Edward Simmons, Jr., of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Gordon P. Gallagher, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

P. Casey Pitts, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California.

Andrew G. Schopler, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Arun Subramanian, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Jill E. Steinberg, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 308. A bill to end the treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing nation; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 309. A bill to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 to require a Caribbean border counternarcotics strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 310. A bill to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 311. A bill to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 312. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the

Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 313. A bill to authorize reference to the museum located at Blytheville/Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas, as the "National Cold War Center"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time an investment in qualified property is made, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 315. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services and other Federal officials to compile into a searchable database information relating to Federal support for biomedical research and development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEE, Mr. COONS, Mr. PAUL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. KING, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 316. A bill to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 317. A bill to guarantee that Americans have the freedom to make certain reproductive decisions without undue government interference; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 318. A bill to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend to Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 319. A bill to prohibit the President from issuing moratoria on leasing and permitting energy and minerals on certain Federal land; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 320. A bill to amend title II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the disability insurance benefits waiting period for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 321. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to define intimate partner to include someone with whom there is or was a dating relationship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 322. A bill to amend the Plant Protection Act to establish a fund for spotted wing drosophila research and mitigation; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 323. A bill to ensure the privacy of pregnancy termination or loss information under the HIPAA privacy regulations and the HITECH Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 324. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out activities relating to neglected diseases of poverty; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 325. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices and judges of the courts of the United States, establish an ethics investigations counsel, and require disclosure of recusals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 326. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a study and clinical trials on the effects of cannabis on certain health outcomes of veterans with chronic pain and post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 327. A bill to make 5 percent across-the-board rescissions in non-defense, non-homeland-security, and non-veterans-affairs discretionary spending for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 328. A bill to preserve the constitutional authority of Congress and ensure accountability and transparency in legislation; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 329. A bill to end the unconstitutional delegation of legislative power which was exclusively vested in the Senate and House of Representatives by article I, section 1 of the Constitution of the United States, and to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to issue a report to Congress detailing the extent of the problem of unconstitutional delegation to the end that such delegations can be phased out, thereby restoring the constitutional principle of separation of powers set forth in the first sections of the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 330. A bill to make 2 percent across-the-board rescissions in non-defense, non-homeland-security, and non-veterans-affairs discretionary spending for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 331. A bill to make 1 percent across-the-board rescissions in non-defense, non-homeland-security, and non-veterans-affairs discretionary spending for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025; to the Committee on Appropriations.

land-security, and non-veterans-affairs discretionary spending for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 332. A bill to appropriate \$25,000,000,000 for the construction of a border wall between the United States and Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 333. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for extensions of detention of certain aliens ordered removed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. LEE, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 334. A bill to modify the restriction in section 3326 of title 5, United States Code, relating to the appointment of retired members of the Armed Forces to positions in the Department of Defense to apply to positions at or above the GS-14 level; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 335. A bill to establish a socioeconomic labor threshold and use that threshold for purposes of chapter 67 of title 41, United States Code; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 336. A bill to designate the Staten Island Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area as the "Senator James L. Buckley Seashore"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 337. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to require that the Strategic Petroleum Reserve contain petroleum products produced or refined in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 338. A bill to provide accountability for funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Treasury under Public Law 117-69; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 339. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to make permanent the direct hire authority of the Secretary of Defense for domestic defense industrial base facilities, the Major Range and Test Facilities Base, and the Office of the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 340. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the definition of franchise fee, and for other purposes; to the

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. Kaine, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BENNETT, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 341. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain broadband grants from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 342. A bill to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 343. A bill to support the establishment of an apprenticeship college consortium; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. Kaine, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 344. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 345. A bill to modify a provision relating to adjustments of certain State apportionments for Federal highway programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 346. A bill to establish the Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters within the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 347. A bill to protect Americans from the threat posed by certain foreign adversaries using current or potential future social media companies that those foreign adversaries control to surveil Americans, gather sensitive data about Americans, or spread influence campaigns, propaganda, and censorship; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 348. A bill to require asylum officers at the United States embassies and consulates to conduct credible fear screenings before aliens seeking asylum may be permitted to enter the United States to apply for asylum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. KING):

S. 349. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize the appointment of spouses of members of the Armed Forces who are on active duty, disabled, or deceased to positions in which the spouses will work remotely; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 350. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship to include spouses and children of individuals who die from a service-connected disability within 120 days of serving in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

S. 351. A bill to designate 6 creeks in the State of North Carolina in honor of the lives lost in a plane crash in Carteret County, North Carolina, on February 13, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 352. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to carry out a highway formula modernization study, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 353. A bill to establish appropriate penalties for possession of child pornography, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. KING):

S. 354. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 355. A bill to protect consumers from price-gouging of gasoline and other fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 356. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 to modify the establishment of a coordinator for detained ISIS members and relevant displaced populations in Syria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 357. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for current year

inclusion of net CFC tested income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 358. A bill for the relief of Cesar Carlos Silva Rodriguez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 359. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 360. A bill to address foreign threats to higher education in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 361. A bill to amend the National Firearms Act to provide an exception for stabilizing braces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 362. A bill to require the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies to take risk profiles and business models of institutions into account when taking regulatory actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 363. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Nebraska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 364. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand access to school-wide arts and music programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 365. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain individuals who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 366. A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services to ensure that the design of public buildings in the United States adheres to the guiding principles for Federal architecture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 367. A bill to promote economic and commercial opportunities internationally, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 368. A bill to amend the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 to extend the existing aviation workforce development programs and provide grants to develop aviation manufacturing and supplier workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 369. A bill to require the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to review any purchase or lease of real estate near a military installation or military airspace in the United States by a foreign person connected to or subsidized by the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 370. A bill to amend section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to ensure that efforts to engage in espionage or technology transfer are considered in visa issuance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 371. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to provide research and extension grants to combat plant pests and noxious weeds that impact coffee plants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 372. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to modify the macadamia tree health initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KAIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 373. A bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 374. A bill to prohibit the international hindering of immigration, border, and customs controls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 375. A bill to simplify the grant process for nonurbanized areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 376. A bill to designate the area between the intersections of 16th Street, Northwest and Fuller Street, Northwest and 16th Street, Northwest and Euclid Street, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia, as "Oswaldo Paya Way"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 377. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security, or any other person, from requiring repayment, recoupment, or offset of certain antidumping duties and countervailing duties paid under section 754

of the Tariff Act of 1930, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. COTTON):

S. 378. A bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to appropriately limit attorney's fees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 379. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prevent employers from using non-compete agreements in employment contracts for certain non-exempt employees; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. COTTON, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 380. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish the distribution of fentanyl resulting in death as felony murder; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. BRITT, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 381. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include a criminal penalty and a ground of removability for financing the unlawful entry of an alien into the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 382. A bill to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 383. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to revise job classification and qualification standards for positions in the competitive service regarding educational requirements for those positions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 384. A bill to establish the Springfield 1908 Race Riot National Monument in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 385. A bill to amend the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act to authorize grants to Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 386. A bill to require the Secretary of the Navy to notify Congress of pending action to strike from the Naval Vessel Register any naval vessel that is a viable candidate for artificial reefing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 387. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize admission of Canadian retirees as long-term visitors for pleasure described in section 101(a)(15)(B) of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS,

Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 388. A bill to establish universal child care and early learning programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 389. A bill to deter the trafficking of illicit fentanyl, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. MORAN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. LEE, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S.J. Res. 11. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Control of Air Pollution From New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. YOUNG):

S.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. DAINES, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. BRITT, and Mr. LEE):

S.J. Res. 13. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to balancing the budget; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. REED:

S. Res. 38. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services; from the Committee on Armed Services; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenses by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. Res. 40. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. Res. 41. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Indian Affairs; from the Committee on Indian Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. Res. 42. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. Res. 43. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. Res. 44. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 45. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the current influx of migrants is causing a crisis at the southern border; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. Res. 46. A resolution providing for sufficient time for legislation to be read; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. Res. 47. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. Res. 48. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. Res. 49. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Chinese Communist Party's espionage mission to send a surveillance balloon across the United States, in violation of international law, is unacceptable and should be condemned; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. Res. 50. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Finance; from the Committee on Finance; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. Res. 51. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. Res. 52. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget; from the Committee on the Budget; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. Res. 53. A resolution establishing a Women's Bill of Rights to reaffirm legal protections afforded to women under Federal law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. TESTER):

S. Res. 54. A resolution expressing support for the designation of March 2023 as "Music in Our Schools Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 11, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to require the Secretary of Energy to stipulate, as a condition on the sale at auction of any petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, that the petroleum products not be exported to certain countries, to prohibit such sales to certain state-owned entities, and for other purposes.

S. 16

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 16, a bill to prohibit the award of Federal funds to an institution of higher education that hosts or is affiliated with a student-based service site that provides abortion drugs or abortions to students of the institution or to employees of the institution or site, and for other purposes.

S. 31

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 31, a bill to provide for the development and issuance of a plan to increase oil and gas production on Federal land in conjunction with a drawdown of petroleum reserves from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

S. 41

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to reauthorize the READ Act.

S. 57

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 57, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit kindergarten through grade 12 educational expenses to be paid from a 529 account.

S. 113

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as

cosponsors of S. 113, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes.

S. 142

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 142, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products.

S. 148

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 148, a bill to enable the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, and for other purposes.

S. 156

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 156, a bill to expand the use of E-Verify to hold employers accountable, and for other purposes.

S. 165

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 165, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal and local funds to impose or enforce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate in District of Columbia schools, and to repeal the Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 enacted by the District of Columbia Council.

S. 204

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 204, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

S. 224

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 224, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to associates of the International Criminal Court engaged in investigations of personnel of the United States and its allies.

S. 225

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from North

Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 225, a bill to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes.

S. 240

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to ban gas stoves.

S. 244

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 244, a bill to prohibit any rule or guidance that bans gas stoves in the United States.

S. 271

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 271, a bill to place a moratorium on large concentrated animal feeding operations, to strengthen the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to require country of origin labeling on beef, pork, and dairy products, and for other purposes.

S. 298

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to "Reproductive Health Services".

