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No. 121

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at 9 a.m.

## Senate

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021

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

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who alone spreads out the heavens and rules the raging of the sea, give our lawmakers wisdom to draw near to You. May they daily seek Your presence as they reflect on Your sacred Word. Guide them with Your instructions, keeping them from falling in life's slippery places. May they strive to please and honor You by living with integrity.

Mighty God, since we have You, what else could we possibly want on Earth?

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, July 12, 2021.

To the Senate:

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

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

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

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights).

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, 6 months ago, the Democratic majority began this Congress by aggressively confronting the COVID crisis. We passed the American Rescue Plan—one of the largest Federal stimulus measures in history—to help bring an end to the economic downturn and prime our economy to come roaring back. Now, millions of Americans have come off the unemployment rolls, and small businesses have reopened from coast to coast. More than 150 million Americans have been fully vaccinated. We need, of course, to keep up the effort to inoculate the rest of the country, but suffice it to say, we are well on our way to bringing the country out of chaos, out of crisis, and back to normal. But the task is not done.

As our country reopens and Americans return to work, we must turn our attention to laying a foundation for the future. This upcoming work period will focus on exactly that: building a foundation for future American prosperity for years and decades to come through smart and bold investments in our Nation's infrastructure.

As I have said for weeks, the discussions about infrastructure legislation continue along two tracks. On the bipartisan track, our committees are getting closer to turning the recent agreement between the White House and the bipartisan infrastructure group into legislation. I am pleased to report

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



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we are making very good progress toward that goal. On the second track, the Senate Budget Committee is close to finalizing a budget resolution, which will allow the Senate to move forward with the remaining parts of the American Jobs and Families Plan. The Senate must pass the budget resolution and an eventual budget reconciliation bill with or without Republican support.

The fact of the matter is, brick-and-mortar infrastructure is very important, but it is no longer the only type of infrastructure that matters in the 21st century. Human infrastructure—what many might call family support as our families come under increasing pressure in this modern society, things like childcare, family leave, education, healthcare—are just as essential to giving our citizens opportunity as building roads and bridges and railways. Both are very important. Twenty-first century investment in broadband internet, the electric grid, and retrofitting our economy to fight climate change in bold ways are just as important as roads and bridges and railways. We must do both. It is not one or the other, and we are going to do both.

Before the week work period is over, it is my intention for the Senate to hold votes on the bipartisan infrastructure bill and a budget resolution. Members should prepare for a busier work period than usual, with the possibility of late-night votes, weekend votes, and changes to the August schedule. It is not going to be easy, but it is certainly going to be worth it.

The Federal Government has not made a significant stand-alone investment in infrastructure in decades. We have the world's largest economy, and yet our infrastructure ranks 13th. America has less generous family support policies than so many of our peers who are not as wealthy as we are. It is time to rebuild our infrastructure, create millions of good-paying jobs—particularly to those who haven't been able to get good-paying jobs—and help American families keep up with rising expenses. If and when we succeed, the benefits—the benefits—will reverberate across the country for generations to come.

#### NOMINATIONS

Madam President, on nominations, the Senate will also continue to confirm highly qualified nominations to the Biden administration.

This week, the Senate will confirm Uzra Zeya to serve as Under Secretary of State and Julie Su to serve as Deputy Secretary of Labor. Both Ms. Zeya and Ms. Su will add to the expertise, dedication, and diversity of President Biden's administration. As the week progresses, Members should be advised there will be additional votes, in all likelihood, on additional nominees.

Judicial appointments remain one of our highest priorities. Later this week, the Judiciary Committee will vote to advance five additional judges: two circuit court nominees, including Ms. Eu-

nice Lee—one of the great public defenders not only in New York but in the country whom I am proud to recommend to the Second Circuit—and three district court nominees.

The Senate has already confirmed more circuit and district court judges before July 4 than during the first year of any Presidency in recent history. We will continue this critical work in the months to come and restore balance, much needed balance, to the Federal judiciary.

#### CHILD TAX CREDIT

Madam President, on one final matter, the child tax credit—this, the biggest effort in over 50 years to reduce childhood poverty in America—begins on Thursday. Later this week, tens of millions of American families are going to see extra money hit their bank accounts when the first payments of the newly expanded child tax credit are disbursed across the country.

When Senate Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan in March, we included a provision to provide the majority of parents \$3,600 per year for every child under 6 and \$3,000 for every child between 6 and 17. These payments, I am happy to say, are ready to begin this week, which means that, soon, most families with kids will start receiving \$300 each month for each child under 6 and \$250 each month for each child 6 to 17.

I want American families to know, if you filed your taxes in either 2019 or 2020 or both, you will get these payments automatically; you will see them in your bank accounts without lifting a finger. For those who for whatever reason didn't file taxes in the past 2 years, I strongly urge you to go online and register at [irs.gov/childtaxcredit](https://irs.gov/childtaxcredit)—let me repeat that: [irs.gov/childtaxcredit](https://irs.gov/childtaxcredit)—or contact your representative for assistance.

These payments are going to make an incredible difference to millions and millions of American families struggling with the cost of childcare and groceries and housing and healthcare. Recent estimates by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities predict that more than 4 million children—4 million children—will be lifted out of poverty. Childhood poverty in America cut almost in half—what an amazing thing that is.

Just this morning, I met with a group of parents in New York whose lives would dramatically improve thanks to this policy. Listening to their stories, I was moved to hear the relief in their voices that an extra little help is coming their way and the hope in their voices about giving their children a better future.

This is an example of the difference between a Democratic and a Republican majority in the Senate. As Leader McConnell openly reminds everyone, not a single Republican voted in favor of expanding the child tax credit through the American Rescue Plan.

I am so proud that Democrats found a way to help American families, help

American kids with a brighter, stronger future despite unanimous Republican opposition. I believe that now we must press on and make these expanded payments a permanent part of our Tax Code.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today is the first day of what could be a productive and maybe even historic few weeks in the Senate. I hope we can live up to the challenges we are facing.

July 6 was a historic day in my home State of Illinois. For the first time in 476 days, Illinois went 24 hours without losing a life to COVID-19. During the deadliest days of this pandemic, Illinois was losing more than 150 people a day to COVID. As our Governor, JB Pritzker, said on the 6th, "The vaccines have done the work. Thank God for the vaccines." I couldn't have said it better.

Seventy percent of eligible Illinois residents have received at least one dose of those lifesaving COVID vaccines, including 90 percent of seniors. But we are at a critical moment in Illinois and across our Nation. With the new, more dangerous Delta variant now spreading rapidly across the Nation, people who are unvaccinated are at greater risk than ever of becoming sick and even facing death from COVID. I hope we can stop the division and disinformation and figure out how to protect the people from this deadly foe.

I want to say a word about an issue I read this morning in an article in the New York Times. The author of the article, Tiffany Hsu, titled the article "Anti-Vaccination Rhetoric Creeps From Fringe to Fox Prime Time." It is a lengthy article, and I commend it to everyone to read it on their own. It raises some important questions.

If our sacred right to free speech can be limited by the time-honored test of crying "fire" in a crowded theater, is there any limit to extreme political rhetoric in the midst of a pandemic?

We know the Republican Party is enthralled by Donald Trump. They have bought the Big Lie. A half to two-thirds of Republicans believe that he actually won the last election, and he didn't. Twenty-nine percent of Republicans believe that Donald Trump will be reinstated as President, triumphantly returning from exile to take over the White House again. Many of them believe that he will return to Washington soon.

Well, there was an interesting scene on the grounds of the Capitol when I

returned today from Illinois. For the first time since January 6, the fence that was erected to hold back the insurrectionist mob was removed. We hope that we are prepared now to protect this Capitol and can get back to business as usual, but we have to recruit additional Capitol Hill Police to be prepared, we have to work with the National Guard units to be prepared, and we have to realize the obvious. There was a decision made on the floor of the U.S. Senate by the Republican Senate leader just a few weeks ago to stop any bipartisan effort to establish a Commission to ask what happened on January 6 and how it can be avoided in the future. Senator MCCONNELL objected to a bipartisan, evenly-split Commission to investigate that terrible day. The GOP Senate leader killed that idea several weeks ago.

I want to commend Speaker PELOSI, who is trying her best through a special committee in the House of Representatives to have a bipartisan investigation. It should have been done through this Commission. Senator MCCONNELL stopped it.

There is one other element I would like to raise when it comes to free speech in the time of pandemic. What caught my eye in this morning's paper, as I mentioned earlier, was this article about FOX Primetime. They recounted the fact that over the last several months, FOX had been losing ground to CNN, and questioning the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines became a split decision at the FOX network.

Some of the leaders at FOX obviously believe strongly in the vaccine, and I commend them. I do too. Rupert Murdoch was vaccinated in December.

When a list of those who supported the effort to encourage the use of vaccines across America was taken at FOX, they put together a 30-second spot featuring host and anchor Steve Doocy, Harris Faulkner, Dana Perino, and John Roberts. Ms. Faulkner said in that ad by FOX: "If you can, get the vaccine." Bret Baier, chief political anchor at FOX News, said in an Instagram post that he was grateful for the shot of vaccine. The hosts of "FOX & Friends" spoke of the relief they felt in becoming vaccinated. Sean Hannity himself said:

I do believe in science, and I believe in vaccinations. Talk to your doctor. You don't need to talk to people on TV and radio that aren't doctors.

Which goes to the point of this message. There are two hosts of programs on FOX Primetime who can only be characterized as anti-vax quacks. I am referring, of course, to Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham. They have been spreading what I consider to be irresponsible information about vaccines across America and about the effort of this Nation to deal with them.

Here is the reality. We have millions who have died across the world from this virus. We may never have an accurate count. We have hundreds of thousands who have died in the United

States. Now it is said repeatedly that those who are headed to the hospital with the most serious strains of COVID-19—99.5 percent of them were not vaccinated. So the facts are obvious here.

I know it is an individual decision on whether to be vaccinated, and I am sure there may be some Senators who have decided not to do it, but I was happy to do it as soon as I could. I think the vaccines are protecting me and my wife and my family. But in the meantime, to have these hosts of TV shows at FOX, in prime time, peddling this nonsense about vaccines being unnecessary and COVID-19 being no threat can only be summarized in a statement which concluded this article:

In a recent opinion essay for The Daily Beast by Preston Padden, a former high-level executive at Fox Broadcasting wrote that Fox News had "contributed substantially and directly" to "the unnecessary deaths of many Americans by fueling hesitation and doubt about the efficacy and safety of life-saving Covid-19 vaccines." He singled out the channel's prime-time opinion programs for blame.

I want to commend those at FOX who have stood up and said the right thing about these vaccines, but I also want to take issue with those who are using this vaccine, for whatever purpose, to mislead and confuse American people about its necessity, its effectiveness, and its safety. They are not doing America any favors, and I hope that FOX will come to its senses.

If there are things that can remove you from the air for being said on a program, I certainly hope that the management of the station will caution Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham for the statements they have made in opposition to vaccines.

#### GUN VIOLENCE

Madam President, the Fourth of July, of course, is a night when you may not be able to get to bed early, with a lot of fireworks in celebration of our Nation's birthday, and it is celebrated from one corner of America to the next. But sadly, in many places on this Fourth of July, the noise you were hearing was not fireworks; it was gunfire.

One hundred and four people were shot in Chicago. One hundred and four people were shot in Chicago on the Fourth of July weekend. Nineteen died. Among the wounded were 13 children and 2 Chicago police supervisors. The dead included, in Chicago, a National Guard member who was aspiring to join the Chicago Police Department.

The week before the holiday, a 1-month-old baby girl was shot in the head during a mass shooting. A 20-year-old University of Chicago student, just riding on the L train, coming home from an internship at an investment firm in The Loop, was hit by a stray bullet. He, too, died.

Two days after the Fourth of July weekend, two ATF agents and a Chicago police officer on an undercover

operation were shot and wounded. It was the 36th Chicago police officer shot this year.

This is madness. Chicago is not alone with this gun violence experience. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are just cruel taunts if anyone can be cut down anywhere in this great country by gunfire.

Gun violence is a national crisis. At least 233 people were killed, and 618 people were injured by gunfire in the United States over the Fourth of July weekend, according to the Gun Violence Archive. Shootings are up this year in big cities but also in suburbs and rural areas. Don't believe it is only blue cities. It is blue cities and red cities and purple cities and small towns.

Already this year, there have been nearly 23,000 gun violence deaths in America. Did you hear that? This year, 23,000 gun violence deaths in America—that includes more than 12,000 by suicide and fatalities from more than 340 mass shootings. Sadly, virtually every weekend there is a mass shooting in the city of Chicago, which I represent—340 mass shootings, nearly 2 a day.

No other nation on Earth experiences this massive civilian slaughter. Neither should we. We must do more to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and others who are prohibited from having them.

I met with the mayor of Chicago to talk about the Fourth of July weekend. We both agreed that more has to be done, and we are determined to work with President Biden, who is committed to this issue as well. But we also believe that we need to enforce the laws that are on the books. Specifically, we need to make sure that guns are not being sold to people without a background check.

Convicted felons have no business buying a gun, nor do people who are mentally unstable. But, unfortunately, they can. There are many loopholes in the law. There are ways to sell these guns at a gun show, without a background check, or over the internet or ghost guns, which have no, basically, identifying serial number.

We have to do more to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, and we can if we will just stand up—both parties stand up—and say: Enough. This is ridiculous, it is cruel, and it is heart-breaking.

I have spoken with the mayor about the crisis in Chicago, and President Biden did the same when he came to Illinois last week. Today, the President is meeting at the White House with law enforcement, local elected officials, and others to discuss his administration's efforts to reduce gun crimes.

The American Rescue Plan, which passed the U.S. Senate without a single Republican vote in support, included funding that communities can use for youth unemployment programs, mental health services, and other strategies to break the cycle of violence. The COVID rescue plan also included funding for local law enforcement to improve community policing practices.

The Republicans like to make a big thing about the statements from some people about defunding the police. I never supported that, and most of the people I know had nothing to do with it. But here they are defunding the police themselves and voting against the American Rescue Plan.

That plan is going to provide law enforcement more resources. We want that money to be spent properly, and we certainly want law enforcement to discharge their duties in a professional way. But additional resources can be and will be used effectively. I am sorry that not one single Republican Senator voted for that plan. I think it is not defunding the police; it is defending the police with the American Rescue Plan provisions.

President Biden's American Jobs Plan, which we are now going to consider soon, is an opportunity for us to consider \$5 billion to fund community violence prevention programs. I have introduced my bill, the RISE from Trauma Act, which would implement the proposal by funding trusted members of the community to tackle trauma and the pain that is at the root of violence.