S. CON. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 2, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 317. A bill to guarantee that Americans have the freedom to make certain reproductive decisions without undue government interference; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to join in the reintroduction

of the Reproductive Freedom for All Act, a bipartisan bill that would restore the previous legal framework that governed abortion access in this country for nearly 50 years since *Roe v. Wade*. This bill would ensure the right of women to make certain reproductive choices without undue government interference, including the right to obtain and use contraception.

I support a woman's right to have an abortion, and I believe that the threshold question of whether abortion is legal needs to be consistent at the national level. States can account for regional differences with regulations like parental notification requirements, but the basic right as articulated by the U.S. Supreme Court prior to its decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* needs to be the same regardless of the State in which a woman happens to reside.

In *Dobbs*, the Supreme Court abandoned a nearly 50-year precedent that had been reaffirmed and on which women had relied for decades. The *Dobbs* ruling was, as the Chief Justice described it, a "jolt" to our legal system. This action has further divided the country at a moment when, more than ever in modern times, we need the Court to demonstrate consistency, predictability, and restraint.

Prior to the Court's decision in *Dobbs*, I introduced, with Senator MURKOWSKI, the Reproductive Choice Act to enact into Federal law the abortion rights established by *Roe* and affirmed by *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.

In the wake of the *Dobbs* decision, I worked with my colleagues Senator KAINE, Senator MURKOWSKI, and Senator SINEMA to draft a more comprehensive, bipartisan bill that would codify the abortion rights articulated by the Supreme Court in *Roe*, *Casey*, and *Whole Women's Health v. Hellerstedt*, as well as the contraception rights first articulated in *Griswold v. Connecticut* and later clarified in *Eisenstadt v. Baird* and *Carey v. Population Services International*.

Our legislation would enshrine important abortion and contraception rights into Federal law without undercutting basic conscience protections that have been in place for decades and that are relied upon by healthcare practitioners who have religious objections.

Our goal with this legislation is to do what the Court should have done—provide consistency in our laws that Americans have relied upon for nearly half a century regarding the ability to make certain reproductive choices.

This bill would ensure that the legal framework in place before *Dobbs* is reinstated as the law of the land. Our bill accomplishes this goal by tracking the Supreme Court's language in the seminal cases I mentioned.

Specifically, and consistent with decades of Supreme Court jurisprudence, the Reproductive Freedom for All Act provides that a State may not impose an undue burden on the ability of a

woman to choose whether or not to terminate a pregnancy before fetal viability. During this time, States may enact reasonable regulations to further the health or safety of a woman seeking to terminate a pregnancy, unless such regulations impose an undue burden.

After fetal viability, a State may regulate or even proscribe the ability of a woman to terminate her pregnancy but not when such a termination is necessary to preserve the life or health of the woman.

Moreover, by codifying *Griswold*, *Eisenstadt*, and *Carey*, the bill makes clear that a State cannot prohibit an individual from obtaining or using contraceptives.

Finally, the legislation specifically preserves conscience protections that have been relied upon by healthcare providers who have religious objections.

The best path forward for our country is to reinstate the legal framework that was in place before the Supreme Court issued its ruling in *Dobbs*. Our bill would enshrine into law the important protections articulated in the Supreme Court cases that I mentioned without undercutting statutes that also have been in place for decades.

I urge all of my Senate colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 338. A bill to provide accountability for funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Treasury under Public Law 117-69; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 338

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "IRS Funding Accountability Act".

SEC. 2. ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING PLAN FOR INCREASED INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE RESOURCES.

(a) LIMITATION ON FUNDING.—

(1) INITIAL PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds described in paragraph (3) may be obligated during the period—

(i) beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(ii) ending on the date that is 60 days after the spending plan described in subsection (b)(1)(A) has been submitted.

(B) ADDITIONAL MORATORIUM.—If Congress enacts a joint resolution of disapproval described in subsection (c) with respect to the Internal Revenue Service spending plan before the date described in subparagraph (A)(ii), then—

(i) the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall submit a new spending plan under subsection (b)(1)(A); and

(ii) the period described in subparagraph (A) shall not end before the date that is 60 days after such new spending plan is submitted.

(2) SUBSEQUENT SUBMISSIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds described in paragraph (3) may be obligated during any period—

(i) beginning on the date Congress has enacted a joint resolution of disapproval under subsection (c) with respect to any spending plan described in subsection (b)(1)(B); and

(ii) ending on the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue has submitted a new spending plan under such subsection.

(B) ADDITIONAL MORATORIUM.—If Congress enacts a joint resolution of disapproval described in subsection (c) with respect to any new spending plan submitted under subparagraph (A)(ii) before the date that is 60 days after the date on which such new spending plan has been submitted, then—

(i) the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall submit an additional new spending plan under subsection (b)(1)(B); and

(ii) the period described in subparagraph (A) shall not end before the date that is 60 days after such additional new spending plan is submitted.

(3) FUNDS DESCRIBED.—The funds described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) Any funds made available under clauses (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 10301(1)(A) of Public Law 117-169.

(B) Any funds made available under section 10301(1)(A)(i) of Public Law 117-169 other than funds used for the following purposes:

(i) Eliminating any correspondence or return processing backlog.

(ii) Reducing call wait times for taxpayers and tax professionals.

(b) ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) INITIAL PLAN.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall submit to the appropriate Congressional committees a spending plan described in paragraph (2).

(B) SUBSEQUENT SUBMISSIONS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year beginning after the plan described in subparagraph (A) is submitted and ending with fiscal year 2031, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall submit to the appropriate Congressional committees a spending plan described in paragraph (2) on the date that the President submits the budget required under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(ii) REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any failure to submit a plan required under clause (i) by the date that is 7 days after the date the plan is required to be submitted and, the amounts made available under section 10301(1)(A)(ii) of Public Law 117-169 shall be reduced by \$10,000,000 for each day after such required date that report has not been submitted.

(II) REQUIRED DATE.—For purposes of this clause, the term "required date" means, with respect to any plan required under this subparagraph, the date that is 7 days after such plan is required to be submitted.

(2) SPENDING PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A spending plan described in this subparagraph is a plan that—

(i) details how the funds appropriated under section 10301(1) of Public Law 117-169 will be spent over—

(I) the period consisting of the current fiscal year and the next 4 fiscal years ending before fiscal year 2032; and

(II) the period of consisting of the current fiscal year through the fiscal year ending with fiscal year 2031 (if such period includes any period not described in subclause (I));

(ii) contains the information described in subparagraph (B);

(iii) has been reviewed by—

(I) the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council;

(II) the Comptroller of the United States;

(III) the National Taxpayer Advocate; and

(IV) the Director of the Office of Management and Budget; and

(iv) has been approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(B) **PLAN CONTENTS.**—The information described in this paragraph is the following:

(i) A detailed explanation of the plan, including—

(I) costs and results to date, actual expenditures of the prior fiscal year, actual and expected expenditures of the current fiscal year, upcoming deliverables and expected costs, and total expenditures;

(II) clearly defined objectives, timelines, and metrics for quantitatively measuring the plan's annual progress, including with respect to measuring improvements in taxpayer services, revenue collection, information technology, cybersecurity, and taxpayer data protections; and

(III) a description of any differences between metrics described in subclause (II) and corresponding metrics used by the National Taxpayer Advocate, the Comptroller General of the United States, and Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

(ii) A detailed analysis of the performance of the Internal Revenue Service with respect to the delivery of taxpayer services, including—

(I) the Level of Service (LOS) of phone lines (as a percent of phone calls answered by an Internal Revenue Service employee, not to include courtesy disconnects or automated call backs);

(II) the median and average wait time to speak to a representative of the Internal Revenue Service;

(III) the amount of unprocessed taxpayer correspondence, including tax returns, responses to Internal Revenue Service notices, tax payments, and other similar types of correspondence; and

(IV) the median and average length of time for processing the items described in subclause (III) and processing refund claims.

(iii) An analysis identifying any increase or decrease in total annual audits and annual audit rates by income group for the period beginning in 2018 and ending with the year the report is submitted. Such analysis shall include a detailed description of what constitutes an "audit" by the Internal Revenue Service, and if the definition of an "audit" used by the Internal Revenue Service differs from the definition used by the National Taxpayer Advocate, the Comptroller General of the United States, or the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, there shall also be included an analysis using such divergent definition.

(iv) A categorizing of the number of audits for each year in the analysis described in clause (iv) which were—

(I) correspondence audits;

(II) office audits;

(III) field audits;

(IV) audits under the Internal Revenue Service National Research Program; and

(V) other audits.

(v) A description of all taxpayer compliance actions or initiatives undertaken using funding appropriated under section 10301(1)(A) of Public Law 117-169 that do not rise to the level of an audit, with each action broken out by the total number of such actions undertaken for each income group and

as a percentage of taxpayers in each income group.

(vi) An explanation of any unresolved or outstanding recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office and Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration pertaining to taxpayer-data privacy protections, Internal Revenue Service taxpayer services, and Internal Revenue Service technology modernization efforts that are addressed by the plan and a description of how they are addressed.

(vii) For any recommendations identified by Government Accountability Office and Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration as "high risk" or "priority" that are not addressed in the plan, an explanation of why such recommendations are not addressed in the plan.

(3) **TESTIMONY OF RELEVANT OFFICIALS.**—Not later than 30 days after any spending plan described in paragraph (2) has been submitted, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall testify in person before any of the appropriate Congressional committees that request their testimony with respect to such spending plan.

(4) **REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY OF EXCESS SPENDING.**—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall immediately notify the appropriate Congressional committees if actual obligations and expenditures for any account for any period for which projections are made in a plan submitted under paragraph (2) exceed the amount of obligations and expenditures projected for such account in such plan by 5 percent or more.

(c) **JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL OF THE IRS COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING PLAN.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of this section, the term "joint resolution of disapproval of the IRS comprehensive spending plan" means only a joint resolution introduced in the period beginning on the date on which a spending plan submitted pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(A) is received by the appropriate Congressional committees and ending 60 days thereafter (excluding days either House of Congress is adjourned for more than 3 days during a session of Congress), the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: "That Congress disapproves the plan submitted on _____ by the Internal Revenue Service relating to the comprehensive spending plan under section 2(b)(1) of the IRS Funding Accountability Act with respect to fiscal year ____." (The blank spaces being appropriately filled in).

(2) **APPLICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT DISAPPROVAL PROCEDURES.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The rules of section 802 of title 5, United States Code, shall apply to a joint resolution of disapproval of the IRS comprehensive spending plan in the same manner as such rules apply to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) of such section.

(B) **EXERCISE OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**—This section is enacted by Congress—

(i) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such it is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution of disapproval of the IRS comprehensive spending plan described in paragraph (1), and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(ii) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

SEC. 3. QUARTERLY REPORTS.

(a) **INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 14 days after the last day of each calendar quarter beginning during the applicable period, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall submit to the appropriate Congressional committees a report on any expenditures and obligations of funds appropriated under section 10301(1) of Public Law 117-169.

(2) **MATTERS INCLUDED.**—The report provided under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A plain language description of the specific actions taken by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue utilizing any funds appropriated under section 10301(1) of Public Law 117-169.

(B) The obligations and expenditures during the quarter of funds appropriated under section 10301(1) of Public Law 117-169 and the expected expenditure of such funds in the subsequent quarter, including a comparison of obligations and expenditures between amounts spent for taxpayers services and amounts spent for examinations and collections by each division or office of the Internal Revenue Service, including the Large Business and International Division, the Small Business/Self Employed Division, the Tax-Exempt and Government Entities Division, the Wage and Investment Division, the Criminal Investigation Office, the Whistleblower Office, and the Office of the Taxpayer Advocate.

(C) A description of any new full-time or full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, contractors, or other staff hired by the Internal Revenue Service, including the number of new hires, the primary function or activity type of each new hire, and the specific Division or Office to which each new hire is tasked.

(D) The number of new employees that have passed a security clearance compared to the number of new employees hired to a position requiring a security clearance, along with an indication of whether any new employee that has not passed a security clearance or suitability determination has access to taxpayer return information (as defined by section 6103(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

(E) A detailed description of any violation of the fair tax collection practices described in section 6304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 by any employees, contractors, or other staff described in subparagraph (C) (including violations tracked in Automated Labor and Employee Relations Tracking System (ALERTS) of the Human Capital Office of the Internal Revenue Service).

(F) The status of recommendations provided by the Government Accountability Office and Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration which have been identified as being addressed by a spending plan under section 2(b)(1), including whether the implementation of such recommendations has been completed, is in progress, or is open (including the expected date of completion for any recommendations identified as in progress or open).

(3) **REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION.**—In the case of any failure to submit a report required under paragraph (1) by the required date, the amounts made available under section 10301(1)(A)(ii) of Public Law 117-169 shall be reduced by \$1,000,000 for each day after such required date that report has not been submitted.

(b) **DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 14 days after the last day of each calendar quarter beginning during the applicable period, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the appropriate Congressional committees a report containing the following information:

(A) A plain-language description of the actions taken by the Secretary of the Treasury utilizing any funds appropriated under paragraph (1), (3), or (5) of section 10301 of Public Law 117-169. Any action which is described in a report made under subsection (a) may be described by reference to the action in such report.

(B) A detailed description of the specific purposes to which the funds appropriated under section 10301(3) of Public Law 117-169 has been (or is expected to be) obligated.

(C) A description of any new full-time or full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, contractors, or other staff hired by the Secretary utilizing funds appropriated under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169, including the number of new hires and whether the duties of each new hire includes any functions related to the Internal Revenue Service (including implementation of tax policies, enforcement, regulations, research, press or communications, or other purposes).

(D) A detailed description and explanation of any changes to the most recent Priority Guidance Plan of the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service involving guidance projects that utilize any funds appropriated under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169 or which are related to the implementation of any provision of or amendment made by such Public Law.

(E) A description of any new initiatives planned to be undertaken by the Department of the Treasury within the existing or subsequent fiscal year which will (or may) utilize funds appropriated under section 10301 of Public Law 117-169.

(2) **REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION.**—In the case of any failure to submit a report required under paragraph (1) by the required date—

(A) the amounts made available under paragraphs (3) of section 10301 of Public Law 117-169 shall be reduced by \$666,667 for each day after such required date that report has not been submitted, and

(B) the amounts made available under paragraphs (5) of section 10301 of Public Law 117-169 shall be reduced by \$333,333 for each day after such required date that report has not been submitted, and

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this section—

(1) **APPLICABLE PERIOD.**—The term “applicable period” means the period beginning after the date the plan under section 2(b)(1)(A) is required to be submitted and ending on September 30, 2031.

(2) **REQUIRED DATE.**—The term “required date” means, with respect to any report required to be submitted under subsection (a) or (b), the date that is 7 days after the date the report is required to be submitted.

SEC. 4. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.

For purposes of this Act, the term “appropriate Congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 342. A bill to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Access to Counsel Act.

This legislation would ensure that all individuals with a legal right to be in the United States who are held by Customs and Border Protection at ports of entry or airports have access to legal counsel.

This legislation would ensure that individuals who have a legal right to be in the United States and are held by Customs and Border Protection in secondary inspection at airports or other points of entry for more than an hour are granted an opportunity to access legal counsel and an interested party. An interested party is defined as a family member, sponsor, or organization with a connection to the individual.

The bill creates no obligation for the Federal Government to pay for counsel and allows counsel the ability to advocate on behalf of the individual by providing information or documentation in support of the individual.

It also invalidates any effort by CBP to persuade someone to relinquish their legal status if that person has been denied access to counsel or voluntarily waives in writing their right to counsel.

There have been repeated reports of CBP detaining individuals based on their nationality. In 2017, the first Muslim ban was implemented, and thousands of U.S. citizens, green card holders, and others with valid visas were detained at airports for hours.

They were held by CBP officers without any ability to call a lawyer, relative, or advocate. Many Members of Congress rushed to the airports in an attempt to help these individuals and were barred from speaking to them or connecting them with attorneys.

In addition, 200 Iranian-Americans were held at the northern border in Blaine, WA, for 12 hours without access to counsel in early 2020.

Everyone who has valid travel documents and is seeking entry to the United States should be afforded due process. If CBP refers someone to secondary inspection, they should be apprised of their right to call counsel or an interested party. It is imperative that Americans and those with a legal right to be here have access to representation if they are held at a port of entry.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. KING):

S. 354. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 354

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Local Processing Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. HACCP GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES FOR SMALLER AND VERY SMALL POULTRY AND MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS.

(a) **POULTRY ESTABLISHMENTS.**—The Poultry Products Inspection Act is amended by inserting after section 14 (21 U.S.C. 463) the following:

“SEC. 14A. SMALLER AND VERY SMALL ESTABLISHMENT GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES.

“(a) **DEFINITIONS OF SMALLER ESTABLISHMENT AND VERY SMALL ESTABLISHMENT.**—In this section, the terms ‘smaller establishment’ and ‘very small establishment’ have the meanings given those terms in the final rule entitled ‘Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems’ (61 Fed. Reg. 38806 (July 25, 1996)).

“(b) **DATABASE OF STUDIES; MODEL PLANS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) establish a free, searchable database of approved peer-reviewed validation studies accessible to smaller establishments and very small establishments subject to inspection under this Act for use in developing a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan; and

“(2) publish online scale-appropriate model Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plans for smaller establishments and very small establishments, including model plans for—

“(A) slaughter-only establishments;

“(B) processing-only establishments; and

“(C) slaughter and processing establishments.

“(c) **GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish a guidance document, after notice and an opportunity for public comment, providing information on the requirements that need to be met for smaller establishments and very small establishments to receive approval for a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan pursuant to this Act.

“(d) **DATA CONFIDENTIALITY.**—In carrying out subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall not publish confidential business information, including a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan of an establishment.”

(b) **MEAT ESTABLISHMENTS.**—The Federal Meat Inspection Act is amended by inserting after section 25 (21 U.S.C. 625) the following:

“SEC. 26. SMALLER AND VERY SMALL ESTABLISHMENT GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES.

“(a) **DEFINITIONS OF SMALLER ESTABLISHMENT AND VERY SMALL ESTABLISHMENT.**—In this section, the terms ‘smaller establishment’ and ‘very small establishment’ have the meanings given those terms in the final rule entitled ‘Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems’ (61 Fed. Reg. 38806 (July 25, 1996)).

“(b) **DATABASE OF STUDIES; MODEL PLANS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) establish a free, searchable database of approved peer-reviewed validation studies

accessible to smaller establishments and very small establishments subject to inspection under this Act for use in developing a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan; and

“(2) publish online scale-appropriate model Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plans for smaller establishments and very small establishments, including model plans for—

“(A) slaughter-only establishments;

“(B) processing-only establishments; and

“(C) slaughter and processing establishments.

“(c) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish a guidance document, after notice and an opportunity for public comment, providing information on the requirements that need to be met for smaller establishments and very small establishments to receive approval for a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan pursuant to this Act.

“(d) DATA CONFIDENTIALITY.—In carrying out subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary shall not publish confidential business information, including a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan of an establishment.”.

SEC. 3. INCREASING MAXIMUM FEDERAL SHARE FOR EXPENSES OF STATE INSPECTION.

(a) POULTRY PRODUCTS.—Section 5(a)(3) of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 454(a)(3)) is amended in the second sentence by striking “50 per centum” and inserting “65 percent”.

(b) MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS.—Section 301(a)(3) of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 661(a)(3)) is amended in the second sentence by striking “50 per centum” and inserting “65 percent”.

SEC. 4. COOPERATIVE INTERSTATE SHIPMENT OF POULTRY AND MEAT.

(a) POULTRY PRODUCTS.—Section 31 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 472) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “25 employees” each place it appears and inserting “50 employees”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking “25” and inserting “50”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “25” and inserting “50”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “more than 25 employees but less than 35 employees” and inserting “more than 50 employees but less than 70 employees”; and

(II) in clause (ii), by striking “subsection (i)” and inserting “subsection (j)”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “60 percent” and inserting “80 percent”;

(3) in subsection (e)(1), by striking “subsection (i)” and inserting “subsection (j)”;

(4) by redesignating subsections (f) through (j) as subsections (g) through (j), respectively; and

(5) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) FEDERAL OUTREACH.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028, for the purpose of State participation in the Cooperative Interstate Shipment program, the Secretary shall conduct outreach to, and, as appropriate, subsequent negotiation with, not fewer than 25 percent of the States that—

“(A) have a State poultry product inspection program pursuant to section 5; but

“(B) do not have a selected establishment.