Last month, the President announced the creation of a new strike force, to be headed by the Justice Department, that will crack down on illegal drug trafficking in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay area, and Washington, DC. I support this step.

#### NOMINATION OF DAVID H. CHIPMAN

Madam President, we have before us a nomination. I am not sure when it will be called, but it was a product of our Judiciary Committee. David Chipman was nominated by President Biden, to serve as the next Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Madam President, you know the answer to this question but most don't: When was the last time that Agency had a Director chosen by Congress through the orderly process? Well, it was about 6 years ago. That was the last time. It turned out to be the only time in the history of the Agency.

But why would an Agency of the government go on for years without a duly selected Director? Well, it was an intentional strategy by those gun groups to make sure that this Agency, as important as it is, didn't have a leader, and as a consequence was not as effective as it should be.

David Chipman was born in New Hampshire and has a B.S. from American University and an M.S. from Johns Hopkins. In our committee, we recognized the fact that he had 25 years of law enforcement experience. He is a responsible gun owner himself, and he has advocated for commonsense gun safety measures.

I think he is well qualified to serve as the head of the ATF. He spent decades working in that Agency, including serving as a special agent in Virginia, Texas, and Michigan. He would be the

first former ATF agent to head the Bureau, and this experience has equipped him with the skills he needs.

Chipman would only be the second confirmed Director in the Agency's history, as I mentioned. A lifelong gun owner, he knows firsthand the responsibility of gun ownership and the commonsense safety measures that go hand in hand with it.

He is uniquely positioned to counter a false narrative, pushed by the gun lobby, that he has a radical or somehow contrary to the Second Amendment view.

Chipman's knowledge of firearms and gun policy is unparalleled. He gained his insight not only working in law enforcement but also as an adviser to one of the Nation's top violence prevention organizations.

Congress and the Biden administration must take action to address gun violence in the city of Chicago, in the city of Springfield, IL, and all across this Nation. It is an urgent issue for all of us. That is why we should pick, as quickly as we can, a leader like David Chipman to lead the ATF Agency.

#### CLIMATE

Madam President, I will conclude by saying that this has been an unusual weather time in our country. We have seen things happening that are unparalleled in history—extreme weather in the Chicago area, tornadoes, to the baking 120-degree heat of the Northwest, to even a warning of a tornado here in Washington, DC. Strange things are occurring.

When you hear about these wildfires in California and Oregon, there is a natural inclination, if you don't live in that area, to dismiss them, to say: That didn't happen in my backyard—not in my backyard. Well, I have to say, we ought to wake up to the reality. Extreme weather and the results of global warming are coming to everyone's backyard. We have to come to the realization that it is time for us to prepare this Nation to turn back the impacts of climate change and global warming. Those fires are burning in California and Oregon, but they reflect the situation which is dangerous for all of us.

We are waiting to investigate and bring in engineering groups with the Surfside, FL, building collapse, that terrible tragedy which claimed, I am sure, I am sad to say, over 100 lives. We think climate change may have had something to do with that. The rising water table and the infiltration of saltwater from the oceans may have caused the decline in the stability of the foundation of that building. We will only know after the engineers can look at it more closely.

In the area of the Great Lakes—we love our Great Lakes—Lake Michigan is one of the most beloved aspects of our State and in the city of Chicago, but 2 or 3 days ago, in the New York Times, there was a front-page story about what is happening with the Great Lakes and the instability of that

region. We are taking it seriously. I am glad to say that President Biden has joined in restoring the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which President Obama began.

The Great Lakes are a great asset, but they are also a great reminder that we all face climate change in our own home areas.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### NOMINATION OF JEN EASTERLY

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

Before the Senate adjourned for the July 4 holiday, I stood right here and urged my colleagues to confirm her for this vital position. I was disappointed that a Republican colleague blocked Ms. Easterly's swift confirmation at that time, but I appreciate that he has now resolved his concerns and that we can move forward today.

I warned that, without confirming Ms. Easterly, we risked leaving ourselves vulnerable to cyber attacks, and in the 2 weeks since I last called on my colleagues to approve this critical nomination, nation-state actors and criminal organizations have continued their relentless targeting of the United States.

Over the July 4 weekend, we learned that U.S. software company Kaseya was the target of a major ransomware attack that has impacted hundreds and possibly thousands of businesses and organizations worldwide. Days later, we saw reports that a Republican National Committee contractor had been attacked in an attempt to target the RNC.

Unfortunately, these are only the latest of several recent cyber attacks that threaten our government, critical infrastructure, and key industries. These attackers will stop at nothing to infiltrate our networks, and we urgently need qualified, Senate-confirmed cyber security leaders in place to fight back.

With more than three decades of cyber security expertise and service in the public and private sectors, Ms. Easterly is more than qualified to lead CISA. We need her in place immediately so she can get to work with agencies, businesses, and others to recover from recent cyber attacks and to strengthen cyber security defenses before the next attack.

I appreciate that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have withdrawn their objections and that the

Senate is prepared to confirm this highly qualified nominee on a bipartisan basis. I certainly look forward to working with her and with my friends on both sides of the aisle here in Congress to shore up cyber security vulnerabilities and keep American families, businesses, and the Federal Government secure.

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination, Calendar No. 176.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jen Easterly, of New York, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate and that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all without intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, 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.

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

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

#### CUBA

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, this weekend, the people of Cuba rose up in opposition to their repressive socialist government.

I think it is important to be clear on that point because much of the mainstream media that is reporting on these protests makes it sound as if everything is pandemic related, but what is happening in Cuba is not an economic fluke, and every single person serving in this body, working in the media, and analyzing the policy implications knows better than to say otherwise.

This isn't the pop socialism touted by the American left. It is not fashionable. There is no empowerment or equality in the socialist regime; there

is just starvation, shortages, violence, and failure. For 62 years, the ruling Communists have bled the Cuban people dry, and now armed thugs have taken to the streets to repress the opposition at any cost.

Make no mistake, this is a test for President Biden. He must draw a line in the sand.

I call on my colleagues in the majority and on President Biden and the members of his Cabinet to join me in supporting all who would risk their lives to expose the ravages of socialism in Cuba.

We must lead in discussions with the U.N. and the EU and coordinate opposition to this violence being carried out against the people of Cuba.

We must demand that the Cuban Government allow for a free and open internet and initiate investigations into if and how Havana used technology supported by the Chinese Communist Party to cut off access to the internet just as the protests started gaining mainstream attention.

We cannot stand by while Communist thugs gun down their own people. We cannot let this become another Venezuela.

Just as we stand with the freedom fighters suffering in Hong Kong, on mainland China, and in other socialist regimes around the world, we must stand with the people of Cuba.

#### BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Madam President, meanwhile, we are 6 months into a new era in American politics. The Biden administration is still treating government like a graduate seminar, and the American people are still wondering when their President is going to stop catering to the radical left and start doing his job.

As I was back home in Tennessee, I found out many Tennesseans are absolutely disgusted. They have decided that our Democratic colleagues are not serious about doing serious work. Their priorities and the President's priorities have never been further apart.

They are looking at those line items the administration is checking off, and all they can see is what the administration refuses to acknowledge; that there are very real consequences to this out-of-control agenda.

When President Biden killed the Keystone XL Pipeline, Tennesseans did not cheer. All they saw on the horizon were higher gas prices and a vulnerable fuel supply chain.

Not 4 months after Biden signed the Executive order, the Colonial Pipeline hack showed us what can happen when something interrupts the supply chain.

When President Biden opened the border, they knew better than to believe all the hype about this so-called solution to our immigration crisis, and their instincts were spot on. Now the chaos tearing apart communities in the American Southwest is bleeding into communities in Tennessee.

For Democrats here in DC, all of those line items came with zero consequences. Instead of focusing on re-

ality, they are making policy based on a perfect world scenario where consequences are simply collateral damage.

Of course, here in the real world, when you talk about collateral damage, you are really referring to the people who pay the price for all of these absurd policies.

You know, we read a lot in the news these days about what a struggle it is for the Senate majority to get their bills to the President's desk.

No struggle over legislation or pay-fors will ever compare to what you are putting the average American through. If we want to talk about pay-fors, let's talk about how Americans are supposed to pay for gas to get to and from work. What happens when they just can't afford it anymore?

Inflation is already taking a toll on the average family's ability to pay for their weekly groceries. Supply chain problems have made concerns over paying for raw materials like lumber obsolete. There is nothing to pay for.

The American people have lost so many simple things that used to be not easy but manageable. But now, when they ask Washington to shape up and give them a break, all they get in return is the assurance that struggle and loss is all part of the plan.

It is July, and we still haven't seen a reasonable infrastructure proposal. No, instead, what we have is a truly insulting two-bill scheme that Senate Democrats concocted in lieu of a mandate for their radical environmental agenda.

What will the American people get from this scheme? Well, just a fraction of what could be the largest spending initiative in history will go toward the roads, bridges, and broadband connections that people actually need and are willing to pay for.

If Democrats want the more radical line items, they will have to force it through by abusing the reconciliation process. In a sane world, this wouldn't even be a choice. They wouldn't do it because Democrats know that the kind of spending they are talking about will exacerbate inflation and increase the deficit.

Meanwhile, Senate Democrats have all but ignored their duty to keep the country secure. In May, Customs and Border Protection caught more than 180,000 people trying to cross our southern border. Drug seizures were up 18 percent across the Nation. As of the end of June this year, CBP has arrested more than 1 million migrants trying to come into this country. That is right. By the end of June, CBP has arrested more than 1 million migrants trying to come into the country.

This is a vulnerability, and I would ask my Democratic colleagues and President Biden why they are not more concerned about it.

I would also ask why they are not more concerned about the impending collapse in Afghanistan. The dominos are falling. Iran wasted no time stepping in to negotiate a deal between the Afghan Government and the Taliban.

Let's be clear what the Biden administration has done here. By turning their backs on 20 years of hard work and sacrifice in Afghanistan, they created a power vacuum in a strategically important region, knowing that the world's most belligerent state sponsor of terror was waiting to fill the gap.

It is time for President Biden to start listening to the people paying the price for his radical agenda. They feel like they are losing their country. They are talking to us about their fear of losing their country and their freedom. They are out of time, and I will tell you what, they are about to be out of patience.

If you bothered to ask them what they want, they would tell you get the spending under control; keep this country and our allies safe; and stop distracting yourself with wish list projects that serve no one but the most radical elements of the Democratic Party. They are not willing to pay for that wish list.

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

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

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, ahead of the last work period, Senator SCHUMER, the majority leader, outlined his designed-to-fail agenda. He forecasted a series of votes on legislation that stood zero chance of actually passing—legislation to exploit the cause of pay fairness to line the pockets of trial lawyers, to erode Americans' Second Amendment rights, to force schools and hospitals to comply with "woke" social norms, and, of course, the marquee bill, a partisan takeover of our elections.

It was obvious from the outset that this agenda wasn't designed to achieve results. It takes bipartisanship. It takes rolling up your sleeves and working to build bipartisan consensus to get things done in the Senate—especially so in an equally divided Senate as we have now.

Rather than put forward a number of bills that would earn that sort of bipartisan support and actually pass, Senator SCHUMER chose to spend most of the Senate's time last month putting on a show for the so-called progressive base of his party, and I expect even more political theater this month.

So in the next few weeks, we are told, our Democratic colleagues will put their dual-track legislative approach to the test. One of those tracks will include a heavy dose of bipartisanship, and that is something I applaud.

Contrary to public opinion, Republicans and Democrats in the Senate spend a lot of time working together. So far this year, we have worked together to counter threats from China,

support small businesses impacted by the pandemic, and combat the increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans. We have done all of that together in a bipartisan way. Bipartisan solutions are also being crafted to address other major issues, from the border crisis, to drug pricing, to police reform.

In the coming weeks, the Senate is expected to vote on one of those bipartisan agreements; that is, to rebuild and maintain our Nation's infrastructure. The process that brought us to this point certainly has been a roller coaster. After weeks of back-and-forth negotiations, a group of more than 20 Senators reached an agreement with the White House just last month. But here is when things got very strange. Within minutes of the announcement, the President himself put the fate of that agreement into question. He said he wouldn't sign the bill unless Democrats paired it with a multitrillion-dollar reconciliation bill that would include a smorgasbord of leftist spending priorities and trillions in higher taxes and more debt for Americans. Talk about whiplash. Both Republicans and Democrats were caught off guard. That hadn't been part of the discussions or negotiation. That isn't what they said they agreed to.

Well, the reversal and unexpected announcement from the President that, even though they were announcing a deal, they didn't have a deal, prompted a weekend press cleanup, and the President issued a lengthy statement clarifying that it was not a veto threat. But we have no reason to suspect that the larger sentiment has changed.

In a letter to his Democratic colleagues last Friday, the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, said the Senate will consider both the bipartisan deal on infrastructure and the partisan budget resolution with reconciliation instructions. The bipartisan deal is very much tied to the fate of a completely partisan reconciliation bill, notwithstanding President Biden's cleanup after his unexpected announcement at the White House.

Our Democratic colleagues don't have to listen to me, but I do believe they would be wise to avoid this path. They already went on a nearly \$2 trillion spending binge earlier this year and sidelined every single Republican in the Congress during the process.

They tried to bill this ultrapartisan legislation as COVID-19 relief, but we all know that only about 10 percent of the bill was directly related to the pandemic and only 1 percent was tied to vaccinating the American people. The rest, 90 percent, was exactly the type of thing you would expect to see in a bill that has only the support of our Democratic colleagues—funding for climate justice, backdoor money for Planned Parenthood, and more funding for State and local governments than they know what to do with. Blue States are using that money to pay down old debts with the funding. Our Democratic colleagues claim that money

was necessary for pandemic relief, but that is not what it is being used for.

So how are we faring after Democrats passed this bill? Did the American Rescue Plan truly rescue America? Well, when it comes to the virus, the answer is clearly no. As I said, only a small portion of this massive spending supported our fight against COVID-19.

When this bill was signed into law, the majority of frontline workers had already been vaccinated, and vaccine makers were working as quickly as possible to supply the rest of the American people who wanted them with shots. Today, two-thirds of adults in America have received at least one dose of the vaccine—two-thirds. That progress came because of the bipartisan work that happened last year, not this year.

This legislation certainly didn't rescue our already sluggish economy. In fact, it has created more hurdles for our economy. Democrats created an incentive for workers to remain on the sidelines of the labor market through the end of September by offering enhanced Federal bonuses to State unemployment.

In Texas, for example, businesses of all types have struggled to find willing workers. For every industry, from hospitality, to retail, to manufacturing, to energy, "Help Wanted" signs can be found everywhere across my State, and we are not alone. One restaurant owner said the government has been its biggest competitor when it comes to finding workers.

The labor squeeze has become so tight that half of the States, including Texas, ended the supplemental unemployment benefits early because they were not compensating people who couldn't work or couldn't find work but paying people more than they would earn if they did work when jobs were readily available.

Those are just the problems that have been created with the labor market. Families across the country have felt the sting of inflation as they have paid higher prices on everything from gasoline to groceries. This is exactly the scenario outlined by economists across the country, including those who call themselves Democrats, people like Larry Summers, who served as Treasury Secretary under President Clinton and Director of the National Economic Council under President Obama. He was among the first to warn about inflation or rising costs for consumers, and, boy, you must have thought he was a skunk at the garden party.

You would think this might serve as a lesson to our Democratic colleagues about shoveling money out the door as fast as they can, even when it creates massive debt and the threat of more inflation, but here we are once again. Our Democratic colleagues are preparing to spend trillions more dollars on top of the trillions of dollars we have already spent on a bipartisan basis to combat the virus but then afterwards to spend

more money on their chosen political priorities and not on the pandemic. They want to now add additional trillions of dollars to that debt and to that spending, risking even more dangerous and volatile inflation.

The details of what this round of spending might look like are still coming together, but we know that if the chairman of the Budget Committee, BERNIE SANDERS, has his wish, the price tag could come out as high as \$6 trillion more. Six trillion dollars is a quarter of our gross domestic product. If you convert our country's World War II spending to today's dollars, it only comes out to \$4.4 trillion. So the Democratic chairman of the Budget Committee wants to spend more money than we spent to defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan during World War II.

But I want to be clear about another thing. This so-called human infrastructure plan, which is just made-up words indicating that they are trying to mask the reality of what they want to spend money on—it is not about bridges and roads. It is not about broadband, things that we all understand are truly infrastructure. It is about a long list of political spending preferences, and it certainly can't be compared to spending the money we needed in order to win World War II.

For example, they want to spend trillions and trillions of dollars more on Medicare expansion, electric vehicle chargers, home-based care, free college, and a long list of liberal priorities. We are happy to debate those but not to jam them in a \$6 trillion spending package.

All of this spending would be in addition to the more than \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill that apparently is currently being drafted. I know we have been talking for weeks about a bipartisan infrastructure bill, but I have learned as recently as today that there is no bill text, and the Congressional Budget Office that scores these bills has not done so yet so we can determine whether the so-called pay-fors are, indeed, legitimate and stand up to scrutiny.

Our national debt is at the highest level since World War II. This is not the time to spend and spend and spend until our grandkids are left sitting in a pile of debt so deep that they will have no hope of climbing out of it. And we certainly can't tax and spend our way to prosperity. We need to take a hard look at our spending habits and make some tough choices, like most American families. They have to decide: What are my priorities, and what are the resources I have to spend to fund those priorities? And that is exactly what we need to do here in Congress.

Folks on both sides of the aisle want to rebuild our Nation's infrastructure. Rebuilding resilient roads, bridges, and broadband are top of mind for Republicans and Democrats. I know our colleagues are still working on text, as I said, for the bipartisan infrastructure

deal, and I am eager to see the details on how this massive investment is paid for. But, again, this is only one-half of the so-called dual-track process announced by Senator SCHUMER.

The exorbitant pricetags being floated for the second track have raised serious concerns not just among folks on this side of the aisle but on both sides of the aisle.

I sincerely hope that some of our colleagues on the other side will stand up against irresponsible spending. As we know, it takes just one Democratic Senator to stand in the way of this abuse of the reconciliation process, and I hope one or more of them will have the courage to do so.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

(The remarks of Mr. LEAHY pertaining to the introduction of S. 2311 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators SCOTT of Florida, MENENDEZ, TUBERVILLE, and SCHUMER be allowed to complete their remarks prior to the vote.

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

The Senator from Alabama.

#### VETERANS

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, last week, when we were all back home, we all got to celebrate the Fourth of July. Cooking out, spending time with our family and friends, watching fireworks is always special.

Sitting there with my family, I thought about how blessed we are to live in the United States of America. We get to live in the most free and prosperous country in the history of the world. We owe that freedom and prosperity to the people who declared their independence on July 4, 245 years ago.

They fought and won their freedom for an idea called America. That American idea lives on two-and-a-half centuries later, thanks to the generations of men and women who, like many before them, put on the uniform to defend this great country. Many gave their lives, the ultimate sacrifice, to defend the United States. But many more are still with us, and future generations will continue to volunteer to protect the freedoms and liberties this country affords us every day.

Today we have got almost 20 million veterans in the United States, and 400,000 of them call Alabama home. I have had the honor and pleasure to meet many Alabama veterans the past few years. I am always heartened to talk with them about their service to our great country, but what I hear over and over again is that there is more we can do for all of our veterans: better access to care, better opportunities to reenter civilian life.

Taking care of our veterans is personal for me. My dad served in World

War II and died on Active Duty after the war. But he taught me so many valuable lessons, like work ethic, perseverance, and love of country. When I meet with veterans, I see the same patriotism my dad lived out every day of his life.

You know, I never served myself. The Vietnam war was over before I got out of college, but many guys I knew from back home served in Vietnam. I saw how badly they were treated by the media, by Hollywood, and even by their fellow Americans. They were just trying to serve their country. They watched their friends die, and when they got home, they weren't treated very well.

I thank God we treat our veterans today better than we did when I was growing up. And veterans from the Vietnam era are still the largest of the veteran group in this United States that we live in today. More than 100,000 Vietnam vets live in Alabama.

But there is still more we can do to give them the care and resources that they need and deserve. I am honored to be a member of the Senate's Veterans' Affairs Committee, where we can hear about the problems facing our veterans firsthand and work together on commonsense solutions.

The biggest challenge our veterans face is the access to quality care. We have all seen it in the news. We have heard about it firsthand. Far too often, veterans can't get the care they need in a timely manner. One veteran who doesn't have access to care is one too many.

My main priority is to get veterans the care they need and they well deserve by whatever means at our disposal, period. A solution to help address that problem is the GHAPS Act, Guaranteeing Healthcare Access to Personnel Who Served, introduced by my friend and committee ranking member Senator MORAN from Kansas.

The GHAPS Act would identify persistent gaps that veterans face and would help craft innovative solutions to make certain all veterans receive quality and timely care, especially our veterans living in rural areas. The bill would also direct the VA to create a telehealth strategic plan so that we can use modern methods to improve access to care.

I am proud to cosponsor that legislation and will be working with Ranking Member MORAN to get this bill passed.

We also need to do more to address the scourge of veteran suicide. It is absolutely tragic that more than 18 veterans take their own life every day. I have partnered with groups like America's Warrior Partnership, who are gathering data on veteran suicide across the country to determine how we can combat this terrible epidemic, leveraging both the VA and community resources.



At the same time, we must do more to make additional treatments available to veterans who haven't had success treating their traumatic brain injuries or post-traumatic stress disorder. One step we can take is to pass my bill, the HBOT Access Act. HBOT stands for hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

My bill would permit HBOT as a treatment option for those veterans who have tried other evidence-based treatment options for TBI or PTSD but have not seen substantial improvement. I have heard from veterans and veterans service organizations that point to HBOT as a treatment that has produced positive results for individuals suffering from severe head and brain injuries. Many former football players, including ones who played for me, found success with HBOT in treating their head injuries after suffering from concussions.

HBOT is already approved by the Food and Drug Administration as a treatment option for more than a dozen different conditions, including severe burns, infections, and decompression sickness. But the FDA does not recognize HBOT as an approved treatment option for TBI or PTSD, meaning veterans can't receive this care at the VA facilities or elsewhere and must pay for it out of their own pocket if they do use it. My bill would change that.

If veterans are saying they have improved after using HBOT and if veterans service organizations have seen similar success, I say we listen to them. We should not leave quality options on the table while the veteran suicide crisis worsens.

I want to thank my colleagues Senators HOEVEN and CRAMER as well as the American Legion and the Patriot Angels for supporting this important legislation. I hope my fellow colleagues will join me in passing this commonsense bill.

Finally, we need to improve resources for veterans to find jobs after their service in the military. Too many face unnecessary hurdles in rejoining civilian life. They have some of the best skills you can ask for. Yet sometimes our veterans, like so many others, can fall prey to addiction, homelessness, or just be flat out down on their luck.

Thankfully, we have got quality organizations that are doing good work helping veterans in need. One of these organizations is Three Hots and a Cot, based in Clay, AL. Three Hots is a small nonprofit organization founded by veterans for veterans. They get funding mostly through donations but also through a Veterans Affairs supportive housing grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Three Hots offers temporary assisted housing to 18 veterans at a time. They will drive the veterans to healthcare appointments at the VA, to grocery stores, to job interviews, and to church until they can get back on their feet.

And the job doesn't stop once the veterans are settled in an apartment on their own. Three Hots will help with the transition by doing tasks like stocking their pantry, getting them furniture, and checking on them regularly.

In their 10 years of operation, Three Hots has helped more than 1,600 veterans and family members with an 83-percent success rate. This is the holistic type of approach to a tough issue that we need more of. They meet veterans where they are at in the community and help them find the resources available.

There are more great organizations across the country offering to help veterans in need, but oftentimes our veterans don't know these resources are available. I will be working closely with my colleagues to better connect veterans with the resources that are out there so they can be equipped with the skills they need to succeed at home.

Folks, simply, without the brave men and women who wear the uniform, we wouldn't have the freedoms we enjoy and sometimes take for granted every day. Our service men and women risked everything by joining the military. The least we can do is to repay their service and sacrifice by taking care of them when they return home to the country they gave so much to defend. That is what I will be doing on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee and throughout my time here in the Senate.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE SACRIFICES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE GREATEST GENERATION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, in that spirit, I want to call up my bipartisan Senate resolution honoring the "greatest generation," S. Res. 238.

As if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 238.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 238) recognizing and honoring the sacrifices and accomplishments of the Greatest Generation.

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

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 238) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 26, 2021, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 121.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Jocelyn Samuels, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2026. (Reappointment).

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The 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. 121, Jocelyn Samuels, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Reappointment).

Charles E. Schumer, Tammy Baldwin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tammy Duckworth, Amy Klobuchar, Bernard Sanders, Tina Smith, Martin Heinrich, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patrick J. Leahy, Cory A. Booker, Mark R. Warner, Jacky Rosen, Jeff Merkley, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Sherrod Brown, Ben Ray Lujan.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 120.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.



The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 120, Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor.

Charles E. Schumer, Mazie K. Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse, Ben Ray Lujan, Jon Ossoff, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Amy Klobuchar, Debbie Stabenow, Mark R. Warner, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 171.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 171, J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Charles E. Schumer, Mazie K. Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse, Ben Ray Lujan, Jon Ossoff, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L.

Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Amy Klobuchar, Mark R. Warner, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 154.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Donald Michael Remy, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 154, Donald Michael Remy, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Charles E. Schumer, Ron Wyden, Mazie K. Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse, Ben Ray Lujan, Jon Ossoff, Tim Kaine, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Amy Klobuchar, Mark R. Warner, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 193.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 193, Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tina Smith, Margaret Wood Hassan, Catherine Cortez Masto, Jeff Merkley, Patty Murray, Tammy Baldwin, Debbie Stabenow, Gary C. Peters, Angus S. King, Jr., Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher Murphy, Ben Ray Lujan, Jack Reed, Chris Van Hollen.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, July 12, be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that my statements before the nominee who is supposed to be voted on at 5:30 be allowed to take place before the vote.

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

#### NOMINATION OF UZRA ZEYA

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise today to express my support for the nomination of Uzra Zeya to be the next Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights.

Ms. Zeya is immensely qualified to lead U.S. efforts to recenter our most fundamental values in our foreign policy efforts and to strengthen the Bureau she will lead. Her experience and the more than 20 years as a Foreign Service officer, including as the Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor in the State Department, make her the perfect fit for this position.

The previous administration abdicated our global responsibility, but we now have the opportunity to restore U.S. leadership in the fight for democracy, human rights, and rule of law around the world. It is an exciting prospect for us, but more importantly, it will give hope to those still fighting for their rights, the millions of people

around the world who look to the United States for inspiration and support in their own democratic struggles.

We see that in places like Cuba today. Looking around the globe, we see China stripping away Hong Kong's autonomy and freedoms at an alarming pace. Military dictators are cementing their illegitimate rule in places like Burma and Mali, eroding and eliminating the institutions of democracy, while Russia and Belarus have imprisoned political opponents without accountability.

At the same time, an unprecedented 80 million people have been forcibly displaced from their homes, communities, and countries. We must look no farther than our own southern border to see the destruction, desperation, and displacement wrought by violence, climate change, and lack of economic opportunity.

All of these developments negatively impact American national security interests. Our Secretary of State and, indeed, our country need senior human rights leadership of the caliber of Ms. Zeya.

The fact that the nomination of Ms. Zeya—a nominee so superbly qualified and whose leadership is so essential to rebuilding the State Department—has languished for 82 days is a travesty. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting to confirm her to the position of Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, and I hope my Republican colleagues will stop blocking qualified and critical nominees to the Nation's foreign policy and national security mission from moving forward.

With that, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Florida.

CUBA

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I rise today to talk about the new day of freedom dawning in Cuba and the brave Cubans marching for freedom across the island. For decades, the Cuban people have suffered atrocities, oppression, and misery at the hands of the communist Castro regime.

I have repeatedly told the story of Sirley Ávila León, a Cuban woman who was attacked by Cuban security forces in 2015. They cut off her hand and stuck her arm in the mud to make sure it got infected. Her crime? She complained that the regime was going to shut down a school in her neighborhood.

I have spoken to brave leaders like José Daniel Ferrer and the courageous members of his Patriotic Union of Cuba who are fighting every day to defend human rights, freedom, and the democratic movement in Cuba. Activists like José Daniel Ferrer and the artists of the San Isidro Movement are the future of Cuba, not the ruthless communist regime.

Today, the people of Cuba are saying: Enough. Across Cuba, people are marching in the streets to protest against communist rule and demand the freedom, liberty, and basic human

rights that have been stolen from them for decades by the brutally oppressive Cuban regime. Their demands are simple: libertad.

What we are seeing in Cuba should send a clear message to the world. Communism is a failed ideology that does nothing but lead to suffering and oppression. Communism doesn't work. Socialism doesn't work.

The people of Cuba are crying out for freedom. They are denouncing the oppressive communist rule that has brought ruin to their nation for more than 60 years. The message from the Cuban people to Diaz-Canel and Raul Castro has never been more clear: Your time is up. And the regime is terrified of the Cuban people. They are attacking peaceful protesters in an effort to silence them. Right now, José Daniel Ferrer, members of his family, and other leaders from his group are reportedly missing, likely kidnapped by the regime.