“(2) REPORT.—At the conclusion of each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028, the Secretary shall submit a report detailing the activities and results of the outreach conducted during that fiscal year under paragraph (1) to—

“(A) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

“(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

“(C) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(D) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.”.

(b) MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS.—Section 501 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 683) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “25 employees” each place it appears and inserting “50 employees”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking “25” and inserting “50”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “25” and inserting “50”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “more than 25 employees but less than 35 employees” and inserting “more than 50 employees but less than 70 employees”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “60 percent” and inserting “80 percent”; and

(3) in subsection (f), by adding at the end the following:

“(3) FEDERAL OUTREACH.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028, for the purpose of State participation in the Cooperative Interstate Shipment program, the Secretary shall conduct outreach to, and, as appropriate, subsequent negotiation with, not fewer than 25 percent of the States that—

“(i) have a State meat inspection program pursuant to section 301; but

“(ii) do not have a selected establishment.

“(B) REPORT.—At the conclusion of each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028, the Secretary shall submit a report detailing the activities and results of the outreach conducted during that fiscal year under paragraph (1) to—

“(i) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives;

“(ii) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

“(iii) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(iv) the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.”.

SEC. 5. PROCESSING RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM.

Subtitle A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 210B. PROCESSING RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS.—The term ‘business enterprise owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals’ has the meaning given the term in section 3002 of the State Small Business Credit Initiative Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5701).

“(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(A) a smaller establishment or very small establishment (as those terms are defined in the final rule entitled ‘Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems’ (61 Fed. Reg. 33806 (July 25, 1996)));

“(B) a slaughtering or processing establishment subject to—

“(i) a State meat inspection program pursuant to section 301 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 661); or

“(ii) a State poultry product inspection program pursuant to section 5 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 454);

“(C) a person engaging in custom operations that is exempt from inspection under—

“(i) section 23 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 623); or

“(ii) section 15 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 464); and

“(D) a person seeking—

“(i) to establish and operate an establishment described in subparagraph (A) or (B); or

“(ii) to engage in custom operations described in subparagraph (C).

“(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

“(b) GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall award competitive grants to eligible entities for activities to increase resiliency and diversification of the meat processing system, including activities that—

“(A) support the health and safety of meat and poultry plant employees, suppliers, and customers;

“(B) support increased processing capacity; and

“(C) otherwise support the resilience of the small meat and poultry processing sector.

“(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The maximum amount of a grant awarded under this section shall not exceed \$500,000.

“(3) DURATION.—The term of a grant awarded under this section shall not exceed 3 years.

“(c) APPLICATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity desiring a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(2) APPLICATIONS FOR SMALL GRANTS.—The Secretary shall establish a separate, simplified application process for eligible entities applying for a grant under this section of not more than \$100,000.

“(3) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that any application for a grant under this section is—

“(A) simple and practicable;

“(B) accessible online; and

“(C) available through local staff of the Department of Agriculture.

“(4) NOTICE.—Not later than 14 days before the date on which the Secretary begins to accept applications under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall publish a notice of funding opportunity with respect to the grants available under this section.

“(5) REAPPLICATION.—If an application of an eligible entity under this subsection is denied by the Secretary, the eligible entity may submit a revised application.

“(6) PRIORITY.—In reviewing applications submitted under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to proposals that will—

“(A) increase farmer and rancher access to animal slaughter options within a 200-mile radius of the location of the farmer or rancher;

“(B) support an eligible entity described in subsection (a)(2)(A); or

“(C) support an eligible entity that is a business enterprise owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

“(d) USE OF GRANT.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section shall use the grant funds to carry out activities in

support of the purposes described in subsection (b)(1), including through—

“(1) the development and issuance of a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points plan for the eligible entity, which may be developed by a consultant;

“(2) the purchase or establishment, as applicable, of facilities, equipment, processes, and operations necessary for the eligible entity to comply with applicable requirements under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.);

“(3) the purchase of cold storage, equipment, or transportation services;

“(4) the purchase of temperature screening supplies, testing for communicable diseases, disinfectant, sanitation systems, hand washing stations, and other sanitizing supplies;

“(5) the purchase and decontamination of personal protective equipment;

“(6) the construction or purchase of humane handling infrastructure, including holding space for livestock prior to slaughter, shade structures, and knock box structures;

“(7)(A) the purchase of software and computer equipment for record keeping, production data, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points record review, and facilitation of marketing and sales of products in a manner consistent with the social distancing guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

“(B) the provision of guidelines and training relating to that software and computer equipment;

“(8) the provision of staff time and training for implementing and monitoring health and safety procedures;

“(9) the development of a feasibility study or business plan for, or the carrying out of any other activity associated with, establishing or expanding a small meat or poultry processing facility;

“(10) the purchase of equipment that enables the further use or value-added sale of coproducts or byproducts, such as organs, hides, and other relevant products; and

“(11) other activities associated with expanding or establishing an eligible entity described in subsection (a)(2)(A), as determined by the Secretary.

“(e) OUTREACH.—During the period beginning on the date on which the Secretary publishes the notice under subsection (c)(4) and ending on the date on which the Secretary begins to accept applications under subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall perform outreach to States and eligible entities relating to grants under this section.

“(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Federal share of the activities carried out using a grant awarded under this section shall not exceed—

“(A) 90 percent in the case of a grant in the amount of \$100,000 or less; or

“(B) 75 percent in the case of a grant in an amount greater than \$100,000.

“(2) FISCAL YEARS 2023 AND 2024.—An eligible entity awarded a grant under this section during fiscal year 2023 or 2024 shall not be required to provide non-Federal matching funds with respect to the grant.

“(g) ADMINISTRATION.—The promulgation of regulations under, and administration of, this section shall be made without regard to—

“(1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

“(2) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’).

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out this

section \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028.”

SEC. 6. LOCAL MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAMS.

Title IV of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 is amended by inserting before section 404 (7 U.S.C. 7624) the following:

“SEC. 403. LOCAL MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING TRAINING PROGRAMS.

“(a) INSTITUTIONAL CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide competitive grants to junior or community colleges, technical or vocational schools, nonprofit organizations, worker training centers, and land-grant colleges and universities (as defined in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3103)) to establish or expand career training programs relating to meat and poultry processing.

“(2) APPLICATIONS FOR SMALL GRANTS.—The Secretary shall establish a separate, simplified application and reporting process for entities described in paragraph (1) applying for a grant under this subsection of not more than \$100,000.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028.

“(b) PROCESSOR CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide grants to smaller establishments and very small establishments (as those terms are defined in the final rule entitled ‘Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems’ (61 Fed. Reg. 38806 (July 25, 1996))) and nongovernmental organizations to offset the cost of training new meat and poultry processors.

“(2) APPLICATIONS FOR SMALL GRANTS.—The Secretary shall establish a separate, simplified application and reporting process for entities described in paragraph (1) applying for a grant under this subsection of not more than \$100,000.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2028.”

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 365. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain individuals who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 365

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Dream Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, any term used in this Act that is used in the immigration laws shall have the meaning given such term in the immigration laws.

(2) DACA.—The term “DACA” means deferred action granted to an alien pursuant to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program announced by President Obama on June 15, 2012.

(3) DISABILITY.—The term “disability” has the meaning given such term in section 3(1) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102(1)).

(4) EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term “early childhood education program” has the meaning given such term in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003).

(5) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; HIGH SCHOOL; SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The terms “elementary school”, “high school”, and “secondary school” have the meanings given such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(6) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term “immigration laws” has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(17) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)).

(7) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term “institution of higher education”—

(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), has the meaning given such term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002); and

(B) does not include an institution of higher education outside of the United States.

(8) PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS.—The term “permanent resident status on a conditional basis” means status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis under this Act.

(9) POVERTY LINE.—The term “poverty line” has the meaning given such term in section 673 of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902).

(10) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(11) UNIFORMED SERVICES.—The term “Uniformed Services” has the meaning given the term “uniformed services” in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 3. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR CERTAIN LONG-TERM RESIDENTS WHO ENTERED THE UNITED STATES AS CHILDREN.

(a) CONDITIONAL BASIS FOR STATUS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien shall be considered, at the time of obtaining the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under this section, to have obtained such status on a conditional basis subject to the provisions under this Act.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who is inadmissible or deportable from the United States or is in temporary protected status under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a), if—

(A) the alien has been continuously physically present in the United States since the date that is 4 years before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) the alien was younger than 18 years of age on the date on which the alien initially entered the United States;

(C) subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the alien—

(i) is not inadmissible under paragraph (2), (3), (6)(E), (6)(G), (8), (10)(A), (10)(C), or (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

(ii) has not ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of

any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion; and

(iii) has not been convicted of—

(I) any offense under Federal or State law, other than a State offense for which an essential element is the alien's immigration status, that is punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 1 year; or

(II) 3 or more offenses under Federal or State law, other than State offenses for which an essential element is the alien's immigration status, for which the alien was convicted on different dates for each of the 3 offenses and imprisoned for an aggregate of 90 days or more; and

(D) the alien—

(i) has been admitted to an institution of higher education;

(ii) has earned a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school, or has obtained a general education development certificate recognized under State law or a high school equivalency diploma in the United States; or

(iii) is enrolled in secondary school or in an education program assisting students in—

(I) obtaining a regular high school diploma or its recognized equivalent under State law; or

(II) in passing a general educational development exam, a high school equivalence diploma examination, or other similar State-authorized exam.

(2) **WAIVER.**—With respect to any benefit under this Act, the Secretary may waive the grounds of inadmissibility under paragraph (2), (6)(E), (6)(G), or (10)(D) of section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)) for humanitarian purposes or family unity or if the waiver is otherwise in the public interest.

(3) **TREATMENT OF EXPUNGED CONVICTIONS.**—An expunged conviction shall not automatically be treated as an offense under paragraph (1). The Secretary shall evaluate expunged convictions on a case-by-case basis according to the nature and severity of the offense to determine whether, under the particular circumstances, the Secretary determines that the alien should be eligible for cancellation of removal, adjustment to permanent resident status on a conditional basis, or other adjustment of status.