This disgusting assault on the people of Cuba cannot go unchecked. We cannot ignore this historic moment in the fight for freedom. We understand the value and importance of freedom in our everyday lives, and it is our duty to support and stand up for those who are oppressed by dictators and denied the right the live freely.

Today, I stand proudly with the heroic freedom fighters across Cuba who have taken to the streets, determined to regain their freedom and put an end to the Castro dictatorship.

Now, the Biden administration must lead the freedom-loving nations of the world in loud and unequivocal denouncement of the brutal communist Castro regime and in support of the liberty, democracy, and human rights the Cuban people call for and rightfully deserve.

We must be clear. For decades, Cuba has been the root of instability in Latin America and represented a terrible threat to the national security of the United States. The Castro regime harbors terrorist groups; has gotten rid of free and fair elections; threatens and arbitrarily arrests critics, journalists, and political activists; and props up other ruthless dictators, like Maduro in Venezuela and Ortega in Nicaragua.

Today, the American people must join freedom-loving Cubans in saying that the oppression ends now. We cannot lift sanctions or restore diplomatic relations with the Cuban dictatorship. We should not offer another lifeline to this brutal communist dictatorship.

I urge the Biden administration to impose further sanctions on the tyrannical Cuban regime. We cannot let up. There must be consequences for this heinous oppression and attacks on peaceful protesters.

To the people of Cuba: You are not alone. I stand with you in this fight. Florida stands with you in this fight. The United States of America stands with you in this fight.

The freedom of Cuba is closer than ever, and we are not going to stop until

we see a new day of freedom, democracy, and "Patria y Vida" in Cuba.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate in Spanish.

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

(English translation of statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

To the people of Cuba: You are not alone. I stand with you in this fight. Florida stands with you in this fight. The United States of America stands with you in this fight.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 67, Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights).

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary of State, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 71, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 253 Ex.]

YEAS—71

Baldwin	Cortez Masto	Kaine
Bennet	Crapo	Kelly
Blumenthal	Duckworth	King
Blunt	Durbin	Klobuchar
Brown	Feinstein	Leahy
Burr	Fischer	Lujan
Cantwell	Gillibrand	Manchin
Capito	Graham	Markey
Cardin	Grassley	McConnell
Carper	Hassan	Menendez
Casey	Heinrich	Merkley
Collins	Hickenlooper	Moran
Coons	Hirono	Murphy
Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Murray

Ossoff	Sasse	Toomey
Padilla	Schatz	Van Hollen
Peters	Schumer	Warner
Portman	Scott (SC)	Warnock
Reed	Shaheen	Warren
Risch	Sinema	Whitehouse
Romney	Smith	Wicker
Rosen	Stabenow	Wyden
Rounds	Tester	Young
Sanders	Thune	

## NAYS—23

Barrasso	Hagerty	Marshall
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Rubio
Cotton	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Kennedy	Shelby
Cruz	Lankford	Sullivan
Daines	Lee	Tuberville
Ernst	Lummis	

## NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Cassidy	Murkowski
Braun	Inhofe	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 71, the nays are 23.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Ohio.

## REMEMBERING ELSIE STEWARD YOUNG

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, last week, Ohio and our Nation lost a champion for civil rights, Miss Elsie Steward Young of Highland County, a conservative, rural county in Southwest Ohio.

Miss Elsie, as everyone called her, had just celebrated her 105th birthday. She is a legend in Southwest Ohio. Her courage, her leadership made a difference for children not only in her community but all over the country.

In 1954, after the Supreme Court issued its landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision and ordered an end to segregation in American schools, the two all-White primary schools in Hillsboro—again, a small town, Highland County, southwest of Columbus—refused to integrate. The district continued to send Black students to a single all-Black school which was woefully underfunded.

I remember the stories my mother would tell me of growing up in Mansfield, GA. She said she knew and she told me—when busing became such a controversy in the 1960s and 1970s, she told me that she knew all about busing.

In the South, when she grew up in the twenties and thirties, they would bus Black students past the newer, better kept White schools to the segregated Black schools that were falling apart. No criticism of “forced busing” in those days.

That was essentially what was going on in Hillsboro, OH, and Elsie Steward Young wouldn't stand for it.

She and a group of mothers—this is in the 1950s—took matters into their own hands. They became the Marching Mothers of Hillsboro. Every single day for two long years, they marched for miles to the town's all-White primary school; every day they were sent home.

They carried on. Eventually, the community and the State and the country noticed. They joined with the NAACP to file a lawsuit against the Hillsboro board of education. It made it all the way to the Supreme Court, and they won.

Because of Miss Elsie and her fellow mothers' advocacy, the Court ordered the schools to integrate and paved the way for integration in other northern cities.

Her activism showed us why ordinary students and ordinary citizens—what they can achieve when they join together to fight for justice.

It is a reminder of how far we have come, how much work we have to do to achieve justice and opportunity for all children in our country.

Three years ago, Elsie Steward Young was inducted into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame. That fall, we honored the Marching Mothers of Hillsboro and the children—of course, now adults—who marched. We honored them with our office's Canary Award at our annual Ohio Women's Conference.

Then-Senator KAMALA HARRIS, now the Vice President, was supposed to speak. We were going to present Miss Elsie with the award. She was already past 100 at that point. We both had to stay in Washington at the last minute because of Supreme Court votes.

So many Ohioans at that conference told me later that, frankly, I am not sure that the Vice President—the future Vice President and I were missed that much, not with Miss Elsie there. She not only filled the void, she provided so much energy with her forceful, inspiring words; and during that conference she was 102.

Throughout the conference, people lined up to get pictures with her. When the video played depicting the bravery and determination of the marchers and when Miss Elsie spoke accepting the award, of course, there was hardly a dry eye in the audience.

She talked about how she and other mothers only did what any mother would do for her children.

So many Ohioans will miss Miss Elsie Steward Young. Our thoughts are with her three surviving daughters, her two surviving sons, and, get this, her 36 grandchildren.

We know her legacy lives on through her success, through her victories, through her fight for justice, through her families, through the future generations of young people whom she inspired to stand against justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Miss Elsie Steward Young, Ohioan mother, determined champion for civil rights.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mr. President, for the first time in decades, workers are beginning to gain some power in our economy.

Because of President Biden's leadership, because of the American Rescue Plan, America's economy is roaring back. We have had record job creation. We gained more than 3 million jobs since this President took office, more jobs created in the first 5 months of any Presidency in modern history.

It is not only the jobs numbers—those are important—but those, of course, don't tell the full story. It is the quality of those jobs.

We are starting to see signs of increased bargaining power for American workers: power to negotiate higher pay, solid working conditions, better benefits, more control over their schedules, opportunities for career advancement, all the things that turn into good, stable, middle-class careers.

I want to see employers competing for workers. That is a good thing. It is how you get rising wages, which get spent in the community and then create growth for everyone, whether in Sante Fe or Columbus.

For decades, corporations have had all the power in our economy. It is going to take a lot of work to undo those decades of bad trade and tax policy that gave corporations every single day the upper hand.

We are starting to see glimmers of progress. Wages are starting to go up. Wages have been rising all year. They are surging for workers who have been paid too little for decades, working tough jobs in restaurants and hotels and other service jobs.

Last week, the Washington Post declared “Welcome to the year of wage hikes.” They reported, in the past 3 months, rank-and-file employees have seen some of the fastest wage growth in 40 years. Think about that, the fastest wage growth since Ronald Reagan said it was morning in America.

It is what should happen—what happens when you invest in people who make this country work, not the CEOs, not multinational corporations, not money that never really trickles down.

We invested in America's greatest asset, our workers. Putting money directly in people's pockets, putting kids back in school, putting workers back in jobs, that is starting to unleash the true potential of our economy.

We don't stop here. On Friday, President Biden issued a sweeping Executive order to increase competition in the economy. It is one more way we start to tilt the job market toward workers. Capitalism without competition is just exploitation.

It is just common sense, when you have a tiny number of corporations, a shrinking number of corporations that get bigger and bigger, that control entire industries and huge portions of the economy, it drives up prices, and it drives down wages.

Research shows that industry consolidation decreases worker pay by as much as 17 percent. Companies force workers to sign noncompete agreements as a condition of getting a job, even in jobs like fast food and construction. They tuck them into the fine print of job contracts, making it harder for workers to switch to better paying options.

Sometimes they are not even enforceable, but employers put them in there anyway because it scares workers away from taking another job.

We are putting a stop to this. No company should be allowed to tell you you can't take a job offering higher pay. President Biden is cracking down

on corporate mergers. Towns all over Ohio have seen what happens when companies merge and create just one employer in a community. It often means plant or store closures. It means workers have no competitors in town to go to for higher wages.

Rural towns in Ohio and across the country watch companies come in, knowing they are the only game in town, and they offer workers a take-it-or-leave-it offer at rock-bottom wages that don't even pay the bills, but it is the only place to go.

Sometimes that is the whole point of the merger, to cut what corporations call labor costs, what the rest of us call jobs, paychecks, or livelihoods.

Now the President is making it clear that when we review mergers, we need to look at and take into account whether they will lead to lower wages for workers.

All actions come down to the same goal, increasing workers' power by cutting through redtape that keeps workers' wages down.

We build on this progress, these important steps, by passing the Protect the Right to Organize Act. To have a strong, growing middle class, we have to have strong unions. The Protecting the Right to Organize Act would start to level the playing field and finally give workers a fighting chance against corporate union-busting tactics.

We all saw what happened with Amazon this year. One of most powerful corporations in the world, and they would not be raking in profits without the hard work and dedication of its hundreds of thousands of American workers. Yet it unleashed all of its billions and billions and billions of dollars' worth of power to fight its own workers.

When workers try to organize in 21st century America, it is never a fair fight. This bill would strengthen the punishment against companies that violate workers' right to organize and that retaliate against union organizers.

It would close loopholes that allow employers to misclassify their employees as supervisors and independent contractors, often stripping them of their overtime they have earned and avoiding paying their fair share and giving workers the benefits they deserve.

A union card is a ticket to middle-class life. We just need corporations to let workers organize to take control over their career and their families.

In closing, last week, I was up in the far northwest corner of my State in Bryan, OH, visiting the Spangler Candy Company. It is a family-owned business more than a century old. They have had success for all those years by treating their workers and the Teamsters Union, which represents their workers, as partners. They have the same goal: to make a great product, to make the company successful. They work together.

We in this body, with the American Rescue Plan, saved their union pensions in that plan. Now the company is

expanding production and hiring 40 more union workers. That is what we can achieve when we invest in the people and places that make this country work.

When you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work. That is what President Biden is doing. It is what all of us must continue to do to respect the dignity of work, so all work pays off and workers finally have real power in this economy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

CUBA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, the world and the country yesterday watched these images out of Cuba. It is really unprecedented. In 62 years of communist tyranny on the island of Cuba, we have never seen and there has never been what now is up to 40 cities in which people took to the streets—organically, unorganized, grassroots—to ask for the end of that tyranny. And I think it is important for a lot of people that are new to the issue to sort of understand what that means and what it is all about.

I think the first lesson we need to take away from it is that Marxism, socialism doesn't work. The way socialism, the way Marxism has always worked—the way it has always empowered itself—is it goes to a people and it immediately divides them. It says: There is the suppressor class, and then there is this victim class. And these evil oppressors—capitalists, in the case of socialism or traditional Marxism—they oppress the victims. And what you have to do is you have to give us the power in government to take care of these oppressors and to go after these oppressors, and if you give us that power, we will deliver you security and we will protect you from the oppressors. They ask for security in exchange for freedom. That is always the price that socialism asks for—security.

And what you wind up with is a country of people that hate each other, and they are angry at each other. A significant portion of the people in the country have to leave, have to flee, go to jail, because they are the oppressor class. Their lives are destroyed. Their family lives are destroyed.

But the socialism can't deliver the security. And when it can't deliver the security, you don't get your freedom back. And, in fact, when you start to complain about that, that is when the repression comes.

Well, that is what happened in Cuba. Socialism and Marxism has done to Cuba what it has done everywhere in the world that it has been tried. It has failed. It has failed. They gave up their freedom. Or they were told: Give up your freedom in exchange for a world-class healthcare system.

It is not a world-class healthcare system. In fact, it is a healthcare system that does not even have the ability to deal with COVID at its very basic level.

They said: Give up your freedom for economic security.

What economic security? People are hungry, homes are crumbling, and there is no economy. There is no real economy in Cuba.

Give up your freedom and you will have an education—free education for everybody.

That education—No. 1, you are a doctor, but you can drive a taxicab in Cuba and make more money. Or, No. 2, you get sent, forced to go, overseas and work basically on slave wages, no pay—barely any pay at all. It is basically human trafficking, as our own Department of State found when it looked at the Cuban doctors' program and how it has been abused.

So what has happened in Cuba is that socialism has failed. It has to repress people who complain about it. You don't get your freedom back.

And like socialists always do, they have to find someone to blame. And whom do they blame? No. 1, they blame anybody in the country who doesn't agree with them. You are immediately a counterrevolutionary. You are immediately a pawn of the imperialists. And, then, of course, they always blame the United States.

The problem in Cuba for the regime is that the people aren't falling for those lies anymore. They are not. The embargo, that is the first thing they blame: It is the embargo. The embargo is causing all of this.

Why aren't fishermen and farmers in Cuba allowed to fish or grow things and sell it to people? It is not the embargo that keeps them from doing that. It is the regime.

Why can't Cubans own a small business? Why can't a Cuban do in Cuba what they can do in Miami, what they can do in Washington, and what they do in countries all over the world, and they can't do it in Cuba? They can't open a small business. That is not the embargo that keeps them from doing it. In fact, U.S. law allows us to trade and to do commerce with small businesses that are independently owned by Cubans. Do you know why Cubans can't own small businesses? It is not the embargo. It is not the United States. It is the regime that doesn't allow it.

People have seen these lies. How can they afford to build luxury, four-star, world-class hotels for tourists, but they cannot afford to deal with the crumbling homes that Cubans are living in, with roofs literally falling in over their heads and with water leaking into operating rooms at hospitals?

Look at what they do with the money. Oh, it is because you don't allow more money to be sent. When an American or a Cuban American sends money to their family members in Cuba—in the past, through Western Union—the regime takes 10 percent off the top, and then they take those dollars you sent and they force the Cubans to convert it into worthless Cuban currency. They keep the dollars. And, then, guess what: If you want to buy anything, you have to buy it from a government store, and guess what the

government store sells things for? Dollars. That is not the embargo. That is the Cuban regime that does that.