(4) **DACA RECIPIENTS.**—The Secretary shall cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who was granted DACA unless the alien has engaged in conduct since the alien was granted DACA that would make the alien ineligible for DACA.

(5) **APPLICATION FEE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may require an alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the cost of processing the application.

(B) **EXEMPTION.**—An applicant may be exempted from paying the fee required under subparagraph (A) if the alien—

(i)(I) is younger than 18 years of age;

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; and

(III) is in foster care or otherwise lacking any parental or other familial support;

(ii) is younger than 18 years of age and is homeless;

(iii)(I) cannot care for himself or herself because of a serious, chronic disability; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application

under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; or

(iv)(I) during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, accumulated \$10,000 or more in debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line.

(6) **SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA.**—The Secretary may not grant an alien permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section unless the alien submits biometric and biographic data, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alternative procedure for aliens who are unable to provide such biometric or biographic data because of a physical impairment.

(7) **BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—

(A) **REQUIREMENT FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—The Secretary shall utilize biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary determines appropriate—

(i) to conduct security and law enforcement background checks of an alien seeking permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section; and

(ii) to determine whether there is any criminal, national security, or other factor that would render the alien ineligible for such status.

(B) **COMPLETION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS.**—The security and law enforcement background checks of an alien required under subparagraph (A) shall be completed, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, before the date on which the Secretary grants such alien permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section.

(8) **MEDICAL EXAMINATION.**—

(A) **REQUIREMENT.**—An alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall undergo a medical examination.

(B) **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.**—The Secretary, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall prescribe policies and procedures for the nature and timing of the examination required under subparagraph (A).

(9) **MILITARY SELECTIVE SERVICE.**—An alien applying for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall establish that the alien has registered under the Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), if the alien is subject to registration under such Act.

(c) **DETERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PRESENCE.**—

(1) **TERMINATION OF CONTINUOUS PERIOD.**—Any period of continuous physical presence in the United States of an alien who applies for permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this section shall not terminate when the alien is served a notice to appear under section 239(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229(a)).

(2) **TREATMENT OF CERTAIN BREAKS IN PRESENCE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), an alien shall be considered to have failed to maintain continuous physical presence in the United States under subsection (b)(1)(A) if the alien has departed from the United States for any period exceeding 90 days or for any periods, in the aggregate, exceeding 180 days.

(B) **EXTENSIONS FOR EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.**—The Secretary may extend the time periods described in subparagraph (A) for an alien who demonstrates that the fail-

ure to timely return to the United States was due to extenuating circumstances beyond the alien's control, including the serious illness of the alien, or death or serious illness of a parent, grandparent, sibling, or child of the alien.

(C) **TRAVEL AUTHORIZED BY THE SECRETARY.**—Any period of travel outside of the United States by an alien that was authorized by the Secretary may not be counted toward any period of departure from the United States under subparagraph (A).

(d) **LIMITATION ON REMOVAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary or the Attorney General may not remove an alien who appears prima facie eligible for relief under this section.

(2) **ALIENS SUBJECT TO REMOVAL.**—The Secretary shall provide a reasonable opportunity to apply for relief under this section to any alien who requests such an opportunity or who appears prima facie eligible for relief under this section if the alien is in removal proceedings, is the subject of a final removal order, or is the subject of a voluntary departure order.

(3) **CERTAIN ALIENS ENROLLED IN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.**—

(A) **STAY OF REMOVAL.**—The Attorney General shall stay the removal proceedings of an alien who—

(i) meets all the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (b)(1), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of such subsection;

(ii) is at least 5 years of age; and

(iii) is enrolled in an elementary school, a secondary school, or an early childhood education program.

(B) **COMMENCEMENT OF REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS.**—The Secretary may not commence removal proceedings for an alien described in subparagraph (A).

(C) **EMPLOYMENT.**—An alien whose removal is stayed pursuant to subparagraph (A) or who may not be placed in removal proceedings pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall, upon application to the Secretary, be granted an employment authorization document.

(D) **LIFT OF STAY.**—The Secretary or Attorney General may not lift the stay granted to an alien under subparagraph (A) unless the alien ceases to meet the requirements under such subparagraph.

(e) **EXEMPTION FROM NUMERICAL LIMITATIONS.**—Nothing in this section or in any other law may be construed to apply a numerical limitation on the number of aliens who may be granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis under this Act.

SEC. 4. TERMS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS ON A CONDITIONAL BASIS.

(a) **PERIOD OF STATUS.**—Permanent resident status on a conditional basis is—

(1) valid for a period of 8 years, unless such period is extended by the Secretary; and

(2) subject to termination under subsection (c).

(b) **NOTICE OF REQUIREMENTS.**—At the time an alien obtains permanent resident status on a conditional basis, the Secretary shall provide notice to the alien regarding the provisions of this Act and the requirements to have the conditional basis of such status removed.

(c) **TERMINATION OF STATUS.**—The Secretary may terminate the permanent resident status on a conditional basis of an alien only if the Secretary—

(1) determines that the alien ceases to meet the requirements under paragraph (1)(C) of section 3(b), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of that section; and

(2) prior to the termination, provides the alien—

(A) notice of the proposed termination; and

(B) the opportunity for a hearing to provide evidence that the alien meets such requirements or otherwise contest the termination.

(d) RETURN TO PREVIOUS IMMIGRATION STATUS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is terminated under subsection (c) or whose application for such status is denied shall return to the immigration status that the alien had immediately before receiving permanent resident status on a conditional basis or applying for such status, as appropriate.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.—An alien whose permanent resident status on a conditional basis expires under subsection (a)(1) or is terminated under subsection (c) or whose application for such status is denied and who had temporary protected status under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) immediately before receiving or applying for such permanent resident status on a conditional basis, as appropriate, may not return to such temporary protected status if—

(A) the relevant designation under section 244(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)) has been terminated; or

(B) the Secretary determines that the reason for terminating the permanent resident status on a conditional basis renders the alien ineligible for such temporary protected status.

SEC. 5. REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS OF PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS.

(a) ELIGIBILITY FOR REMOVAL OF CONDITIONAL BASIS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status granted under this Act and grant the alien status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

(A) is described in paragraph (1)(C) of section 3(b), subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of that section;

(B) has not abandoned the alien's residence in the United States; and

(C)(i) has acquired a degree from an institution of higher education or has completed at least 2 years, in good standing, in a program for a bachelor's degree or higher degree in the United States;

(ii) has served in the Uniformed Services for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received an honorable discharge; or

(iii) has been employed for periods totaling at least 3 years and at least 75 percent of the time that the alien has had a valid employment authorization, except that any period during which the alien is not employed while having a valid employment authorization and is enrolled in an institution of higher education, a secondary school, or an education program described in section 3(b)(1)(D)(iii), shall not count toward the time requirements under this clause.

(2) HARDSHIP EXCEPTION.—The Secretary shall remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status and grant the alien status as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence if the alien—

(A) satisfies the requirements under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1);

(B) demonstrates compelling circumstances for the inability to satisfy the requirements under subparagraph (C) of such paragraph; and

(C) demonstrates that—

(i) the alien has a disability;

(ii) the alien is a full-time caregiver of a minor child; or

(iii) the removal of the alien from the United States would result in extreme hardship to the alien or the alien's spouse, parent, or child who is a national of the United States or is lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(3) CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status granted under this Act may not be removed unless the alien demonstrates that the alien satisfies the requirements under section 312(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423(a)).

(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an alien who is unable to meet the requirements under such section 312(a) due to disability.

(4) APPLICATION FEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require aliens applying for lawful permanent resident status under this section to pay a reasonable fee that is commensurate with the cost of processing the application.

(B) EXEMPTION.—An applicant may be exempted from paying the fee required under subparagraph (A) if the alien—

(i)(I) is younger than 18 years of age;

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; and

(III) is in foster care or otherwise lacking any parental or other familial support;

(ii) is younger than 18 years of age and is homeless;

(iii)(I) cannot care for himself or herself because of a serious, chronic disability; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line; or

(iv)(I) during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, the alien accumulated \$10,000 or more in debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien; and

(II) received total income, during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which the alien files an application under this section, that is less than 150 percent of the poverty line.

(5) SUBMISSION OF BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC DATA.—The Secretary may not remove the conditional basis of an alien's permanent resident status unless the alien submits biometric and biographic data, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide an alternative procedure for applicants who are unable to provide such biometric data because of a physical impairment.

(6) BACKGROUND CHECKS.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The Secretary shall utilize biometric, biographic, and other data that the Secretary determines appropriate—

(i) to conduct security and law enforcement background checks of an alien applying for removal of the conditional basis of the alien's permanent resident status; and

(ii) to determine whether there is any criminal, national security, or other factor that would render the alien ineligible for removal of such conditional basis.

(B) COMPLETION OF BACKGROUND CHECKS.—The security and law enforcement background checks of an alien required under subparagraph (A) shall be completed, to the satisfaction of the Secretary, before the date on which the Secretary removes the conditional basis of the alien's permanent resident status.

(b) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF NATURALIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of title III of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.), an alien granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis shall be considered to have been admitted to the United States, and be present in the United States, as an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(2) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION FOR NATURALIZATION.—An alien may not apply for naturalization while the alien is in permanent resident status on a conditional basis.

SEC. 6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING IDENTITY.—An alien's application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis may include, as proof of identity—

(1) a passport or national identity document from the alien's country of origin that includes the alien's name and the alien's photograph or fingerprint;

(2) the alien's birth certificate and an identity card that includes the alien's name and photograph;

(3) a school identification card that includes the alien's name and photograph, and school records showing the alien's name and that the alien is or was enrolled at the school;

(4) a Uniformed Services identification card issued by the Department of Defense;

(5) any immigration or other document issued by the United States Government bearing the alien's name and photograph; or

(6) a State-issued identification card bearing the alien's name and photograph.