And who is it that is putting people in jail, gets your head cracked open, and gets your door kicked out in the middle of the night? There are 80 people missing today. At least 80 people disappeared overnight. The families don't know where they are. That is not the embargo that is jailing people. That is the regime.

And that is what I tell people. You can open up all you want. We can pass a bill here that says: Open to Cuba—100 percent open. You can do whatever you want—full, free trade. You can do whatever you want. At the end of the day, the Cuban regime will control that opening. It is not just what we want to do. It is what they want to do.

Do you want to do tourism? We tried that in 2015 with the Obama changes, and do you know what they did? They said: Thank you. We love the fact that you are coming here as tourists.

Guess what. All the tourist sites are owned by a holding company named GAESA, controlled by the Cuban military. So everything comes through their hands.

You want to send them food? That is great. Guess who gets it: ALIMPORT, which is a government, military-owned agriculture company. You can't sell it to a small grocery store in Cuba or even a food wholesaler. It goes to the Cuban Government.

You want to send money? They take it. Do you know why? Because socialism is about control, and all of these things—tourism, food, money, medicine—it is all about control.

You want humanitarian aid? Let's get the Red Cross. Any of these vetted NGOs in the world should be allowed to go into Cuba. They won't allow it—A, because it is embarrassing to them. They have a world class healthcare system. Why do they need humanitarian aid? But, B, because they want to control it.

Send them vaccines, but if you put them in their hands—the government, the regime—guess who gets the vaccine: the people who behave; first, the regime elites and then the people who behave. If you are not behaving and if you are not going along with what they want you to do, you won't get a vaccine.

They will use any opening as a tool and as a weapon against their people because that is what socialism does. That is what these Marxists do in Cuba. They will use anything as a weapon against the people of Cuba.

What can we do is what people want to know. No. 1, I hope that we will all be clear about whose side we are on. You don't have to even agree with anything I have said. What you should agree with is that people everywhere in the world, including 90 miles from our shore, should be allowed to go into the street, peacefully march, call for an end of dictatorship, and not have their heads cracked open.

By the way, no one in Cuba has guns, except the military. So why are these repressive forces walking around with these rifles and people are getting shot? They are shooting people that literally are unarmed.

They should be able to do that, and it should be clear. We should be clear in our language. We don't just condemn this tyranny. We condemn this communist, this Marxist, this socialist tyranny. Call it for what it is.

No. 2, we should make clear that nothing is going to change. There is not going to be any sanctions changed as a result of this. On the contrary, I hope the Biden administration will now announce that they have finished their review of Cuba policy, and everything that is in place is staying in place.

To the extent we change policy, No. 3, I hope we make it a top priority to allow the people of Cuba to have free, unfettered, and open internet access. And the technology exists to do that with a satellite-based system. We should put the best minds to work on getting that done because if the Cuban people have free and unfettered access to the internet—the first thing the regime shut down yesterday was the internet—they can communicate with each other, and they can receive information and communicate with the world. Ninety miles from our shore, you should be allowed to do that.

No. 4, for all of those who believe and have faith in the international community—and I still hold hope that one day it will work again—where is Spain? Where is the EU? Where are all these countries that for years have given cover and protection to the Cuban regime and condemned America? They should speak out clearly that what is happening there is wrong and that repression is wrong. We should rally that. We should use our position of strength and power in the world and our influence in diplomatic circles to make that happen.

And, No. 5, I hope the President will be very clear with the regime in Cuba that we will not tolerate them encouraging a mass migration event—because I am warning you, this is what they do. They have done it twice already. They step back and they say: Look, if you don't lift sanctions, if you don't go back to the Obama-era policies, and if you don't get rid of the embargo, it is inevitable that you are going to have 50,000 people take to the ocean and head toward the United States.

They have used that against us twice. They did it in 1994, and they did it in 1980 with the Mariel boat lift. President Biden needs to be clear, whether it is through private channels or saying it publicly—be abundantly clear that we will treat the encouragement of mass migration toward the United States as a hostile action and act accordingly. That cannot—cannot—be tolerated.

I want to close with this. I recognize that most of the Members of this Chamber, most of the people here in

Washington, and, frankly, most of the people in the country do not pay attention to Cuba on a daily basis. I get it. I really do. But if you are not following the issue of Cuba, you can be forgiven for not knowing that what we are seeing, what we saw yesterday, what we are seeing today, what happened recently—none of this—was started by politicians. It wasn't started by me. It wasn't started by anybody in Miami or in Florida. It wasn't started by any think tank in Washington. It wasn't even started by political activists inside of Cuba.

Do you know who started what is happening in Cuba? Artists, poets, songwriters, writers, actors, musicians. They are the ones who started it—the San Isidro Movement—because they came after them.

And there is a song. A lot of people don't realize it. There was a song that came out earlier this year—a song that, by the way, if you play in Cuba, you will go to jail. The song's name is "Patria y Vida." Now, the slogan of the Cuban regime is "Patria o Muerte," meaning "Fatherland or Death." This song played on that, and it says, "Patria y Vida," which means "Fatherland and Life," instead of "Fatherland or Death." And the song is extraordinarily powerful because it was written by people and sung by people who have lived this reality and are living this reality. It so powerful. As I said, you will go to jail in Cuba if you play it.

What the song basically says in its lyrics is: Why can't people think in different ways and not be treated as enemies? Why is life so good for party insiders and their families but there is no food for average Cubans? There seems to be no embargo for the Cuban regime and their family members. Why can you build luxury hotels while our homes are crumbling? Why do Cubans have to suffer the indignities—the indignities—the simple things like not being able to bathe with soap, not being able to use deodorant, not having toothpaste—why do they have to deal with these indignities? And who—the song also asks—who told the regime that Cuba belongs to them and only them? Shouldn't it belong to all 13 million Cubans?

The chorus I will read first in English, and then I will translate it in Spanish, because it actually plays on "dominoes." Dominoes is a very popular game played by Cubans. It is played by everybody, but Cubans, in particular. It is a big game there.

The chorus reads:

(English translation of statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

And how it translates is that it basically says:

It's over. Your 59—

Meaning 1959, the year that Castro took over—

But I have double twos.

And everyone knows that in the dominoes game, if, at the end of a chain,

both dominoes, no one has any dominoes to put down, the game gets locked, and you count numbers and count dots to see who won.

So it says:

It's over. Your 59, but I have double twos. It's over. Sixty years with a domino game locked up for us.

Now, I know this is a very colloquial Cuban way of expressing it, but this is incredibly powerful. The people in Cuba understood what that means, and that means that all this ideology, all this stuff they talk about, and all these lies of the regime that worked out really well for them, people don't believe it anymore, and they are not afraid anymore. Meanwhile, their lives are ruined. Young people in Cuba, artists in Cuba who realize that the only country on this planet where Cubans are not successful is Cuba, and they are tired of it, and we should stand with them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 1520

Ms. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise today to once again call for every Senator to have an opportunity to vote on a generational bill to fix how the military deals with sexual assault and other serious crimes.

It is the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act. This bill will ensure that men and women who serve in our military have the opportunity for basic justice, basic civil liberties, and basic protection under the law.

I want to start by recognizing the monumental advance toward military justice reform made during our Senate work week. The Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military released their recommendations, which included removing the prosecution of sexual assault and related crimes from the chain of command. It is a historic sign of progress after decades of obstruction.

The Secretary of Defense has agreed with the Commission's findings that the removal of sexual assault prosecutions from the chain of command and the professionalization of the military justice system would benefit survivors and in no way diminish good order and discipline. It is also a historic sign of progress that President Biden has endorsed all of these recommendations.

After years—years—of pushing for these types of reforms, this change in thinking from our military and executive leadership is truly momentous. Every crime that the IRC reviewed, they recommended removing it from the chain of command. That is a clear recognition that the current military justice system is not capable of addressing the epidemic of sexual assault among our ranks and that it is not providing justice for our servicemembers.

As President Biden said, "This is the beginning, not the end of our work." While I welcome the IRC's recommendations, I am deeply heartened to see that Secretary Austin and Presi-

dent Biden both endorse the recommendations and will happily work with us to make them a reality. We also have to recognize that the IRC was provided a very limited task—to review only sexual assault and harassment in the military. No other crimes were under their purview. Unfortunately, they were also not asked to look at other serious crimes that are related, such as murder.

We as a Congress have been tasked with a larger job. It is our job to ensure that the military writ large works for every servicemember. The recent scandals at Fort Hood, the murder of Vanessa Guillen, and the deep racial disparities in prosecutions have made it plain that the need for reform in the military justice system goes far beyond sexual assaults. Vanessa Guillen was murdered, and she was harassed. Serious crimes such as murder deserve the consideration of military lawyers who are trained with expertise, not commanders.

For those who worry about the impact that this reform would have on command authority, I would point to the head of the IRC, the chairwoman, Lynn Rosenthal, who said:

The IRC rejects the notion that, by removing legal decisions about prosecution from the command structure, that commanders have no role. It's simply not the case. Commanders are responsible for the climates they create. They're responsible for working to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment, and they're responsible for making sure that victims are protected when they come forward to report. So, the idea that they won't have an interest in solving this problem if they are not making [a] technical, legal [decision], we think, is simply false.

The same logic extends to all serious crimes. Commanders will still be responsible for setting the culture that prevents them, for protecting victims, and for maintaining an interest in solving these problems even if they are not making these complex, technical decisions about whether or not a case should go to trial. And in a great number of these cases that do not go forward to trial, they come back to the commander for the commander to use his discretion—nonjudicial punishment, summary court-martial, or special court-martial—the many tools he still has.

We must guarantee that we have a professional, unbiased system for all servicemembers. It is our constitutional duty to provide oversight and accountability over the Department of Defense. We are the authors of the military justice code. We are the ones who put it in place. It is Congress's duty to update it and to make sure it works. We can do that by taking this momentum and building upon it and passing the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act this year. We have the votes to pass it in committee. We have the votes to pass it on the floor. This is an issue we have been fighting for and talking about and having hearings on for 8 years.

I began calling for a full vote on the floor on this bill on May 24. Since then, an estimated 2,744 servicemembers will have been raped or sexually assaulted. More will have been victims of other serious crimes. All of them deserve justice, and it is our responsibility to provide it.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that, at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1520 and the Senate proceed to its consideration; that there be 2 hours for debate equally divided in the usual form; and that upon the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I object to the Senator's request for the reasons that I have previously stated.

As the Senator from New York acknowledged, on July 2, President Biden announced that he "strongly supports" the recommendations put forth by Secretary Austin based on the work of the Independent Review Commission that would reform how the military prosecutes sexual assault-related crimes. Subsequent to the President's statement, the administration forwarded to the committee their legislative proposals to implement this reform.

I support and commend the President, the Secretary, and the IRC leadership and staff for their work, and I look forward to working with them and the administration and my colleagues, particularly my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee, to enact this historic and momentous change to the Department of Defense.

Sexual assault is an unconscionable crime and a pervasive problem in the military and in American society. While the military has taken steps to try to stop sexual assault in the ranks, it simply hasn't been enough. I strongly agree with the President's statement that "sexual assault in the military is doubly damaging because it also shreds the unity and cohesion that is essential for the functioning of the U.S. military and to our national defense."

While this change will be important, enhancing prevention, education, and command climate and culture will also be vital. If this reform to the UCMJ is the only thing we do, then I think that it will not be successful on its own. We need to prevent these crimes, not simply prosecute them.

I understand that my colleague from New York, Senator GILLIBRAND, disagrees with the proposed scope of this reform. Nevertheless, I want to acknowledge her leadership on this issue. She has fought for 8 years for this reform, and that day, with respect to sexual assault, is coming. Indeed, just as a footnote, the legislation that is being advanced would include every crime incident to a sexual assault, so that if a



victim is subject not just simply to sexual assault but to other crimes in that incident, all those crimes are to be tried together. So the need to import crimes like murder and arson and other nonsexual related crimes is, in my view, not going to accomplish the goals that I think this Senate has been focused on, particularly over the last 6 months or so.

I intend to include the administration's proposals in next week's markup at the annual Defense bill, subject to amendment. I think that is important to know—subject to amendment, that the UC as proposed would not allow amendments. It would not allow colleagues on the floor to come up and say: I have a better idea. We will do that in the committee, as we have always done it in the committee or at least tried to do it in the committee.

I look forward to working with Senator GILLIBRAND and my other colleagues in the committee as we consider, debate, and vote on this and other proposals, but I still must reiterate my objection to the unanimous consent request.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. First of all, our bill is entitled "Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act," so, as the chairman has requested, there is a great deal of prevention in this bill. And I dare say, if the chairman was going to include all of the recommendations of the IRC, we would have a very strong base bill on which to work from, but I do not have the sense that that will be done. In fact, I do not have the sense that all the recommendations are being considered, so I intend to offer an amendment that encompasses all of the recommendations.

Second, the reason why murder and other serious crimes must be included is because there are two challenges within the military: One, sexual assault cases are not handled properly, and unfortunately too few go to trial and too few end in conviction. The rate of going to trial and the rate of conviction has gone down.

The second reason is, if you only allow sexual assault cases to have a proper review, you will further marginalize survivors of sexual assault, who, more often than not, are women who report those cases, because receiving special treatment and a special legal system will not create fairness within the military for them.

Third, there is enormous evidence in the last 3 years of considerable racial bias against Black and Brown servicemembers. In the marines, if you are a Black man, you are up to 2.6 times more likely to be punished. That is a serious problem, and this is an issue that has been investigated for a long time.

So I believe that the bright line of felonies, as our allies have already done in the UK, Israel, Canada, Netherlands, Germany, and Australia, is meaningful because they did it for defendants' rights, they did it to professionalize their military justice system, and they did it to protect all servicemembers. Servicemembers in the U.S. military deserve nothing less.

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.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. 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

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. 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.

### TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH SUDAN

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the 10th anniversary of South Sudan's independence. July 9 is a bittersweet day for the resilient people of South Sudan. For decades, South Sudanese fought a brutal war with the government in Khartoum in which 2 million people lost their lives. After decades of bloody struggle, the parties to the conflict signed the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, CPA, which provided for self-determination for the South and paved the way for South Sudan's independence in 2011, with the diplomatic support of the United States and others in the international community.

Yet the promise of South Sudan's independence has turned into tragedy. Deep fault lines that emerged during the country's long struggle for independence, accentuated by rivalry and rent seeking among the country's corrupt political elite, brought about catastrophe. A little over 2 years after independence, 400,000 people were killed and more than 4 million were displaced during the 5-year civil war between forces loyal President Salva Kiir against those aligned with Vice-President Riek Machar. Unspeakable atrocities were committed against civilians during the conflict, including women and children. In 2017, the war induced a famine that brought hundreds of thousands more to the brink of disaster.