(b) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING CONTINUOUS PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.—To establish that an alien has been continuously physically present in the United States, as required under section 3(b)(1)(A), or to establish that an alien has not abandoned residence in the United States, as required under section 5(a)(1)(B), the alien may submit documents to the Secretary, including—

(1) employment records that include the employer's name and contact information;

(2) records from any educational institution the alien has attended in the United States;

(3) records of service from the Uniformed Services;

(4) official records from a religious entity confirming the alien's participation in a religious ceremony;

(5) passport entries;

(6) a birth certificate for a child who was born in the United States;

(7) automobile license receipts or registration;

(8) deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement contracts;

(9) tax receipts;

(10) insurance policies;

(11) remittance records;

(12) rent receipts or utility bills bearing the alien's name or the name of an immediate family member of the alien, and the alien's address;

(13) copies of money order receipts for money sent in or out of the United States;

(14) dated bank transactions; or

(15) 2 or more sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien who have direct knowledge of the alien's continuous physical presence in the United States, that contain—

(A) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(B) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(c) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING INITIAL ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES.—To establish under section 3(b)(1)(B) that an alien was

younger than 18 years of age on the date on which the alien initially entered the United States, an alien may submit documents to the Secretary, including—

(1) an admission stamp on the alien's passport;

(2) records from any educational institution the alien has attended in the United States;

(3) any document from the Department of Justice or the Department of Homeland Security stating the alien's date of entry into the United States;

(4) hospital or medical records showing medical treatment or hospitalization, the name of the medical facility or physician, and the date of the treatment or hospitalization;

(5) rent receipts or utility bills bearing the alien's name or the name of an immediate family member of the alien, and the alien's address;

(6) employment records that include the employer's name and contact information;

(7) official records from a religious entity confirming the alien's participation in a religious ceremony;

(8) a birth certificate for a child who was born in the United States;

(9) automobile license receipts or registration;

(10) deeds, mortgages, or rental agreement contracts;

(11) tax receipts;

(12) travel records;

(13) copies of money order receipts sent in or out of the country;

(14) dated bank transactions;

(15) remittance records; or

(16) insurance policies.

(d) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ADMISSION TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that an alien has been admitted to an institution of higher education, the alien shall submit to the Secretary a document from the institution of higher education certifying that the alien—

(1) has been admitted to the institution; or

(2) is currently enrolled in the institution as a student.

(e) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF A DEGREE FROM AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—To establish that an alien has acquired a degree from an institution of higher education in the United States, the alien shall submit to the Secretary a diploma or other document from the institution stating that the alien has received such a degree.

(f) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING RECEIPT OF HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE, OR A RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT.—To establish that an alien has earned a high school diploma or a commensurate alternative award from a public or private high school, or has obtained a general educational development certificate recognized under State law or a high school equivalency diploma in the United States, the alien shall submit to the Secretary—

(1) a high school diploma, certificate of completion, or other alternate award;

(2) a high school equivalency diploma or certificate recognized under State law; or

(3) evidence that the alien passed a State-authorized exam, including the general educational development exam, in the United States.

(g) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING ENROLLMENT IN AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.—To establish that an alien is enrolled in any school or education program described in section 3(b)(1)(D)(iii), 3(d)(3)(A)(iii), or 5(a)(1)(C), the alien shall submit school records from the United States school that the alien is currently attending that include—

(1) the name of the school; and

(2) the alien's name, periods of attendance, and current grade or educational level.

(h) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EXEMPTION FROM APPLICATION FEES.—To establish that an alien is exempt from an application fee under section 3(b)(5)(B) or 5(a)(4)(B), the alien shall submit to the Secretary the following relevant documents:

(1) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH AGE.—To establish that an alien meets an age requirement, the alien shall provide proof of identity, as described in subsection (a), that establishes that the alien is younger than 18 years of age.

(2) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH INCOME.—To establish the alien's income, the alien shall provide—

(A) employment records that have been maintained by the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other Federal, State, or local government agency;

(B) bank records; or

(C) at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the alien's work and income that contain—

(i) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(ii) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(3) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH FOSTER CARE, LACK OF FAMILIAL SUPPORT, HOMELESSNESS, OR SERIOUS, CHRONIC DISABILITY.—To establish that the alien was in foster care, lacks parental or familial support, is homeless, or has a serious, chronic disability, the alien shall provide at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the circumstances that contain—

(A) a statement that the alien is in foster care, otherwise lacks any parental or other familial support, is homeless, or has a serious, chronic disability, as appropriate;

(B) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(C) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(4) DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH UNPAID MEDICAL EXPENSE.—To establish that the alien has debt as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses, the alien shall provide receipts or other documentation from a medical provider that—

(A) bear the provider's name and address;

(B) bear the name of the individual receiving treatment; and

(C) document that the alien has accumulated \$10,000 or more in debt in the past 12 months as a result of unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the alien or an immediate family member of the alien.

(i) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING QUALIFICATION FOR HARSHIP EXEMPTION.—To establish that an alien satisfies one of the criteria for the hardship exemption set forth in section 5(a)(2)(C), the alien shall submit to the Secretary at least 2 sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the circumstances that warrant the exemption, that contain—

(1) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(2) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien.

(j) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING SERVICE IN THE UNIFORMED SERVICES.—To establish that an alien has served in the Uniformed Services for at least 2 years and, if discharged, received an honorable discharge, the alien shall submit to the Secretary—

(1) a Department of Defense form DD-214;

(2) a National Guard Report of Separation and Record of Service form 22;

(3) personnel records for such service from the appropriate Uniformed Service; or

(4) health records from the appropriate Uniformed Service.

(k) DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING EMPLOYMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien may satisfy the employment requirement under section 5(a)(1)(C)(iii) by submitting records that—

(A) establish compliance with such employment requirement; and

(B) have been maintained by the Social Security Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, or any other Federal, State, or local government agency.

(2) OTHER DOCUMENTS.—An alien who is unable to submit the records described in paragraph (1) may satisfy the employment requirement by submitting at least 2 types of reliable documents that provide evidence of employment, including—

(A) bank records;

(B) business records;

(C) employer records;

(D) records of a labor union, day labor center, or organization that assists workers in employment;

(E) sworn affidavits from individuals who are not related to the alien and who have direct knowledge of the alien's work, that contain—

(i) the name, address, and telephone number of the affiant; and

(ii) the nature and duration of the relationship between the affiant and the alien; and

(F) remittance records.

(l) AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT USE OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.—If the Secretary determines, after publication in the Federal Register and an opportunity for public comment, that any document or class of documents does not reliably establish identity or that permanent resident status on a conditional basis is being obtained fraudulently to an unacceptable degree, the Secretary may prohibit or restrict the use of such document or class of documents.

SEC. 7. RULEMAKING.

(a) INITIAL PUBLICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish regulations implementing this Act in the Federal Register. Such regulations shall allow eligible individuals to immediately apply affirmatively for the relief available under section 3 without being placed in removal proceedings.

(b) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the regulations published pursuant to subsection (a) shall be effective, on an interim basis, immediately upon publication in the Federal Register, but may be subject to change and revision after public notice and opportunity for a period of public comment.

(c) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which interim regulations are published under this section, the Secretary shall publish final regulations implementing this Act.

(d) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—The requirements under chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act"), shall not apply to any action to implement this Act.

SEC. 8. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not disclose or use information provided in applications filed under this Act or in requests for DACA for the purpose of immigration enforcement.

(b) REFERRALS PROHIBITED.—The Secretary may not refer any individual who has been granted permanent resident status on a conditional basis or who was granted DACA to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, or any designee of either such entity.

(c) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), information provided

in an application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis or a request for DACA may be shared with Federal security and law enforcement agencies—

(1) for assistance in the consideration of an application for permanent resident status on a conditional basis;

(2) to identify or prevent fraudulent claims;

(3) for national security purposes; or

(4) for the investigation or prosecution of any felony not related to immigration status.

(d) **PENALTY.**—Any person who knowingly uses, publishes, or permits information to be examined in violation of this section shall be fined not more than \$10,000.

SEC. 9. RESTORATION OF STATE OPTION TO DETERMINE RESIDENCY FOR PURPOSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION BENEFITS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 505 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1623) is repealed.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The repeal under subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the original enactment of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104-208; 110 Stat. 3009-546).

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 389. A bill to deter the trafficking of illicit fentanyl, provide justice for victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 389

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Justice Against Sponsors of Illicit Fentanyl Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) International drug trafficking is a serious and deadly problem that threatens the vital interests of the United States and the safety and health of every community in the United States.

(2) Transnational criminal organizations, cartels, and violent gangs are leading perpetrators of drug trafficking, often combining the manufacture and distribution of synthetic opioids with violence, human smuggling and trafficking, firearms trafficking, and public corruption, and pose a sustained threat to the homeland security of the United States.

(3) Illicit fentanyl is primarily produced in clandestine laboratories and trafficked into the United States in powder and pill form, including fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills.

(4) The People's Republic of China (hereinafter in this section referred to as “China”) is the primary source country of fentanyl precursor chemicals used to manufacture the illicit fentanyl that is trafficked into the United States.

(5) The Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking, established under section 7221 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), reported in 2022 that China, which supplied 70 to 80 percent of fentanyl seized by Federal authorities between 2014 and 2019, has been surpassed by Mexico as the “dominant source” of illicit fentanyl in the United States.

(6) Illicit fentanyl is primarily trafficked by land into the United States through legal ports of entry, as well as between such ports of entry, with some trafficking facilitated by domestic and foreign-based social media and encrypted communication applications.

(7) In fiscal years 2021 and 2022, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized over 24,000 pounds of fentanyl at ports of entry, a 200 percent increase from the amounts seized in fiscal years 2019 and 2020.

(8) Deaths caused by the trafficking of illicit fentanyl have reached epidemic proportions, as—

(A) fentanyl was involved in nearly 200,000 deaths in the United States during the period between 2014 and 2020;

(B) the number of drug overdose deaths in the United States surpassed 100,000 during the period between May 2020 and April 2021, of which over 64,000 deaths were related to fentanyl; and

(C) fentanyl and other synthetic opioids caused approximately ⅓ of more than 107,000 fatal overdoses in the United States during 2021.

(9) Overdose deaths remain a leading cause of injury-related death in the United States, and fentanyl-related deaths are the leading cause of deaths among adults aged 18 to 45.