The United States and its international partners have invested heavily in diplomatic efforts to support and

end to the conflict in South Sudan. Despite failed cease-fire agreements and the intransigence of the warring parties, in 2018 regional leaders working through the InterGovernmental Authority on Development, IGAD, were finally able to obtain agreement on what was called the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan, R-ARCSS. Although far from ideal, the agreement lays out a framework for a peaceful resolution of the conflict, political reform, and democratic transition.

But implementation of the agreement remains slow, and South Sudan sits at a very dangerous crossroad. Responsible parties have failed to implement major provisions of the R-ARCSS, including those on power-sharing, constitutional development, security sector reform, economic issues, and transitional justice, or have reneged on their commitments. Nongovernments to the R-ARCSS continue to wage an active insurgency, particularly in Equatoria. Locally rooted communal violence is also rampant, fueled by the invisible hand of rival national political elites. Kiir's security apparatus continues to violate the human, civil, and political rights of the South Sudanese people. Overlaying all of these problems is an urgent humanitarian crisis—driven by conflict induced food insecurity, displacement, and COVID-19—made all the more worse by longstanding efforts by the Government of South Sudan to undercut humanitarian access.

It is clear that South Sudan's stalled peace process needs a reboot. The lack of progress on implementation of the R-ARCSS has created significant concern about elections now slated for 2022—if they are even held. And if they are held, without prior implementation of core components of the agreement and other key actions, the polls could be a flash point for conflict and violence.

In order to prevent this outcome, South Sudanese leadership, the United States, and international partners must take urgent action.

Political leadership in Juba must immediately organize a process for robust and inclusive negotiations over a new constitution in a process that involves all South Sudanese stakeholders, including civil society and holdout rebel groups. While I would not presume to dictate what the South Sudanese people themselves might decide, it seems to me that devolution of power from the national government to the states and local administration, and genuine power-sharing at the national level are necessary ingredients to avoid the winner-take-all calculus that has served as an incentive to take and hold on to central power at any cost.

Regional neighbors must act as well. Ongoing instability in East Africa, including the war in Tigray, a fragile transition in Sudan, and political turmoil in Somalia, has distracted regional actors who traditionally engage



on South Sudan issues. This must change. Capitols in Africa, working through the African Union, AU, and IGAD, must ensure that peace in South Sudan is at the top of the agenda for policymakers. Working with the Europeans and other partners, the United States should actively support the efforts of the African stakeholders to rehabilitate South Sudan's broken peace process.

The United States also has a prominent role to play. The relationship between South Sudan and the United States runs deep. For decades the United States has been the leading donor to South Sudan, including major contributions from U.S. civil society. U.S. diplomacy has long supported the South Sudanese cause and was critical to the signing of the CPA. After independence, the United States remained firmly engaged in supporting South Sudan, both through its bilateral engagement and participation in the Troika. That tradition must continue and there is no time to waste. I encourage the Biden administration to take four steps:

First, appoint an experienced Ambassador to South Sudan, someone who has served as an Ambassador in the region who is familiar with the history of the relationship.

Second, the administration should pursue additional bilateral and multilateral sanctions on South Sudanese political actors where needed, including on those who obstruct the delivery of humanitarian aid. In that same vein, it should support the continuation of the U.N. arms embargo and regularly name parties that violate the embargo and hold them accountable.

Third, the corruption that has long fueled South Sudan's political crisis must be confronted head on. The United States and its partners must demand full transparency from the Government of South Sudan on its oil accounts: the international community must know what revenue is coming in and what expenditures are being made. Kiir's foot-dragging on public financial management has persisted for years; it is well past time that Juba face consequences. The United States must use its voice and vote at international financial institutions to oppose all budget support to the Government of South Sudan and urge an end to all programs that do not directly benefit the health and welfare of the South Sudanese people until and unless the government is willing to open its books to donors and, more importantly, the South Sudanese people.

Finally, ending the cycle of conflict and despair in South Sudan will require accountability for past crimes and atrocities. The lesson of 8 years of conflict in South Sudan is that progress is impossible in a climate of impunity. Yet, despite support to the AU Hybrid Court for South Sudan from the United States and other donors, the AU has failed to fulfill its responsibilities, and the Hybrid Court re-

mains in limbo. Justice delayed is justice denied. With our allies in tow, the Biden administration must make clear to relevant stakeholders at the AU and in Juba that further delay on the issue of transitional justice is unacceptable. If these parties do not act, the Biden administration should work with allies to pursue alternative justice and accountability mechanisms.

Mr. President, I congratulate the people of South Sudan on this milestone. Their independence was hard won. I only wish their leaders had treated them better. At this critical moment, the United States must stand with all South Sudanese in their pursuit of justice, democracy, and equitable development.

#### TRIBUTE TO TODD CROUCH

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the service of Todd Crouch, my director of state operations, who retired from my office and the U.S. Senate on June 30, 2021.

Todd has spent nearly 22 years as a valued member of my staff. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Todd first joined my State assembly staff in 1997 as an intern. By a stroke of luck on both of our parts, Todd was assigned to my office to complete his coursework. He would later tell me that he didn't know much about me and my work in the assembly but had heard that I was smart, hard-working, and a good listener. I quickly learned that I could say the same about Todd.

After my election to the U.S. House of Representatives in late 1998, Todd joined my office as a field representative. Todd worked directly to serve constituents in our Madison area district, visiting organizations and businesses and serving as my representative at countless community events. He set up listening sessions through the district and staffed me at those events. Some listening sessions presented special and occasionally dramatic challenges. Todd nimbly navigated us through the occasional unexpected attendee with creativity and good humor.

In 2001, Todd transitioned to a role as our district office manager and district scheduler. This dual role highlighted some of Todd's greatest skills. An organized and methodical scheduler, he handled sticky situations with great care, including delayed flights, last minute cancellations, and many competing demands on limited time. He ran our district offices with a close attention to detail, ensuring their smooth operation and providing our State staff with a steady hand to turn to when trouble arose.

Todd remained in this dual role until my election to the U.S. Senate in 2012. I was fortunate to have Todd continue on my U.S. Senate staff. Initially serving as my Madison office director, which had expanded far beyond the size of our district office, Todd's role even-

tually grew to encompass all of our State operations. He managed our offices in Madison, Milwaukee, La Crosse, Eau Claire, and Green Bay, as well as our mobile office, affectionately known to us as The Beast. Todd later added several additional support roles, including two short stints as a pinch-hitter State scheduler, as well as coordinating our Grants and Special Projects portfolio.

Outside of the office, Todd is a devoted husband and father. He and his husband James Bond are the proud parents of their energetic young sons, Derrion and SJ. Todd and James are also longtime committed foster parents who have an open door to a welcoming and loving home.

I am fortunate to have had Todd as a valued member of my staff for these past many years, and I know that my staff, both past and present, feel the same. He has a sneaky and delightful sense of humor, which often helps relieve a tense or difficult situation. He is diligent in his approach to his work and to public service and leads by example. Along with my entire U.S. Senate staff, I wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter with his well-deserved retirement.

#### 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF GLC MINERALS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of GLC Minerals, a fifth-generation, family owned company that has contributed to the growth and success of the city of Green Bay and Northeast Wisconsin since 1871.

Wisconsin's indigenous Tribes lived in this area for thousands of years and recognized the strategic importance of the bay of Green Bay. The confluence of river and lake contributed to the success of their thriving communities.

In 1634 the first European explorer, Jean Nicolet, arrived on the shores of Green Bay, and the development of this city on our country's western frontier was launched. As the community of what is now greater Green Bay grew, eager, hard-working settlers with an entrepreneurial spirit arrived to build an economy rooted in iron smelting, timber, and cheesemaking. Fred Hurlbut, Sr., was one of these industrious settlers and in 1871 established the Hurlbut Calcium and Chemical Company.

The generations that followed honored the vision of Fred Hurlbut, Sr., and as the economy grew and changed, so did the company. In 1940, the company moved to the shores of the Fox River. In 2015, the business received its final name change to GLC Minerals. And today, as we celebrate the 150th anniversary, GLC Minerals remains an anchor of our Green Bay community as a successful manufacturer of calcium and magnesium carbonate products used in animal feed, mineral fillers, pollution filters, and soil conditioners.

Mr. President, in Wisconsin, we make things. We are known for our brats and

cheese and paper, but our economy is so much more diverse. GLC Minerals represents that diversified economic base that has propelled our State forward as a great place to work, live, and raise a family. As a custom manufacturer of minerals and applications, GLC Minerals contributes to our dairy, poultry, glass, paper, construction, and agricultural sector. I applaud fifth-generation family member Wesley Hurlbut Garner, II, for his wise stewardship of this vital Wisconsin business and wish GLC Minerals and the Garner family great success in the next 150 years.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO EDWIN REYES DEQUIROS

• Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. Edwin Reyes DeQuiros, a dedicated servant to the great people of West Virginia. After a 34 year career, Edwin is retiring as an Immigration Services Officer for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Application Support Center office in Charleston, WV.

Edwin is a joy to work with and has served as a valuable and consistent liaison between USCIS and my office. His goal is to try to assist the customers to the best of his knowledge and experience but not to the extent of compromising U.S. immigration laws and the USCIS policies and regulations.

Born and raised in the Philippines, Edwin is no stranger to the legal immigration process. In January of 1981, he married a young beautiful woman from Charleston, WV. Based upon this marriage and her approved immigration petition, the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines, issued an immigrant visa for him as the spouse of a U.S. citizen.

In September 1982, he and his wife, along with their then 10-month-old son, arrived in Los Angeles, CA. Finding a job in L.A. was difficult and frustrating as a new immigrant with no work experience in the United States in addition to not having a vehicle.

In November 1982, an experience he credits to the grace of God and answered prayer, he was hired by the Broadway Department Store, sister company of Neiman-Marcus, as a merchandise handler. His job was to unload merchandise from the semi-trucks to the stockrooms. A year later, he was promoted to a plainclothes loss prevention officer tasked with arresting shoplifters. Two years later, he became the loss prevention manager of the same store, and one of his duties was to apprehend dishonest store employees. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States in July of 1986.

In November 1987, he saw an advertisement in the Los Angeles Times that the legacy INS—now the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services—was hiring a Criminal Investigator/Special Agent. Edwin was hired

and became an INS Special Agent, attended the Immigration Officer Basic Training Course at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, GA, and was assigned to various units—Fraud, Employer Sanctions, Anti-Smuggling, Criminal Alien Apprehension Program, and the Violent Gang Task Force—within the INS Investigation Branch.

Nine years later, he transferred to the INS Investigation Branch in Charleston, WV, eventually named Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE. During his time as an ICE Senior Special Agent, he was assigned to investigate child pornography cases, import and export law violations, and human trafficking/smuggling cases.

After more than 20 years of combined and exemplary service with legacy INS and ICE, Edwin retired on September 29, 2008. Three days later, he was hired on a government contract as a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal with the U.S. Marshal Service in Charleston, WV. On January 30, 2012, he became an Immigration Services Officer for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services' Application Support Center office in Charleston, WV.

Edwin and his wife of 40 years, Christine, are the parents of two children, Adrian and Jeremy. In retirement, they will enjoy time with family, riding their road bikes, traveling and walking the trail paths along the Kanawha River. Edwin truly believes that wherever God leads him and however he serves Him, he can be used by God to help others shine His light. We thank Edwin for his service and for shining his light for those on the immigration path. It is a pleasure to call Edwin DeQuiros a fellow West Virginian.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MAURICE MAILHOT

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Maurice Mailhot of Berlin as June's Granite Stater of the Month. Maurice, a veteran who served in the Korean war and received two Purple Hearts during his service, worked diligently to help redesign Veteran's Memorial Park in Berlin. Starting with the memorial for the Spanish American War, Maurice worked through northern New Hampshire's grueling winter and into the spring to place each war memorial centrally and in chronological order in the park, creating a tribute worthy of New Hampshire's veterans.

The story of how Maurice came to redesign the park is a testament to his service to his community and his indomitable spirit. A lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, Maurice was asked by his fellow VFW members to lead and coordinate efforts to redesign Veteran's Memorial Park in downtown Berlin. As one of the oldest members of the group, Maurice could have said no and enjoyed his well-deserved retirement, but instead, he not only organized the redesign but

almost singlehandedly completed the construction himself.

Maurice, working mostly alone, dug holes around each memorial so that it could be lifted by machinery to a more optimal spot in the park. Maurice also designed a new signpost for the memorial park, replacing an older, wooden sign that failed to reflect the reverence that each of the war memorials is intended to convey. The new sign, made of solid, local granite, was donated by Maurice to honor Berlin's veteran community.

Maurice embodies what it means to be a Granite Stater. Long after his brave service to our country, Maurice continues to serve his community and has gone to extraordinary lengths to honor his fellow veterans. I am grateful not only for Maurice's service but also for his dedication to his community, and I am honored to recognize him.●

##### REMEMBERING MARCIA PINDER

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have the following article printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

[From the Daily Coach, June 30, 2021]

##### REMEMBERING A FLORIDA SIDELINE LEGEND

Some major names have stalked the sidelines of South Florida's high school basketball gyms over the years, including Frank Martin, Anthony Grant and Shakey Rodriguez. But few have done it with the sustained success of Dillard Women's Coach Marcia Pinder.

She served 44 seasons on the bench, winning 996 career games while guiding the Lady Panthers to 10 state titles, according to the Miami Herald.

Pinder died last week. She was 70.

Beyond any of her in-game schemes or pregame speeches, Pinder was a trusted confidant to hundreds of teenaged girls over the better part of five decades.

"She was a mentor, an advocate, a second mom to many of her players," Florida Rep. Omari Hardy wrote on Facebook. "She taught generations of young women how to excel on and off the court, and it was in that lasting, personal impact that she took the greatest pride."

Pinder was named Florida Dairy Farmers Girls' Basketball Coach of the Year five times over a six-year span beginning in 2010 and received the prestigious Morgan Wootten Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 2017, according to the Herald.

She was inducted into the National High School Athletic Association Coaches Hall of Fame in 2014.

Few high school coaches have won as many games as Pinder, but based on the number of poignant tributes that flooded social media following her death, it would seem safe to say that not many have touched as many lives.

"The epitome of mentorship, love, discipline and leadership," tweeted Ole Miss Women's Coach Yolett McCuin.

"She was more than just a Coach!" Auburn Women's Coach Johnnie Harris tweeted. "She impacted the lives of many people in many ways! She will always have a special place in my heart!"

Pinder's legacy serves as yet another pivotal reminder to us as leaders that as much as we agonize over Xs and Os, our bottom line, promotions or firings, what we'll be remembered for most is the way we uplift our players and employees.

"My biggest thrill," Pinder told the Herald in 2014, "comes from the girls getting into college and pursuing their degrees. When you constantly see these players get to college, it makes you feel good. You don't think about that last loss or last win. Some of them have turned out to be teachers and doctors. That is my Hall of Fame, right there."

May Coach Marcia Pinder rest in peace.●

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON JUNE 24, 2021

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 14. A bill to identify and combat corruption in countries, to establish a tiered system of countries with respect to levels of corruption by their governments and their efforts to combat such corruption, and to evaluate foreign persons engaged in grand corruption for inclusion as specially designated nationals under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act.

S. 65. A bill to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 67. A resolution calling for the immediate release of Trevor Reed, a United States citizen who was unjustly found guilty and sentenced to 9 years in a Russian prison.

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 89. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID-19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the principal or contributory causes of death, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 93. A bill to amend the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to modify the foreign persons subject to sanctions and to remove the sunset for the imposition of sanctions, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 107. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate relating to the 10th anniversary of the March 11, 2011, earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 165. A resolution calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 176. A resolution urging all parties in Georgia to seek prompt implementation of the agreement signed on April 19, 2021, and reaffirming the support of the Senate for Georgia, the territorial integrity of Georgia, and the aspirations of Georgians to join the Euro-Atlantic community.

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 189. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to be made automatically by law each year in the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

By Mr. TESTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 894. A bill to identify and refer members of the Armed Forces with a health care occupation who are separating from the Armed Forces for potential employment with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1041. A bill to advance the strategic alignment of United States diplomatic tools toward the realization of free, fair, and transparent elections in Nicaragua and to reaffirm the commitment of the United States to protect the fundamental freedoms and human rights of the people of Nicaragua, and for other purposes.

S. 1061. A bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2000. A bill to promote the United States-Greece defense partnership, and for other purposes.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS ON JUNE 26, 2021

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 291—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SOONERS SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2021 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

##### S. RES. 291

Whereas, on June 10, 2021, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team (referred to in this preamble as the "Sooners") won the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

Whereas, after losing the first game in the championship series, the Sooners won 2 consecutive games to beat Florida State University;

Whereas the Sooners, over the 46-year history of the University of Oklahoma softball program—

(1) have won 5 Women's College World Series championships, including 3 championships in the past 5 years; and

(2) have competed in 13 Women's College World Series;

Whereas the 2021 national championship for the Sooners builds on the strong tradition of success for the University of Oklahoma athletics department, the teams of which have delivered 39 team national championships and 295 conference titles throughout the rich history of the department;

Whereas the Sooners were the best team in the United States during the 2021 season, having never lost consecutive games all season and maintaining a perfect record in their home stadium to finish the season with 56 wins and 4 losses;

Whereas, during the 2021 season, the Sooners set records for team batting average, team slugging percentage, on-base percentage, home runs, and runs scored on their way to a fifth national championship;

Whereas Giselle "G" Juarez was named Most Outstanding Player of the Women's College World Series, throwing 218 pitches and 2 complete games to sweep the Florida State Seminoles in the final 2 games of the championship series;

Whereas Jocelyn Alo was named the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year and the Jim Thorpe Oklahoma Athlete of the Year, hitting 34 home runs and maintaining a 0.475 batting average during the 2021 season;

Whereas the Sooners players should be applauded for their outstanding contributions to the University of Oklahoma, to the achievement of winning a national championship, and to the sport of softball, including Rylie Boone, Kinsey Koeltzow, Grace Lyons, Shannon Saile, Taylon Snow, Paige Knight, Olivia Rains, Kinzie Hansen, Nicole Mendes, Mackenzie Donihoo, Macy McAdoo, Brooke Vestal, Nicole May, Jana Johns, Grace Green, Lynnsie Elam, Tiare Jennings, Jayda Coleman, Raylee Pogue, Zaida Puni, Giselle Juarez, Alanna Thiede, and Jocelyn Alo;

Whereas the Sooners coaches should be applauded for their outstanding leadership of the University of Oklahoma softball program and their role in guiding and mentoring young women at the University of Oklahoma, including Patty Gasso, Jennifer Rocha, JT Gasso, Erin Arevalo, Kelsey Arnold, and Sydney Romero;

Whereas head coach Patty Gasso has become a distinguished coach and leader in the softball community, which is evidenced by her—

(1) leading the Sooners to each of the 5 national championships in the history of the University of Oklahoma softball program; and

(2) racking up more than 1,300 wins in her coaching career at the University of Oklahoma;

Whereas the second game in the championship series was viewed by more than 2,600,000 people, setting a new viewership record for the Women's College World Series; and

Whereas the Sooners bring pride to the State of Oklahoma and the entire softball community: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team on winning the 2021 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the excellence and dedication of all coaches, support staff, and players whose contributions led to the victory in the 2021 Women's College World Series;

(3) celebrates alongside the students and faculty of the University of Oklahoma and Sooner fans around the United States; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Joseph Harroz, Jr., President of the University of Oklahoma;

(B) Joseph Castiglione, Director of Athletics and Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletic Programs of the University of Oklahoma; and

(C) Patty Gasso, head coach of the University of Oklahoma Sooners softball team.

# MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

## ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on June 28, 2021, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 409. An act to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1340. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to redefine the eastern and middle judicial districts of North Carolina.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the enrolled bills were signed on June 28, 2021, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. Kaine).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on June 28, 2021, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House had passed the following joint resolutions, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission relating to "Update of Commission's Conciliation Procedures".

S.J. Res. 14. 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 "Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Review".

S.J. Res. 15. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders".

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 239. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limitations on co-payments for contraception furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 391. An act to authorize a comprehensive, strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to strengthen global health security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 567. An act to establish an inter-agency program to assist countries in North and West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1443. An act to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to require the collection of small business loan data related to LGBTQ-owned businesses.

H.R. 1500. An act to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-

national Development to submit to Congress a report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on United States Agency for International Development basic education programs.

H.R. 2225. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2471. An act to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti.

H.R. 2662. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3005. An act to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to replace the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the United States Capitol with a bust of Thurgood Marshall to be obtained by the Joint Committee on the Library and to remove certain statues from areas of the United States Capitol which are accessible to the public, to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3261. An act to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution.

H.R. 3283. An act to repeal the joint resolution entitled "A joint resolution to promote peace and stability in the Middle East".

H.R. 3385. An act to waive the requirement to undergo a medical exam for aliens who are otherwise eligible for special immigrant status under the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3593. An act to provide guidance for and investment in the research and development activities of the Department of Energy Office of Science, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3684. An act to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 104(c)(2)(C)-(D) of title I, division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (Public Law 116-260), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Minority Leader appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Council: Mrs. JACKIE WALORSKI of Elkhart, Indiana.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Mr. COHEN of Tennessee, Co-Chair, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CLEAVER of Missouri, Mr. VEASEY of Texas, Mr. GALLEGOS of Arizona, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ADERHOLT of Alabama, Mr. HUDSON of North Carolina, and Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 535(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346d(e)), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund Advisory Board: Mr. Robert Wexler of Potomac, Maryland.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 239. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limitations on co-payments for contraception furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 391. An act to authorize a comprehensive, strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to strengthen global health security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 567. An act to establish an inter-agency program to assist countries in North and West Africa to improve immediate and long-term capabilities to counter terrorist threats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1443. An act to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to require the collection of small business loan data related to LGBTQ-owned businesses; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1500. An act to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to submit to Congress a report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on United States Agency for International Development basic education programs; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2225. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2471. An act to measure the progress of post-disaster recovery and efforts to address corruption, governance, rule of law, and media freedoms in Haiti; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2662. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3261. An act to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3283. An act to repeal the joint resolution entitled "A joint resolution to promote peace and stability in the Middle East"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3385. An act to waive the requirement to undergo a medical exam for aliens who are otherwise eligible for special immigrant status under the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3593. An act to provide guidance for and investment in the research and development activities of the Department of Energy Office of Science, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3684. An act to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2311. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes.

## ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on June 28, 2021, she had presented

to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 409. An act to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1340. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to redefine the eastern and middle judicial districts of North Carolina.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on June 30, 2021, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolutions:

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission relating to "Update of Commission's Conciliation Procedures".

S.J. Res. 14. 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 "Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Review".

S.J. Res. 15. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders".

#### PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RON WYDEN, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Melanie Anne Egorin, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, vice Sarah C. Arbes.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment.

S. 688. A bill to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-028).

By Mr. DURBIN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 601. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

S. 1014. A bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2307. A bill to provide for the establishment of COVID-19 and pandemic response

centers of excellence; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2308. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the threshold for small start projects under the fixed guideway capital investment grant program, to allow certain environmental review expenditures to count for purposes of non-Federal matches, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WARNOCK:

S. 2309. A bill to improve the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KING:

S. 2310. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study regarding codes and standards for use of energy storage systems across sectors and demonstrate certain second-life applications of electric vehicle batteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 2311. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 2312. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 2313. A bill for the relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 2314. A bill to ensure the safety of workers of contractors that serve and supply the Armed Forces and the accountable use of taxpayer dollars; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 2315. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program to provide health care coverage to low-income adults in States that have not expanded Medicaid; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 2316. A bill to expand eligibility for certain housing programs for qualified volunteer first responders; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 297. A resolution recognizing the commemorating Native Hawaiian Delegate Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole's lifelong advocacy on behalf of Hawai'i and the Native Hawaiian people on the 100th anniversary of his paramount congressional achievement—the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 65

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

DURBIN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 65, a bill to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes.

S. 368

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 368, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

S. 377

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 452

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 452, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

S. 605

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underride crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 634, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 638

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 638, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to include a payment and performance security requirement for certain infrastructure financing, and for other purposes.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 657, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 744

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California

(Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 744, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 773, a bill to enable certain hospitals that were participating in or applied for the drug discount program under section 340B of the Public Health Service Act prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency to temporarily maintain eligibility for such program, and for other purposes.

S. 814

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 814, a bill to promote security partnership with Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 834

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 834, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 988

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 988, a bill to provide competitive grants for the promotion of Japanese American confinement education as a means to understand the importance of democratic principles, use and abuse of power, and to raise awareness about the importance of cultural tolerance toward Japanese Americans, and for other purposes.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 1079

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1079, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the troops from the United States and the Philippines who defended Bataan and Corregidor, in recognition of their personal sacrifice and service during World War II.

S. 1221

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1221, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to create a classification that more ac-

curately reflects the vital role of wildland firefighters.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1271, a bill to reauthorize the Clean School Bus Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1378

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1378, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the retirement of certain animals used in Federal research, and for other purposes.

S. 1451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1451, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 1596

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1596, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

S. 1825

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1825, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish consumer product safety standards for firearm locks and firearm safes, and for other purposes.

S. 1872

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1872, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1941

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1941, a bill to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Fed-

eral programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations, and for other purposes.

S. 2057

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2057, a bill to appropriately limit the size of the population required for urban areas of metropolitan statistical areas.

S. 2102

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2102, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mammography screening for veterans who served in locations associated with toxic exposure.

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2102, *supra*.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to prohibit the Administrator of General Services from establishing per diem reimbursements rates for travel within the continental United States (commonly known as "CONUS") for certain fiscal years below a certain level, and for other purposes.

S. 2177

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2177, a bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to ensure sufficient bonding and complete and timely reclamation of land and water disturbed by Federal and Indian oil and gas production, and for other purposes.

S. 2221

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2221, a bill to restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950, and for other purposes.

S. 2287

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2287, a bill to improve Federal population surveys by requiring the collection of voluntary, self-disclosed information on sexual orientation and gender identity in certain surveys, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Nebraska



(Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 2311. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, over the weeks, I have been rising on the Senate floor to urge that the Senate take up and pass an emergency supplemental. So I am rising again to tell you what that emergency supplemental is, even though I have stated it over and over again. It is to deal with the fallout from the violent insurrection that took place at the seat of our democracy on January 6.

I have been making this call for 2 months now. I am frustrated and beginning to feel a little bit like a broken record. Just days before this Chamber left for the July 4 recess, I sounded the alarm that time was running out. It is even more so today. The Senate has only a few weeks to act. If we do nothing, the Capitol Police will deplete salaries funding sometime in August. And for anybody who hasn't looked at the calendar, that is next month. This means that the men and women who protect the seat of democracy and Members of Congress and their staff in this building and the support staff who keep the building running may face furloughs and significant impacts to the department's programs and mission asset support, including the hiring of much needed new sworn officers. These are the same women and men who fought and bled—and some died—for everything this hallowed building stands for. That happened on January 6.

We owe them more than just a paycheck. As a result of this budget crunch, purchases of critical equipment—like respirators, ballistic helmets, protective gear—and training that has all been delayed. Efforts to implement the department's wellness program to address mental health concerns that followed the January 6 insurrection have been put on the back burner. These police officers stood with us on that horrible day. Shouldn't we stand with them now and pass the emergency appropriations to address these shortfalls?

And I point out that it is not only the Capitol Police that we owe. Our distinguished Presiding Officer served with distinction in our military. I think of the days after January 6, when tens and thousands of men and women from the National Guard from all over the country came to secure our Nation's Capital ahead of the inauguration and beyond. They were called, they came, and they appeared here. Like many other Senators, I thank

them for their service. But unless Congress acts, the National Guard will be forced to cut training they need to prepare for overseas deployments and responses at home to make up for the costs incurred as a result of January 6.

If we have, as we often do, forest fires, hurricanes, and floods that hit our individual States, we are going to want to call on the National Guard. But what we are seeing now, if we don't pass this bill, is this: Gee, come when we call you, and the check may be in the mail a year or 2 or 3 years later or never at all.

Now, we don't budget for an insurrection, but it has been 187 days since the violent mob stormed the very Chamber we are standing in now, sitting in the same Presiding Officer's chair where our distinguished Presiding Officer now sits. My memory of the growing roar of that mob echoing down the hallway as the Capitol Police whisked us to safety has not faded. It hasn't faded from the consciousness of the American people or the rest of the world.

It has been 53 days since the House passed its own security supplemental, and I was shocked that not a single Republican voted for it. So I provided my Republican colleagues here in the Senate with a proposal to address these pressing needs and many others. I did that over a month ago, and I urged that we begin negotiations in earnest. Only now have they come to the table with a proposal. While I appreciate them bringing something, it is a pretty small something. It is a proposal that does not provide the appropriate resources to secure the Capitol or address the urgent needs that have arisen since January 6.