(10) Failure to meaningfully combat illicit fentanyl trafficking will continue to stress the health care and law enforcement resources of the United States.

(11) It is necessary to recognize the substantive causes of action for aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.).

(12) The decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in *Halberstam v. Welch*, 705 F.2d 472 (D.C. Cir. 1983), which has been widely recognized as the leading case regarding Federal civil aiding and abetting and conspiracy liability, including by the Supreme Court of the United States, provides the proper legal framework for how such liability should function in the context of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.).

(13) Persons, entities, or countries that knowingly or recklessly contribute material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to persons or organizations that pose a significant risk of committing acts of trafficking of illicit fentanyl that threaten the safety and health of nationals of the United States or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States, necessarily direct such conduct at the United States, and should reasonably anticipate being brought to court in the United States to answer for that conduct.

(14) The United States has a compelling interest in providing persons and entities injured as a result of the trafficking of illicit fentanyl into the United States with full access to the court system in order to pursue civil claims against persons, entities, or countries that have knowingly or recklessly provided material support or resources, directly or indirectly, to the persons or organizations responsible for their injuries.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to provide civil litigants with the broadest possible basis, consistent with the Constitution of the United States, to seek relief against persons, entities, and foreign countries, wherever acting and wherever they may be found, that have provided material support, directly or indirectly, to foreign organizations or persons that engage in the trafficking of illicit fentanyl into the United States.

SEC. 3. RESPONSIBILITY OF FOREIGN STATES FOR THE TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL INTO THE UNITED STATES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 97 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1605B the following:

“§ 1605C. Responsibility of foreign states for the trafficking of fentanyl into the united states

“(a) **DEFINITION.**—In this section, the term ‘fentanyl trafficking’ means—

“(1) means any illicit activity—

“(A) to produce, manufacture, distribute, sell, or knowingly finance or transport—

“(i) illicit fentanyl, including any controlled substance that is a synthetic opioid and any listed chemical (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) that is a synthetic opioid utilized for fentanyl production; or

“(ii) active pharmaceutical ingredients or chemicals that are used in the production of fentanyl;

“(B) to attempt to carry out an activity described in subparagraph (A); or

“(C) to assist, abet, conspire, or collude with any other person to carry out an activity described in subparagraph (A);

“(2) a violation of section 401(a)(1) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)(1)) involving manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense, fentanyl or a fentanyl-related substance in or into the United States;

“(3) an attempt or conspiracy to commit a violation described in paragraph (2);

“(4) having manufactured, distributed, or dispensed, or possessed with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense, fentanyl or a fentanyl-related substance outside the United States with the intention of such fentanyl or fentanyl-related substance being distributed or dispensed in or into the United States in violation of section 401(a)(1) or 406 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)(1), 846); or

“(5) having produced or manufactured, distributed, or dispensed, or possessed with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense, a substance that is a precursor to fentanyl or a fentanyl-related substance with the intention of such precursor, fentanyl, or fentanyl-related substance being distributed or dispensed in or into the United States in violation of section 401(a)(1) or 406 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)(1), 846).

“(b) **RESPONSIBILITY OF FOREIGN STATES.**—A foreign state shall not be immune from the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States in any case in which money damages are sought against a foreign state for physical injury to person or property or death occurring in the United States and caused by—

“(1) an act of fentanyl trafficking in or into the United States; and

“(2) a tortious act or acts of the foreign state, or of any official, employee, or agent of that foreign state while acting within the scope of his or her office, employment, or agency, regardless where the tortious act or acts of the foreign state occurred.

“(c) **CLAIMS BY NATIONALS OF THE UNITED STATES.**—

“(1) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term ‘person’ has the meaning given the term in section 1 of title 1.

“(2) **CLAIMS.**—If a foreign state would not be immune under subsection (b) with respect to an act of fentanyl trafficking in or into the United States, a national of the United States may bring a claim against the foreign state in the same manner, and may obtain the same remedies, as a claim with respect to an act of international terrorism brought under section 2333.

“(3) AIDING AND ABETTING LIABILITY.—In an action under paragraph (2) for an injury arising from an act of fentanyl trafficking in or into the United States, liability may be asserted as to any person who aids and abets, by knowingly providing substantial assistance, or who conspires with the person who committed such an act of fentanyl trafficking.

“(4) EFFECT ON OTHER FOREIGN SOVEREIGN IMMUNITIES.—Nothing in paragraph (3) affects immunity of a foreign state from jurisdiction under other law.

“(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—A foreign state shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States under subsection (b) on the basis of an omission or a tortious act or acts that constitute mere negligence.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for chapter 97 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1605B the following:

“1605C. Responsibility of foreign states for the trafficking of fentanyl into the United States.”.

(2) Subsection 1605(g)(1)(A) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “or section 1605B” and inserting “, 1605B, or 1605C”.

SEC. 4. STAY OF ACTIONS PENDING STATE NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION.—The courts of the United States shall have exclusive jurisdiction in any action in which a foreign state is subject to the jurisdiction of a court of the United States under section 1605C of title 28, United States Code, as added by section 3(a) of this Act.

(b) INTERVENTION.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, may intervene in any action in which a foreign state is subject to the jurisdiction of a court of the United States under section 1605C of title 28, United States Code, as added by section 3(a) of this Act, for the purpose of seeking a stay of the civil action, in whole or in part.

(c) STAY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A court of the United States may stay a proceeding against a foreign state in an action brought under section 1605C of title 28, United States Code, as added by section 3(a) of this Act, if the Secretary of State certifies that the United States is engaged in good faith discussions with the foreign state defendant concerning the resolution of the claims against the foreign state, or any other parties as to whom a stay of claims is sought.

(2) DURATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A stay under this section may be granted for not more than 180 days.

(B) EXTENSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may petition the court for an extension of the stay for additional 180-day periods.

(ii) RECERTIFICATION.—A court shall grant an extension under clause (i) if the Secretary of State recertifies that the United States remains engaged in good faith discussions with the foreign state defendant concerning the resolution of the claims against the foreign state, or any other parties as to whom a stay of claims is sought.

SEC. 5. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of a provision or amendment to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and the application of the provisions and amendments to any other person not similarly situated or to other cir-

cumstances, shall not be affected by the holding.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to any civil action—

(1) pending on, or commenced on or after, the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) arising out of an injury to a person, property, or business on or after January 1, 2013.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 38—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. REED submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Armed Services; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 38

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Armed Services (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$5,751,700, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$37,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$11,667 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$9,846,646, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$65,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,108,929, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$27,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$8,333 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 39—AUTHORIZING EXPENSES BY THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

Mr. TESTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred from the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 39

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,430,843, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$58,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,167,160, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$70,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,736,317, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$42,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 40—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. WARNER submitted the following resolution; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 40

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under Senate Resolution 400 (94th Congress), agreed to May 19, 1976, in accordance with its jurisdiction under sections 3(a) and 17 of such Senate Resolution, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by section 5 of such Senate Resolution, the Select Committee on Intelligence (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,963,676, of which amount not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$8,509,160, of which amount not to exceed \$17,144 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,545,483, of which amount not to exceed \$7,143 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 41—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. SCHATZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred from the Committee on Indian Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 41

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions imposed by section 105 of Senate Resolution 4 (95th Congress), agreed to February 4, 1977, and in exercising the authority conferred on it by that section, the Committee on Indian Affairs (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,689,435, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,896,174, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,206,739, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 42—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. SANDERS submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 42

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,327,384, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$12,561,230, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$5,233,846, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 43—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. PETERS submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 43

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate and Senate Resolution 445 (108th Congress), agreed to October 9, 2004, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,688,429, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$13,180,165, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$5,491,734, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$400,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SEC. 4. INVESTIGATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(1) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices, waste, extravagance, conflicts of interest, and the improper expenditure of Government funds in transactions, contracts, and activities of the Government or of Government officials and employees and any and all such improper practices between Government personnel and corporations, individuals, companies, or persons affiliated therewith, doing business with the Government, and the compliance or noncompliance of such corporations, companies, or individuals or other entities with the rules, regulations, and laws governing the various governmental agencies and its relationships with the public;

(2) the extent to which criminal or other improper practices or activities are, or have been, engaged in the field of labor-management relations or in groups or organizations of employees or employers, to the detriment of interests of the public, employers, or employees, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such interests against the occurrence of such practices or activities;

(3) organized criminal activity which may operate in or otherwise utilize the facilities of interstate or international commerce in furtherance of any transactions and the manner and extent to which, and the identity of the persons, firms, or corporations, or other entities by whom such utilization is being made, and further, to study and investigate the manner in which and the extent to which persons engaged in organized criminal activity have infiltrated lawful business enterprise, and to study the adequacy of Federal laws to prevent the operations of organized crime in interstate or international

commerce, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect the public against such practices or activities;

(4) all other aspects of crime and lawlessness within the United States which have an impact upon or affect the national health, welfare, and safety, including but not limited to investment fraud schemes, commodity and security fraud, computer fraud, and the use of offshore banking and corporate facilities to carry out criminal objectives;

(5) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches and functions of the Government with particular reference to—

(A) the effectiveness of present national security methods, staffing, and processes as tested against the requirements imposed by the rapidly mounting complexity of national security problems;

(B) the capacity of present national security staffing, methods, and processes to make full use of the Nation’s resources of knowledge and talents;

(C) the adequacy of present intergovernmental relations between the United States and international organizations principally concerned with national security of which the United States is a member; and

(D) legislative and other proposals to improve these methods, processes, and relationships;

(6) the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government involved in the control and management of energy shortages including, but not limited to, their performance with respect to—

(A) the collection and dissemination of accurate statistics on fuel demand and supply;

(B) the implementation of effective energy conservation measures;

(C) the pricing of energy in all forms;

(D) coordination of energy programs with State and local government;

(E) control of exports of scarce fuels;

(F) the management of tax, import, pricing, and other policies affecting energy supplies;

(G) maintenance of the independent sector of the petroleum industry as a strong competitive force;

(H) the allocation of fuels in short supply by public and private entities;

(I) the management of energy supplies owned or controlled by the Government;

(J) relations with other oil producing and consuming countries;

(K) the monitoring of compliance by governments, corporations, or individuals with the laws and regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(L) research into the discovery and development of alternative energy supplies; and

(7) the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.