The images of the mob breaking through windows and forcing their way through doors exposed the truth. The Capitol and its office buildings are not impenetrable. It is not a fortress. The windows can be broken. The doors can be breached. This complex is no longer shrouded with the protection of belief that it is not possible to storm these Halls. Much like the windows, that protection was shattered, and it was broadcast to the whole world on January 6. See, the emperor has no clothes.

Unfortunately, the Republican proposal would not adequately address our vulnerabilities.

I have been very clear saying over and over again that I don't want to militarize our Capitol in the wake of January 6. It is important that the Capitol campus that I first saw as a teenager with my mother and father remain open for citizens from all walks of life to come and enjoy. It is their democracy after all. But we can and we must invest in securing the Capitol in a way that will address our vulnerabilities, protect Members and staff, and still keep us open to the public. I am confident that we can strike that balance.

We also have a responsibility to pay for the unforeseen costs of investing and prosecuting these violent insur-

gents. The FBI, the U.S. Marshals, the DC Metropolitan Police Department, and numerous other law enforcement agencies hurried to defend the Capitol at the urgent call, and we are all thankful for that.

Federal prosecutors have charged more than 500 people in more than 40 States with participating in the attack, and arrests continue almost daily. We have a responsibility to support these Agencies in dealing with January 6 and its aftermath, but it is not addressed in the Republican proposal. I am tired of hearing people saying we are in favor of law and order and law enforcement, but we just don't want to pay for it.

It should not be lost on us that we were not the ones to sweep up the shattered glasses, scrub the floors and walls of this building on that day and throughout the night. We cannot turn our backs on the dedicated public servants, the women and men who had to process that trauma that day as they boarded up shattered windows and broken doors. And it is a trauma that came at the end of a yearlong pandemic.

It should not be lost on us that during the darkest hours of the pandemic, these are the same public servants who came to work to clean our offices, ensuring our safety and the safety of our staff. We have a responsibility to pay for these and other costs that were incurred as a result of the pandemic on the Capitol Complex and its staff.

Now, of course, we did not budget for an insurrection. We don't budget for a global pandemic. We have been forced to rob Peter to pay Paul to keep our congressional community safe and healthy. The scars of COVID have not healed in our own Capitol community, and they have not been addressed in the other party's proposal.

But we can't also ignore the world around us. We have another emergency brewing. This one is in Afghanistan, and we have a moral responsibility to address it. I have been talking for 2 years now of an imminent departure from Afghanistan. Now it is happening, and we must ensure that the brave Afghans who stood with America are not abandoned as we conclude our mission in that country.

I am fortunate that there is bipartisan support for this effort. I think this is something where Republicans and Democrats have to come together. We made a promise. Whether you supported the war or not, we made a promise to the Afghans who risked their own lives to support and protect our troops and our country. We made a promise to them, and as a country our word should be our bond. And we all agree—I believe both Republicans and Democrats—that bond is not going to be broken on our watch. And if we don't address this now, if we don't keep our word now, then when?

The bill I am introducing today includes funds to care for the inevitable flood of Afghan refugees to neighboring



countries and an increase in the number of Afghan special immigrant visas. They must be included in this package because the crisis is unfolding now.

There is no dispute about the urgency and the importance of standing with our Afghan allies. My colleagues on the other side do not address it in their proposal. I hope they will.

So where are we? A violent insurrection that none of us thought we would ever see in our lifetime happened. A pandemic that we thought we would never see in our lifetime happened. And the President has announced the withdrawal of the American troops from Afghanistan. These events created urgent needs that must be met.

My Republican colleagues are proposing that we deal with these problems piecemeal, address some of them now and others sometime, somewhere, someday. But a piecemeal approach that jumps from one problem to the next is no way to govern. I have been here long enough to know that a promise to do it later is no promise at all.

It has been 53 days since the House passed a security supplemental, and only now are my Republican colleagues coming to the negotiating table. I don't want to wait another 53 days more before we address these pressing matters. We can't govern by crisis, and we can't legislate at the convenience of either party. So I am introducing my comprehensive proposal today.

To make sure it is not a surprise to anybody, I shared this proposal with my Republican colleagues more than a month ago—a month ago—and I am sharing it with the full Senate today. It addresses all the needs arising from the tragic events of January 6 and the global pandemic.

This is the best way forward. We owe it to our Members in both parties. We owe it to our staff. We owe it to the Capitol Police. We owe it to the National Guard, and we owe it to numerous others. We must act, and we must act in a comprehensive way. We have only one shot at this. We have a responsibility to get it right.

With that, Madam President, at the end of my remarks, I introduce a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes. I ask to have it held at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill is received.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 2313. A bill for the relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I am reintroducing a bill for the private relief of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera and her parents. Ms. Bueso is a Guatemalan national living in Concord, California. She has a rare medical condition, and her removal from the United States would deprive her of life-saving medical care.

Ms. Bueso suffers from a rare, life-threatening disorder called Mucopolysaccharidosis Type VI (MPS-VI), a rare genetic condition caused by the absence of an enzyme that is needed for the growth of healthy bones and connective tissues. Ms. Bueso uses a wheelchair for mobility, has a shunt in her brain, and requires a tracheotomy to help her breathe.

In 2003, Ms. Bueso and her family came to the United States at the invitation of doctors who were conducting a clinical trial to treat her condition. That trial led to Food and Drug Administration-approved treatment for MPS-VI. Ms. Bueso now receives this life-saving treatment every week at UCSF Children's Hospital in Oakland, CA, where she undergoes a 6-hour infusion of a prescription drug that replaces the enzyme that people with MPS-VI lack. Ms. Bueso has participated in six other medical trials.

For the past 10 years, Isabel and her family received deferred action from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services so that she could continue receiving the treatments that keep her alive. This treatment is not available in Guatemala.

On August 13, 2019, USCIS notified Ms. Bueso and her family that their extensions of deferred action were denied, and that they would be deported if they did not leave the United States within 33 days.

This decision was effectively a death sentence for Ms. Bueso. USCIS ultimately reconsidered its decision and granted Ms. Bueso and her parents an additional extension of deferred action.

Ms. Bueso has beaten the odds because of the life-saving treatment that she has received in the United States. She is now 26 years old and a 2018 graduate of California State University, East Bay. She has become an outspoken advocate on behalf of people with rare diseases. Her family pays taxes, owns a home, and is active in their community.

The Bueso family should be allowed to remain in California, where they will continue to enrich their community, and where Isabel will be able to receive the care that allows her to survive and thrive.

The legislation that I am introducing today would provide a permanent solution for Isabel and her parents. I ask my colleagues to support this private bill, which makes the Bueso family eligible for issuance of an immigrant visa or for adjustment of status.

I also ask unanimous consent that a copy of the bill be included in the RECORD.

S. 2313

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

**SECTION 1. PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS FOR MARIA ISABEL BUESO BARRERA, ALBERTO BUESO MENDOZA, AND KARLA MARIA BARRERA DE BUESO.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of section 201 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1151), Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso shall each be eligible for issuance of an immigrant visa or for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence upon filing an application for issuance of an immigrant visa under section 204 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1154) or for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident.

(b) ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS.—If Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, or Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso enters the United States before the filing deadline specified in subsection (c), Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, or Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso shall be considered to have entered and remained lawfully in the United States and shall be eligible for adjustment of status under section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1255) as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) APPLICATION AND PAYMENT OF FEES.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall apply only if the applications for issuance of immigrant visas or the applications for adjustment of status are filed with appropriate fees not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) REDUCTION OF IMMIGRANT VISA NUMBERS.—Upon the granting of immigrant visas or permanent resident status to Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper officer to reduce by three, during the current or next following fiscal year—

(1) the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of birth of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso under section 203(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(a)); or

(2) if applicable, the total number of immigrant visas that are made available to natives of the country of birth of Maria Isabel Bueso Barrera, Alberto Bueso Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso under section 202(e) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1152(e)).

(e) PAYGO.—The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

**SENATE RESOLUTION 297—RECOGNIZING AND COMMEMORATING NATIVE HAWAIIAN DELEGATE JONAH KŪHIŌ KALANIANAʻOLE'S LIFELONG ADVOCACY ON BEHALF OF HAWAII AND THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PARAMOUNT CONGRESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT—THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT, 1920**

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 297

Whereas Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole was born on March 26, 1871, in Kōloa, Kauaʻi in the Kingdom of Hawaiʻi, the youngest of 3

sons to High Chief David Kahalepouli Piʻikoi and Princess Victoria Kinoiki Kekaulike;

Whereas, in 1883, Kūhiō was named a Prince by royal proclamation of his uncle, King Kalākaua;

Whereas Prince Kūhiō attended St. Alban's College and O'ahu College in Honolulu, St. Matthew's Military School in San Mateo, California—where he and his brothers were the first to introduce the sport of surfing in the United States—and the Royal Agricultural College in Gloucestershire, England;

Whereas Prince Kūhiō served in the Kingdom of Hawai'i's Ministry of Interior and Customs, and later became a close confidant and advisor to the Kingdom of Hawai'i's last reigning monarch, Queen Liliʻuokalani;

Whereas, on January 17, 1893, a group of armed sugar planters, descendants of missionaries, and financiers, from the United States and Europe deposed the Hawaiian monarchy, and imprisoned Queen Liliʻuokalani;

Whereas a United States Minister thereafter extended diplomatic recognition to the Provisional Government, without the consent of the Native Hawaiian people or the lawful Government of Hawai'i, and in violation of international law and the treaties between the 2 nations;

Whereas, on July 4, 1894, the Provisional Government reorganized as the Republic of Hawai'i and adopted a constitution prohibiting many Native Hawaiians and citizens of Asian descent from voting, which frustrated Prince Kūhiō;

Whereas, after failing to annex Hawai'i to the United States by treaty, the United States took the unprecedented step of annexing Hawai'i by Joint Resolution on July 7, 1898;

Whereas, on April 30, 1900, President McKinley signed the Act of April 30, 1900 (31 Stat. 141, chapter 339) (commonly known as the "Hawaii Organic Act"), formally establishing Hawai'i as a territory of the United States, even though the Native Hawaiian people never directly relinquished their claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people or over their national lands to the United States, either through their monarchy or through a plebiscite or referendum;

Whereas, in 1902, Prince Kūhiō won his first bid for Congress with considerable Native Hawaiian support, and continued to serve as Hawai'i's delegate from 1903 to 1921;

Whereas, upon arriving in Washington, D.C., Prince Kūhiō encountered racial prejudice and a general lack of knowledge about Hawai'i and the Hawaiian people on the continent, including in Congress and the executive branch;

Whereas the Governor of the Territory of Hawai'i proclaimed that Prince Kūhiō "engaged in the rough and tumble of public discussion and politics with a vigor, sincerity, and general spirit of good sportsmanship that established the merits of his leadership among all elements . . . [and] [h]e was loyal, courageous, sincere, and his personal integrity was never attacked even by inference";

Whereas Prince Kūhiō worked tirelessly to protect and perpetuate the Native Hawaiian people and their culture by re-establishing the Royal Order of Kamehameha I in 1903, founding the 'Ahahui Pu'uhonua O Nā Hawai'i (Hawaiian Protective Organization) in 1914 alongside other Native Hawaiian political leaders, and helping form the Hawaiian Civic Clubs in 1918;

Whereas Prince Kūhiō, as a Member of Congress, secured a \$27,000,000 appropriation to improve and expand Pearl Harbor, facilitated construction of the Makapu'u Point Lighthouse, established a Hawai'i National Park covering land on Kīlauea, Mauna Loa, and Haleakalā, shaped the foundation for Hawai'i's modern government structure by

instituting the county system still in place today, sponsored the first bill for Hawai'i's statehood in 1919, and lent his support to a territorial women's suffrage bill;

Whereas Prince Kūhiō established a homesteading program for Native Hawaiians through his historic legislative accomplishment, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42);

Whereas Prince Kūhiō was appointed as the first member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, which continues to manage certain public lands, known as Hawaiian home lands, for homesteading purposes, and served the Native Hawaiian people in that role until the time of his death; and

Whereas the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42) amended the Act of April 30, 1900 (31 Stat. 141, chapter 339) (commonly known as the "Hawaii Organic Act") to set aside roughly 200,000 acres across the Hawaiian Islands for exclusive homesteading by eligible Native Hawaiians and continues to guide the Federal Government's fulfillment of its trust responsibilities to Native Hawaiians as a distinct and unique indigenous people with a historical continuity to the original inhabitants of the Hawaiian archipelago: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and commemorates Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole, a Native Hawaiian Delegate from Hawai'i and lifelong advocate for Hawai'i and the Native Hawaiian people, including his work to pass the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42);

(2) commits itself to affirming and upholding the special political and trust relationship that Congress established between the United States and the Native Hawaiian people through more than 150 separate statutes; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to celebrate Prince Kūhiō's legacy and the 100th anniversary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 (42 Stat. 108, chapter 42).

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, July 12, 2021, at 6 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2311 AND H.R. 3684

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I understand that there are two bills at the desk, and I ask for their reading en bloc.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2311) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 3684) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 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 upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Zeya nomination, postcloture; that the postcloture debate time expire at 11:30 a.m.; further, that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Su nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that if cloture is invoked on the Su nomination, all postcloture time expire at 2:30 p.m.; finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator MORAN.

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

Mr. MORAN. Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The Senator from Kansas.

#### CUBA

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I rise this evening to express my support for the Cuban people who have taken to the streets of their country to advocate for a government that can meet their basic needs of food, medicine, and political rights.

The Cuban Government is attempting to deflect responsibility for the plight of its own people by blaming the United States of America. It is not our country that denies basic political freedoms to ordinary Cubans. The oppression is underscored by the fact that these are the first significant protests in Cuba in 25 years.

The people of Cuba cannot be blamed for the actions of a Cuban Government

that greets those who speak out for a different future with violent crack-downs. In response to the latest protests, the regime says it is “prepared to do anything” to protect the current system.

Along with most all American people, I stand in solidarity with the demonstrating Cubans, and in a particular way, I seek to improve their lives by leading bipartisan legislation that would lift our country’s 60-year-old trade embargo with Cuba. While this legislation would provide a new market for our own farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers, it also deprives the Cuban Government of its false talking point that the United States is some-

how the cause of the misery of the Cuban people.

After 60 years of communist rule, 11 million Cubans deserve better. They deserve freedom. They deserve dignity. They deserve hope. We have witnessed this intense desire in a powerful way this weekend. The courage of Cubans who are risking their livelihoods—and possibly their lives—does not go unnoticed. They stand alongside those in Hong Kong, in Minsk, and in Moscow who challenge governments that disregard inalienable rights.

As demonstrations to enact change in Havana continue, I pray they be peaceful and effective at bringing about a brighter tomorrow for the citizens of Cuba.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:01 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at 10 a.m.

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#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate July 12, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JEN EASTERLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.