(b) EXTENT OF INQUIRIES.—In carrying out the duties provided in subsection (a), the inquiries of this committee or any subcommittee of the committee shall not be construed to be limited to the records, functions, and operations of any particular branch of the Government and may extend to the records and activities of any persons, corporation, or other entity.

(c) SPECIAL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.—For the purposes of this section, the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, or its chairman, or any other member of the committee or subcommittee designated by the chairman is authorized, in its, his, her, or their discretion—

(1) to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of witnesses and production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(2) to hold hearings;

(3) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recess, and adjournment periods of the Senate;

(4) to administer oaths; and

(5) to take testimony, either orally or by sworn statement, or, in the case of staff members of the Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, by deposition in accordance with the Committee Rules of Procedure.

(d) AUTHORITY OF OTHER COMMITTEES.—Nothing contained in this section shall affect or impair the exercise of any other standing committee of the Senate of any power, or the discharge by such committee of any duty, conferred or imposed upon it by the Standing Rules of the Senate or by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

(e) SUBPOENA AUTHORITY.—All subpoenas and related legal processes of the committee and any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee authorized under Senate Resolution 70 (117th Congress), agreed to February 24, 2021, are authorized to continue.

SENATE RESOLUTION 44—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MANCHIN submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 44

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,145,833, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$17,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$8,750 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30,

2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,107,142, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$15,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,961,309, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$12,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$6,250 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 45—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE CURRENT INFLUX OF MIGRANTS IS CAUSING A CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 45

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the current influx of migrants at the southern land border of the United States constitutes a crisis.

SENATE RESOLUTION 46—PROVIDING FOR SUFFICIENT TIME FOR LEGISLATION TO BE READ

Mr. PAUL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 46

Resolved,

SECTION 1. TIME FOR READING OF LEGISLATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order for the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, message, conference report, amendment between the Houses, amendment, treaty, or other measure or matter until 1 session day has passed since introduction for every 20 pages included in the measure or matter in the usual form plus 1 session day for any number of remaining pages less than 20 in the usual form.

(b) POINT OF ORDER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Senator may raise a point of order that consideration of any bill, resolution, message, conference report, amendment, treaty, or other measure or matter is not in order under subsection (a). A motion to table the point of order shall not be in order.

(2) WAIVER.—Paragraph (1) may be waived or suspended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn. All motions to waive under this paragraph shall be debatable collectively for not to exceed 3 hours equally divided between the Senator raising the point of order and the Senator moving to waive the point of order or their designees. A motion to waive the point of order shall not be amendable.

(c) CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.—This resolution is adopted pursuant to the power granted to each House of Congress to determine the Rules of its Proceedings in article I, section 5, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 47—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BROWN submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 47

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and

the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,673,169, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$11,666 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$875 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$8,029,104, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$1,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,351,791, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$8,334 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$625 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 48—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 48

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”) is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

- (1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
- (2) employ personnel; and
- (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,212,203, of which amount—

- (1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and
- (2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,220,919, of which amount—

- (1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and
- (2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,008,716, of which amount—

- (1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and
- (2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

- (A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;
- (B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;
- (C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;
- (D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;
- (E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;
- (F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or
- (G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

- (1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;
- (2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and
- (3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 49—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY’S ESPIONAGE MISSION TO SEND A SURVEILLANCE BALLOON ACROSS THE UNITED STATES, IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, IS UNACCEPTABLE AND SHOULD BE CONDEMNED

Mr. HAWLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 49

Whereas, on January 28, 2023, the Chinese Communist Party flew a balloon aircraft into United States airspace in Alaska to conduct surveillance;

Whereas, on January 31, 2023, the Chinese surveillance balloon reentered United States airspace over Idaho;

Whereas, on February 1, 2023, the Chinese surveillance balloon was seen over Montana;

Whereas, on February 2, 2023, the Department of Defense confirmed its detection and tracking of the Chinese “high-altitude surveillance balloon”;

Whereas, on February 3, 2023, the Chinese surveillance balloon was seen over Missouri; and

Whereas, at 2:39pm on February 4, 2023, the United States military shot down the Chinese surveillance balloon using a single AIM-9X air-to-air missile fired from a F-22 Raptor off the coast of Surfside Beach, South Carolina: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the Chinese Communist Party’s invasion of United States airspace to conduct surveillance;

(2) affirms that it is the policy of the United States to protect the sovereignty and integrity of United States airspace from foreign and hostile state actors, especially the People’s Republic of China; and

(3) calls on the President to be transparent with the American people and Congress regarding this latest spying incident and all other attempts by the Chinese Communist Party to conduct surveillance on United States citizens, territory, and assets.

SENATE RESOLUTION 50—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. WYDEN submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Finance; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 50

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Finance is authorized from March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023; October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$6,820,289, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$17,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$5,833 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$11,691,923 of which amount (1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(c) For the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,871,634, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$12,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended), and (2) not to exceed \$4,166 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved

by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services, or (7) for payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

(b) There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024; and October 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025, to be paid from the Appropriations account for Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 51—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. CANTWELL submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 51

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation (in this resolution referred to as the "committee") is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

- (1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
- (2) employ personnel; and
- (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$5,837,726, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$10,134,183, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,236,948, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations" of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 52—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on the Budget; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 52

Resolved,

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Sen-

ate, the Committee on the Budget (in this resolution referred to as the "committee") is authorized from March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2025, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. EXPENSES.

(a) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, under this resolution shall not exceed \$4,368,375, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$15,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$18,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, under this resolution shall not exceed \$7,488,643, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2025.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, under this resolution shall not exceed \$3,120,268, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of the committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. EXPENSES AND AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations

account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee—

(1) for the period March 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;

(2) for the period October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025.

SENATE RESOLUTION 53—ESTABLISHING A WOMEN’S BILL OF RIGHTS TO REAFFIRM LEGAL PROTECTIONS AFFORDED TO WOMEN UNDER FEDERAL LAW

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LEE, and Mrs. BRITT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 53

Whereas males and females possess unique and immutable biological differences that manifest prior to birth and increase as they age and experience puberty;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that only females may get pregnant, give birth, and breastfeed children;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes mean that males are, on average, larger in size and possess greater body strength than females;

Whereas biological differences between the sexes can expose females to more harm than males from specific forms of violence, including sexual violence;

Whereas women have achieved inspirational and significant accomplishments in education, athletics, and employment; and

Whereas recent misguided court rulings related to the definition of “sex” have led to endangerment of spaces and resources dedicated to women, thereby necessitating clarification of certain terms: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms that—

(1) for the purposes of Federal law, the “sex” of an individual means his or her biological sex (either male or female) at birth;

(2) for the purposes of Federal laws addressing sex, the terms “woman” and “girl” refer to human females, and the terms “man” and “boy” refer to human males;

(3) for the purposes of Federal law, the word “mother” means a parent of the female sex and “father” is defined as a parent of the male sex;

(4) there are important reasons to distinguish between the sexes with respect to athletics, prisons, domestic violence shelters, restrooms, and other areas, particularly where biology, safety, and privacy are implicated;

(5) policies and laws that distinguish between the sexes are subject to intermediate constitutional scrutiny and permitted when they serve an important governmental objective and are substantially related to achieving that objective; and

(6) for the purposes of complying with Federal laws that require State and local government agencies to collect or report data disaggregated by sex, such as Federal anti-discrimination laws, agencies are required to base such data on the biological sex of individuals at birth.

SENATE RESOLUTION 54—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 2023 AS “MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH”

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. TESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 54

Whereas music has been present in every known human culture throughout history and modern times;

Whereas music is one of the most important manifestations of the cultural heritage of the United States, as music embodies our national identity and illustrates our shared history;

Whereas music education helps communities share ideas and values among cultures and generations, promoting a more cooperative and inclusive citizenry;

Whereas singing has existed in classrooms in the United States since before the signing of the Declaration of Independence;

Whereas, in 1838, music as its own curriculum was first adopted by public authority in the public schools of Boston, Massachusetts;

Whereas the development of a musical people has been and remains dependent on a public commitment to the teaching of music in all schools;

Whereas State legislatures and educational agencies have supported music as part of the regular school curriculum;

Whereas the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95; 129 Stat. 1802) identified music as part of a well-rounded education;

Whereas music is a means for exploring the emotional and aesthetic dimensions of the human experience;

Whereas music holds intrinsic value as an art form, providing opportunity for self-expression, fellowship, and spiritual fulfillment;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music programs promotes student engagement, leading to improved social and academic outcomes, particularly for at-risk students;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music programs also promotes cognitive, social, and emotional development, exercising skills valuable to the workforce such as motivation, attentiveness, self-discipline, teamwork, persistence, empathy, respect, and leadership; and

Whereas students attending public school in urban or rural communities, public schools with a high percentage of students from low-income families, and public schools that are majority Black, Hispanic, or Native American, experience the most inequity in access to music education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of “Music in Our Schools Month”; and

(2) recognizes—

(A) the fundamental importance of music to the culture of the United States;

(B) the long history of music as an integral part of the schools in the United States;

(C) the disparate access to high-quality music education that exists across the United States; and

(D) the need to do more to support the teaching and learning of music in public schools.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. REED. Madam President, I have 15 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an organizational meeting.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 117-263, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN of Maryland.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94-304, as amended by Public Law 99-7, ap-

points the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) during the 118th Congress: The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN of Maryland (and designate him Co-Chairman).

The Chair announced on behalf of the Committee on Finance, pursuant to section 8002 of title 26, U.S. Code, the designation of the following Senators as members of the Joint Committee on Taxation: The Senator from Oregon, Mr. WYDEN; The Senator from Michigan, Ms. STABENOW; The Senator from Washington, Ms. CANTWELL; The Senator from Idaho, Mr. CRAPO; and The Senator from Iowa, Mr. GRASSLEY.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 299

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 299) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. PETERS. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 185

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 185) to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

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

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023

Mr. PETERS. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, February 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Mendez-Miro nomination.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. PETERS. 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 4:29 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 13, 2023, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate February 9, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

DEANDREA GIST BENJAMIN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT.