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## Senate

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

### PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

O God, You reveal Yourself in the glory of the Heavens and in the whisper of conscience. Make us aware of Your presence as this day unfolds. Lord, grant that this knowledge of Your involvement in our day will influence our thoughts, words, and deeds. Help us to focus on serving and pleasing You as You lift us above suspicions and fears. Sustain our lawmakers in their important work. Lord, remind them that to do something well usually requires the patience to persevere. Increase in us all a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

We pray in Your righteous Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will pro-

ceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

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

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER  
The majority leader is recognized.

### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, Members are working around the clock to finish the year on a strong note. This week, the Senate will consider the bipartisan National Defense Authorization bill, which I hope we will send to the President's desk very soon. The NDAA has consistently been a bipartisan effort, and that is my expectation this year too.

On the nominations front, we are going to keep working as long as we can to confirm as many exceptional Biden nominees as possible. Since the start of the Biden administration, we have confirmed a total of 95—95—judicial nominees to the bench, including 1 Supreme Court Justice, 68 district judges, and 26—26—circuit court judges.

Let me say that again. Over the past 2 years, we have confirmed 95 new judges to the bench, including 26 circuit court judges, surpassing the first 2 years of the past two administrations.

Today, we will confirm judge No. 96 when we vote on Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to serve as a circuit judge on the Third Circuit. An alumnus of the

University of Mississippi and Georgia Law School, Judge Montgomery-Reeves served as a clerk in Delaware before embarking on a successful career in private practice. In 2005, she was appointed to the Delaware Court of Chancery and then to the State supreme court in 2020, becoming the first Black woman to ever serve in either court.

When confirmed, Judge Montgomery-Reeves will join in the proud company of so many other Biden appointees who, little by little, are reshaping our courts for the better. Of the 95 judges we have confirmed to date, 71 are women, about 75 percent; 65 are people of color, almost 70 percent; 45 are women of color, nearly 50 percent; and 23 are Black women, nearly 25 percent.

We have never seen a class of new judges that brings so much diversity, variety, and dynamism in a single 2-year stretch.

And, of course, it is not just the diversity of demography that matters. In the last 2 years, the Senate has confirmed more civil rights lawyers, public defenders, election attorneys, immigration lawyers than we typically see in this Chamber. It is a big reason today why our courts are more balanced and more dynamic and more experienced than they were 2 years ago.

You can be sure that judges will remain a top priority in the Congress to come. More judges mean a more balanced judiciary, and a more balanced judiciary will mean greater trust in our courts in the long run—so important for our country at this moment in time because the MAGA Supreme Court and so many of these other MAGA judges have caused people to lose faith in the courts.

### OMNIBUS

Madam President, on the omni, as we keep working on confirming more judges and advancing the defense authorization bill, both sides also continue negotiating a deal for a yearlong

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



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omnibus. Over the weekend, appropriators held positive and productive conversations, enough that both sides are moving forward in good faith to reach a deal, even if it is not going to be everything both sides want.

Later this week, Members should be prepared to take quick action on a CR, a 1-week CR, so we can give appropriators more time to finish a full funding bill before the holidays.

I am optimistic we could take action on a CR rather quickly and avoid the shutdown that neither side wants—and that is a 1-week CR. The benefits of an omnibus are as many as the number of citizens in America.

All of us are better off when the government is fully equipped to provide vital services millions rely on. One group who very much needs an omnibus are our veterans.

Last week, the VA wrote Congress a letter warning that a CR would mean a \$10 billion shortfall for the VA. That means fewer healthcare workers on the job, it would mean a surge in the backlog of claims, and, God forbid, it would throw a wrench in the VA's plan to implement something that we are also proud that we passed on a bipartisan basis this summer: the PACT Act.

There is no reason we need to go down this road. The brave Americans who have served our country in uniform should never have to suffer the consequences of failing to fund the government; but, unfortunately, that is the risk they face as of right now if we don't finish the job.

So to all my colleagues, let's continue negotiations in good faith. Both sides are going to have to give in order to get it done, but it will be worth it if it means doing right by our veterans, our servicemembers in uniforms, our kids, their families. That is what is at stake here in this process to fund the government.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM

Madam President, finally, on anti-Semitism, earlier today I had the honor of addressing a gathering organized by the Orthodox Union in New York, to address the dangers—serious dangers—of rising anti-Semitism. Over the past two months, American Jews have watched in horror as numerous public figures, from entertainers all the way to former President Trump, have fanned the flames of anti-Semitism through their words and conduct.

It is a sad reminder that after decades of hard-won progress, unfortunately, sadly, anti-Semitism is on a resurgence here in America. We see anti-Semitism not only through slurs and graffiti and threats, all of which are abhorrent and unacceptable, but also physical violence against our Jewish brothers and sisters, sometimes tragically deadly—Poway, Jersey City, Monsey, Pittsburgh. And not to mention the weekly attacks against synagogues and schools and Jewish communities that never reach the spotlight. All American Jews know and remember these names. They are seared in

our memories. And unless we can come together as a community and as a country to address this crisis, I fear we will soon have to add more names to the list.

Of course, I have personal experience about this kind of anti-Semitism in terms of my family. My great-grandparents lived in a place in western Ukraine. They had 18 children, believing devoutly in the Bible and God's first command to man, which was "be fruitful and multiply."

My grandfather was one of three of those 18 who came to America, but the other 15 stayed there. And when the Nazis came into western Ukraine, they told my great-grandmother—her husband had been a well-known Jewish scholar and had passed away—and they told my great-grandmother to gather her larger family on the porch. Thirty-five people gathered on the porch from ages 85 to 4 months. The Nazis said: Come with us. She was a tough lady, she said: We are not moving. And they machine-gunned every one of them down.

These are the stakes. When the former President of the United States welcomes, at his own dinner table, several vicious anti-Semites, and then rather than apologize, he lectures American Jewish leaders for insufficient loyalty, it is incumbent on all of us to speak out.

I am proud of many Jewish organizations that did speak out, some of them former strong allies of the former President. It has made a big difference. Now, of course, America's roots of democracy are far deeper than those that existed in Europe. But the lesson of history is we must speak out against bigotry of all types or it grows. Its evil seed grows.

I shudder—I shudder—to think of what it would mean for the safety of our children, their children, and their children after that if the ideology elevated by the former President were to continue to seep into our society like a poison. Every single one of us, without exception, has an obligation to call out the poison of anti-Semitism and all other bigotries wherever they arise.

To tolerate them and let them grow risks horrors that we have seen in the past around the globe and we don't want to see in the future.

I yield the floor.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

#### NDAA

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, the Senate gavels in today with our annual defense bill still unpassed, with less than 1 week remaining of government funding, and less than 2 weeks left until our hard stop for the holidays on December 23. That is the bad news. But the good news is that both sides have a clear understanding of what it takes to finish our work on a bipartisan basis.

First, Senators INHOFE and REED and their House counterparts have passed

out a strong bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act. The Senate should turn to it as soon as possible.

But, of course, Congress authorizing the tools, training, and equipment that our Armed Forces need will accomplish very little if we fail to then provide the actual funding.

Both sides know what it would take for the Senate to pass a full-year government funding bill into law. There is no mystery here. A funding agreement would need to fully fund our national defense at the level written into the NDAA without—without—lavishing extra funding beyond what President Biden even requested onto Democrats' partisan domestic priorities. In other words, do not go beyond what the President asked for earlier this year on the domestic side.

Our Democratic colleagues have already spent 2 years massively—massively—increasing domestic spending, using party-line reconciliation bills outside the normal appropriations process.

So, clearly, our colleagues cannot now demand even more—more—domestic spending than President Biden even requested in exchange for funding the U.S. military. Funding our national defense is a basic governing duty.

The Commander in Chief's own party does not get to demand a pile of unrelated goodies in exchange for doing their job and funding our Armed Forces.

If House and Senate Democratic colleagues can accept these realities in the very near future, we may still have a shot at assembling a full-year funding bill that will give our military commanders the certainty they need to invest, plan, and stay competitive with rivals like China.

If our Democratic colleagues can't accept those realities, the option will be a short-term, bipartisan funding bill into early next year.

#### YEMEN

Madam President, now on a related matter, events from Europe to Asia, to the Middle East continue to demonstrate on a daily basis why American global strength and leadership are essential for protecting our homeland, our core interests, and our allies and partners.

But, unfortunately, Senator SANDERS from Vermont has drafted a resolution that would pull America back from global leadership in a clumsy and deeply counterproductive way.

Our colleague has prepared a resolution attempting to further limit America's support for the U.N.-recognized Government in Yemen and the Saudi-led coalition helping defend it against Iranian-backed Houthi terrorists.

I welcome debate about American policy toward Iran, and that is what this resolution is really about—not Yemen, but Tehran.

There is no question about Tehran's role in the fighting in Yemen from the very beginning. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is intimately involved.

Less than 1 month ago, the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard stopped a wooden sailing vessel heading from Iran to Yemen and found 70–70–tons of missile fuel component that Iran was trying to sneak to the terrorist rebels—this, on top of countless small arms, UAVs, and rockets that Iran has provided to support Houthi terror.

Iran has long seen the fight in Yemen as a way to expand its influence and tighten its grip on regional power. There is little question that an Iran-backed Houthi victory over the U.N.-recognized Government of Yemen would be bad news for American interests in the region and the interests of our close partners.

Iran and their Houthi partners want a platform to launch indiscriminate terrorist attacks against civilian cities in Saudi Arabia and the UAE and against ships belonging to Israel and other internationally flagged vessels.

The Iranians will continue to use Yemen as a testing site for the same kinds of weapons that Iran has long used to target and kill American forces in Iraq and Syria—the same kinds of weapons Iran is now also providing to Russia to rain death and destruction on Ukraine.

This is just about the worst imaginable time the U.S. Congress could go out of our way to alleviate the pressure that Tehran and its Houthi proxies are feeling.

A fragile cease-fire in Yemen is on the line. Why send a signal that we are backing away from our partners? Why emboldened the Houthis at this juncture?

Just as the Iranian people themselves are fed up and have been fighting back against their country's oppressive regime, Senator SANDERS wants to cut Tehran a huge break?

If the United States inflicts this kind of self-inflicted wound on our Middle East strategy; Iran will celebrate; Russia will pop champagne; China will enjoy more oxygen to expand its own creeping regional influence as well; and America's allies and partners will be left questioning our resolve, our partnership, and wondering if it wouldn't be a safer bet to turn toward Beijing instead.

Yemen is also home to the wing of al-Qaida that poses the greatest threat to the United States. Don't take my word for it. President Biden's Director of National Intelligence, Avril Haines, has publicly warned about the threat from AQAP in Yemen.

We rely on the U.N.-recognized Government in Yemen, as well as key partners in the region like Saudi Arabia and the UAE, to keep pressure on al-Qaida on multiple fronts.

Do we really want to send a signal to partners on whom we can rely that they cannot rely on us?

I have been critical of the Biden administration's mistakes in the Middle East and its passivity in the face of Iranian aggression, but even this administration strongly—strongly—opposes Senator SANDERS' resolution.

The Senate has enough crucial business to tackle this week without going out of our way to make life better—better—for our enemies and harder for our partners.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, about to come before us.

First, let me say this bill is aptly named in recognition of nearly three decades of service in the Senate of our colleague Senator JIM INHOFE of Oklahoma. I count him as a friend, and I wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

I am grateful to him, Chairman JACK REED from Rhode Island, and their staff for working to produce this bill.

This is the 62nd year that Congress has reached a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to produce this Defense authorization bill. It is about the only thing which you can count on with regularity every year, and I commend Senator REED and Senator INHOFE for maintaining that tradition and maintaining our commitment to the men and women in uniform and the defense of the United States.

This fiscal year 2023 Defense authorization bill has a top line of nearly \$858 billion for defense and a deserved 4.6-percent pay raise for our troops—that is the largest increase in 20 years—to help military families deal with inflation.

The bill also supports employment opportunities for military spouses, their kids, and improved military housing and childcare.

It ensures that the United States can defend effectively against threats from China, North Korea, or any other nation foolish enough to challenge.

And it boosts military aid to Ukraine, which is at the frontline of democracy, as defense against the Russian thug's brutal and illegal war.

The bill invests important and innovative capabilities and technologies to improve the safety of military tactical vehicles and discover PFAS-free alternatives to firefighting.

And it includes several provisions that I requested with Senator DUCKWORTH, from protecting Scott Air Force Base—one of our premier Air Force bases—from divestment to strengthening security cooperation with our Baltic allies, to expanding Federal mental health services after FEMA emergency declarations.

I am pleased the bill also includes bipartisan provisions from the Judiciary Committee to improve the security of

Federal judges and strengthen protection for sexual assault survivors.

You wonder, What is that doing in this bill?

This bill is the vehicle for many good things to happen, and the bills that I have just referenced were bipartisan bills coming out of committee which we have hitched a ride on this bill to deliver.

At the same time, I am troubled by several provisions in the text of the bill.

First, this bill would lift the Pentagon's policy of requiring servicemembers in the military to receive COVID-19 vaccines. This is an extremely alarming and even dangerous decision.

Mandatory vaccinations for the U.S. military are not new. They date back to the earliest days before we were a nation, when George Washington ordered small pox inoculations for troops in the Continental Army.

The Pentagon currently requires several vaccines for military members, and appropriate exemptions already exist for medical and religious purposes.

So many troops serve around the world in extreme conditions and in close quarters for extended periods of time by assignment, making any risk of infectious disease such as COVID all the more threatening and troubling.

And the lingering damage of long COVID—and don't discount it. There are Members of the Senate who are privately and quietly battling with this issue—including respiratory, heart, neurological, and autoimmune conditions. This underscores the importance of our servicemembers being vaccinated.

Thankfully—thankfully—more than 97 percent of all Department of Defense employees have been fully vaccinated, and more than 99 percent of Active-Duty servicemembers have had at least one dose.

But the repeal of this mandate at the insistence of Republican Members of the House is a dangerous, disturbing insertion of politics into an important public health and national security matter.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, whom I greatly respect, has made it clear that he opposes this provision, as do I.

In addition, the final bill extends for another year unnecessary restrictions on transferring detainees from the detention facility at Guantanamo. Did you think Guantanamo was gone and closed? No, it isn't.

Included in this bill is a complete ban of transfer of any of these detainees to the mainland of the United States for any purpose whatsoever for any period of time.

This ban includes even transfers to the United States for prosecution in a Federal court or necessary medical care.

This puts our medical professionals in a terrible, untenable, unprofessional position of having to provide medical

care that cannot be safely provided on that naval base, Guantanamo.

That endangers the lives of their patients, when we mandate it in this bill.

I have come to this floor to advocate for the closure of Guantanamo for years. It saddens me that for more than two decades, the legacy of torture and indefinite detention has continued to betray our values as a nation and the rule of law. This detention facility was deliberately created to serve as a legal black hole where detainees could be held incommunicado, beyond the reach of law, and even subjected to torture. There is still, all of these years later, no due process for the prisoners at Guantanamo and no justice for the families of the thousands of people who died on 9/11.

We held a hearing on Guantanamo, and one of the family members of the survivors of that terrible 9/11 occurrence came and said to us: Finally get it over with. Close this facility. Try these individuals if you have a charge against them; if not, put an end to it.

Since that prison opened in Guantanamo, hundreds of detainees have come and gone. Today, there are 35 individuals at an unjustified and embarrassing cost of \$550 million per year to keep the facility open. Quick math—we are spending \$15 million a year for each of these detainees while there are ample vacancies in our Federal prisons. Why?

The vast majority of the men who remain indefinitely detained have never—never—been charged with any crime and have been unanimously approved for transfer by defense and intelligence agencies, and American taxpayers pay \$15 million a year for each of them to stay at Guantanamo. They languish at Guantanamo for no justifiable reason, contrary to any notion of due process or rule of law.

I filed an amendment to this bill that I am referring to earlier this fall to close this prison at Guantanamo once and for all. Put it behind us. I am disappointed that it wasn't taken up and that the final bill doesn't address it.

The Senate, again, did not have a regular floor process for this bill, which would have allowed debate and amendments. That is what the Senate used to do routinely. Now, it hardly ever happens in this body.

Ultimately, I will vote for this bill even with my objections I have stated, but I want the record to be clear: The Defense Authorization Act has not been bogged down by "liberal nonsense," as the Senate minority leader stated last week on the floor of the Senate. The reality is, this bill authorizes nearly \$75 billion more for the national defense compared to the last fiscal year—a significant increase and critical for our Nation's defense and our troops—but I hope it will be matched in an omnibus by nondefense spending to keep parity as well.

We must finalize and pass an omnibus bill without delay to keep our Federal Government functioning.

I want to note one top priority that should have been included in this bill

and should be included now in the omnibus spending bill. The bipartisan Justice for Victims of War Crimes Act is cosponsored by Republican Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY and myself. We introduced it, and several of our colleagues joined us.

Most Americans would be shocked to learn that the laws of the United States of America do not allow us to prosecute foreign war criminals who are roaming free right here in the United States—hard to believe.

As that unspeakable atrocity continues in Ukraine, we must not allow those who are murdering and torturing the people of Ukraine to come and reside in the United States with impunity, period. We must close this gap in our laws and ensure that foreign nationals here on our soil can be prosecuted for war crimes. America must send a message to the Vladimir Putins of the world that their henchmen will find no safe haven here.

I look forward to finally getting to this critical bill as soon as possible.

TRIBUTE TO LONNIE STEPHENSON

Madam President, next month, the pride and joy of Rock Island, IL, and my good friend Lonnie Stephenson is stepping down from his post as president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. While Lonnie's leadership will be missed, he leaves behind a legacy of amazing service and commitment to working families.

Lonnie is the son of factory workers from Moline, IL. He knows as well as anyone the challenges working families face. He saw right through the failed practices and policies of trickle-down economics, which led to a shrinking middle class and crumbling infrastructure. Only the rich got richer.

Lonnie started off as an apprentice wireman with the electricians, and even then, he knew the value of a union. He rose through the ranks of IBEW Local 145, becoming vice president before taking over as business manager in 1991.

All the while, he fought to make things better for families in his home area of the Quad Cities through safe working conditions, fair wages and benefits, and a secure retirement. He spent countless hours organizing and grew his local from 700 to more than 1,100 members. He gave back to his community in so many different ways—organizing annual blood drives, encouraging community service among his members, supporting the Red Cross when historic flooding hit the Quad Cities.

I remember joining Lonnie for Labor Day parades in the Quad Cities, where his standing in the community and respect of his fellow union members was legendary.

A good friend of mine, former Senator Paul Wellstone of Minnesota, who tragically died in a plane crash 20 years ago, used to say, "We all do better when we all do better." No one has embodied this policy more than Lonnie Stephenson throughout his nearly five

decades of service to the labor movement.

Here is the good news: Lonnie steps down knowing we have one of the most pro-union Presidents in history carrying on his legacy to improve the lives of working families. Lonnie has been by President Biden's side from the start. Their special relationship was evident last May in Chicago when President Biden became the first sitting President to address an IBEW national convention. I was glad to be on the program.

Last year, when President Biden signed the infrastructure bill, a historic investment, I saw a familiar face at the signing. Lonnie was right there at the White House, along with 11 other IBEW members—a reflection of his dedication to creating jobs. But it is not just the bipartisan infrastructure law; Lonnie was a driving force on many more pieces of historic legislation, from the CHIPS and Science Act, to the Inflation Reduction Act, to saving the pensions of millions of union members and retirees in the American Rescue Plan.

These groundbreaking victories were no guarantee. Lonnie faced some daunting challenges during his tenure as president of the IBEW. The former Illinois Governor supported an agenda of unrelenting hostility to unions. That Governor is gone now, but he spearheaded a litigation effort that resulted in a Supreme Court decision overturning 40 years of law that rigged the economy against working families. And former President Trump made it clear he favored special interests at the expense of many of Lonnie's workers and their families.

Then Lonnie was faced with a global pandemic that created an unprecedented economic crisis that shuttered businesses and created massive unemployment. For most, it would have been hard to see a silver lining, but not for Lonnie. He faces challenges head-on.

He stood up for working families and organized thousands of new IBEW members. He made sure that his union's new membership was reflective of the community—strong, diverse—with an initiative to expand membership to traditionally underrepresented populations, like women and people of color, and we are seeing these gains across the country. Approval of labor unions is at its highest point in the last 57 years, and union election petitions increased 53 percent last year. That is no accident; it is because of the hard work of people like Lonnie. The workers are fortunate to have him on their side.

More recently, Lonnie has worked to prepare IBEW members for the jobs and industries of the future. One example—the bipartisan infrastructure law. Lonnie put a provision in there that includes \$7.5 billion for construction of

national electric vehicle charging networks built with union labor. In Illinois, IBEW is leading work with community colleges and high schools to train the next generation of workers.

Illinois and the entire Nation have been lucky to have had a champion of working families like Lonnie Stephenson. I am going to miss him working in a formal capacity, and I feel fortunate to consider him a friend. Loretta and I wish him a long and joyous retirement with his wife Dawn and their children, Stacey, Katie, Marty, Jacob, and Andrew.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK J. LEAHY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Today, I come to the floor to pay tribute to the President pro tempore of the United States Senate. He is the longest serving Senator currently serving in this institution, and he is my friend from Vermont, Senator PAT LEAHY.

As many of you know, the Senator from Vermont also happens to be a talented photographer. His photos have been published in the New York Times, USA TODAY, and elsewhere. Senator LEAHY has also appeared in front of the camera in Batman movies. But this shutterbug was bitten by the political bug, and he certainly made his mark in Vermont politics.

At age 34, he became the youngest and very first Democrat elected to the U.S. Senate from the Green Mountain State, and today, he is Vermont's longest serving Senator, having put his name on the ballot two dozen times during his political career.

A year ago in November, my friend and colleague announced that he would not seek reelection to a ninth term. At the Vermont statehouse, he happened to be there to announce his very first Senate campaign. It was at the Vermont statehouse that he did that, and PAT, at that time, recalled the words of Edmund Burke, the Dubliner who served in the House of Commons during America's Revolutionary War. The words that Burke imparted to the electors of Bristol in 1774 inspired PAT LEAHY's approach to public service.

Burke said:

Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment.

Burke also said a representative ought to have "the most unreserved communication with his constituents."

Now, in my mind, that still is the essence of representative government.

Although we serve on different sides of the aisle, find ourselves on opposite sides of the ideological spectrum, and hail from different regions of the country, PAT and I are called to serve our constituents.

PAT LEAHY and I have battled together in the trenches countless times over the years. He is a worthy adversary and, countless times, a trusted legislative ally. It takes grit; it takes grace; it takes gravitas to score victories and stick to the courage of one's convictions.

Indeed, PAT and I have more in common than might meet the eye. He is a dyed-in-the-wool liberal from New England, with a law degree from Georgetown. I am a Midwestern conservative and lifelong family farmer. As Senate colleagues, we share an abiding respect for this institution of the Senate. We value bipartisanship. For decades, we have earned the public trust of the voters of Vermont and Iowa. That tells me that Vermonters and Iowans prioritize hard work and constituent service.

At his announcement last November, PAT shared that he and his wife Marcelle made the decision together and that it was, to quote his words, "time to put down the gavel."

First, I want to say how much Barbara and I cherish our friendships. Barbara and I celebrated 68 years of marriage last August 22. Two days later, Marcelle and PAT celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Barbara and Marcelle are both cancer survivors and have developed a close friendship over these many years. These wives are strong and resilient and use their voices to advocate for early detection and treatment to save lives. Now, I can only speak for myself—and I believe my friend would agree—the unconditional support of Marcelle and Barbara have made us better men and then better Members of the U.S. Senate.

As I mentioned, PAT and Marcelle arrived at their heartfelt decision—made in partnership—to, using his words, "put down the gavel." As you can see here from this photograph, Chairman LEAHY certainly knows how to wield a gavel. He has had plenty of practice. In his nearly half century of service, PAT has chaired all of these committees: the Agriculture Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and the Appropriations Committee. This photo was taken in 2015 when then-Chairman LEAHY presented me with an engraved gavel as I prepared to take the helm of the Judiciary Committee. By the size of this gavel he is firmly holding in his hands, I am awfully glad that Senator LEAHY and I get along so well. Although we don't always see eye to eye on politics, we have found common ground on issues that matter. We respect each other's views and values and build consensus based on mutual trust.

We have served many years together on the Agriculture Committee. Senator LEAHY added tens of thousands of acres to the Green Mountain National Forest and is one of the few people on Earth who can explain Federal milk marketing orders—and, boy, did he go to bat for the Northeast dairy farmers.

Senator LEAHY has cultivated expertise in Foreign Affairs that is recognized here at home and around the

world. He has leveraged his leadership to help ban the export of anti-personnel land mines and secure justice for war victims.

For years, Senator LEAHY and I partnered together to strengthen the Freedom of Information Act and also the very important whistleblower protection laws.

We have worked together to root out fraud and protect national security with reforms to the EB-5 investor visa program.

We share a fierce commitment to securing our States' fair shares as champions of small, rural States in America.

From broadband to infrastructure, to the opioid crisis and pandemic relief, Senator LEAHY and I have rolled up our sleeves and put in the work to ensure the people of Iowa and Vermont don't get short-ended.

For decades, Senator LEAHY and I have served together on the Canada-U.S. Inter-Parliamentary Group to advance bilateral economic and trade issues.

In May of 2000, we held our annual conference on the steamboat Delta Queen along a route from Memphis to New Orleans. I cochaired the committee discussing international trade, and Senator LEAHY cochaired the panel on international affairs.

In May of 2011, our group met with international partners in Belgium and traveled to Russia, where Senator LEAHY gave a very important speech on the judiciary and the rule of law, and then to Ireland to advance in all of these places diplomacy, peace, and prosperity.

I have enjoyed working together to forge fruitful relations around the world.

As I reflect on our years of service together here in the U.S. Senate, some observers might actually suggest times sure are different than when we first came to Washington. PAT was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1974, the same year that Iowans elected me to the U.S. House of Representatives—at that time, the only Republican in the Iowa delegation. Despite the partisanship and polarization that is defining civic life this year and for the last few years, I have great hope for America.

Senator LEAHY and I share an abiding fidelity to uphold the promise of America. I am honored to have served these many years in Senator LEAHY's company.

Vermonters placed their trust in Senator LEAHY's judgment. They counted on his vote, his voice, and his leadership to represent their values, and Senator LEAHY has delivered.

Barbara and I wish PAT and Marcelle joyful days ahead in each other's company on their farm, and we wish them that for many, many years to come.

Godspeed to my friend from Vermont.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DURBIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, after months of waiting, the Senate is finally on track to take up and pass the National Defense Authorization Act, 13 days now before Christmas. The pointless delay in this fundamentally critical legislation has been a major point of frustration, not just for colleagues here in the Senate but for the leadership at the Pentagon and the people who need to make plans for America's defense.

The Senate Armed Services Committee completed its work last summer, but the majority leader apparently had other priorities and refused to put the bill on the floor until now. It simply wasn't a priority.

We spent week after week confirming President Biden's judicial nominees, but the majority leader couldn't seem to find the time to take up and pass a must-pass piece of legislation, the annual Defense bill.

And this is not the first time. It is the second year in a row that the Senate has not passed its own version of the National Defense Authorization Act, and so we find ourselves repeating the same bungled process that played out last year.

Thanks, however, to Senator INHOFE and Senator REED and our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee, this bill still reflects the hard work of our Senate colleagues.

But I want to underscore how unconventional this year's approach was and make clear why this should not be the norm. We need to return to what we call regular order around here, which is actually to allow all 100 Members of the Senate an opportunity to fully participate in crafting critical legislation like this.

Of course, the Armed Services Committee did its job. The committee held its hearings, worked with Members throughout the Senate, and compiled a strong bill. But the majority leader is going to put a bill on the floor and probably, in all likelihood, not allow any amendments to that bill. In other words, this bill was voted out of the Armed Services Committee, it was preconferenced with the House of Representatives, and it is going to be laid before the American people and this Senate as a *fait accompli* without adequate opportunity for debate or amendment or for other noncommittee Members to have a hand in crafting this important piece of legislation.

This is not how the Senate is supposed to work. Members of the Senate don't run for the Senate and serve their States with the intent of being potted plants when it comes to crafting important legislation, and particularly

this legislation, which is perhaps the single-most important thing we do around here.

So for 2 years, we have skipped these critical steps. But this cannot be the norm, and here is why: The National Defense Authorization Act impacts every servicemember's pay. It pertains to military construction, improvement of barracks, and military modernization. This bill needs to follow regular order. It needs to be completed on time.

This bill should have been signed into law by President Biden last September. We are more than 2 months into the fiscal year, and our military commanders are still waiting for Congress to pass this legislation and provide the certainty they need to plan for the future.

Mr. President, as you know, I am just talking about the authorization bill. The actual appropriations process is similarly broken, where, ordinarily, the 12 appropriation bills would come across the floor as individual bills or as so-called minibuses rather than the anticipated omnibus, which is \$1.7 trillion worth of spending. The top line of that bill has not even been agreed to by the ranking member and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the leadership on both sides of the Congress. Yet we are sitting around, again, 13 days before Christmas, wondering: Are we going to be presented with another continuing resolution—it looks like we are—that will take us to the 2 days before Christmas, December 23? And then this bill of \$1.7 trillion, roughly speaking, will then be plopped out in front of us, and the only option we will be given is a chance to vote no or to vote yes.

This is not the way the Senate should be operating. It is really a slap in the face to the American people, who deserve a measure of transparency, and to the Members of the Senate, who deserve at least the courtesy and consideration of being able to participate in the process, rather than being given the ugly choice between voting for a \$1.7 trillion omnibus appropriations bill we had no hand in writing or to shut down the government. That is the decision that Senator SCHUMER has chosen to give Members of this Senate, Republican and Democrat alike. It is really outrageous.

Back to the Defense bill, it includes a significant increase in defense funding—at least the authorization for that funding—coming in at roughly \$45 billion above the White House's most recent budget request. So on a bipartisan basis, Members of the House and Senate—Republicans and Democrats—agreed that President Biden short-handed the Defense bill by about \$45 billion.

Given the far-reaching threats facing our country and the world and the continued impact of inflation, this is a necessary increase, and I am glad House and Senate negotiators agreed that President Biden's request was insufficient.

First and foremost, though, this bill should take care of our brave men and women who serve in our Armed Forces. Thankfully, it includes an authorization for the largest pay raise for our troops in two decades. That is particularly important when inflation is roughly at a 40-year high. Servicemembers and their families are facing the same inflation headwinds as folks all across the country. So, starting next month, they will receive a much-needed and well-deserved 4.6 percent pay increase.

This year's National Defense Authorization Act also includes a range of reforms to better support military families. In an all-volunteer military, it is critical that we not only support the men and women who wear the uniform but also the families who support them and, in effect, serve with them.

This bill will extend reimbursement authority for spouse relicensing. For example, it will ensure that nurses, teachers, and other spouses whose jobs may require State-specific licenses are not saddled with an added expense when they are reassigned to a State where their current license is not valid. They can get a new one in their new home State without additional expense.

This bill also funds programs in Texas independent school districts that help military dependent children with severe disabilities.

And I am glad it includes bipartisan legislation that I introduced to help improve sexual assault and domestic violence prevention policies within the Department of Defense.

In addition to these reforms, the National Defense Authorization Act will repeal the COVID-19 vaccine mandate, which led to the dismissal of 8,500 servicemembers. Recruiting has become a growing challenge across the military, particularly the U.S. Army. Last year, the Army fell 15,000 soldiers short of its benchmark and was only able to recruit 75 percent of its recruitment goal.

Army Secretary Christine Wormuth called it "the Army's most challenging recruiting year since the start of the all-volunteer force." Given the threats posed by Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran, among other threats, this is not the time to force courageous servicemembers out of the Armed Forces, particularly for a vaccine that doesn't actually prevent COVID. This isn't like a lot of other vaccines that will actually prevent you from contracting the virus.

This year's NDAA also authorizes investments in nuclear modernization and other critical projects. It makes major investments in our military installations, including those in Texas. It will fund military construction projects at Fort Hood, Joint Base San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Fort Bliss, and the Army Reserve Center in Conroe, TX.

It also authorizes 16 new F-35 Joint Strike Fighters, which will be built by

Texans in Fort Worth. And it will ensure the United States can replenish our defense stockpile and remain the arsenal of democracy for the rest of the world, particularly Ukraine.

As Ukrainian forces continue to defend their country, this legislation will provide additional resources to help them keep up the fight. Now, this assistance is not a handout or a charity. As much as we want to see Ukraine win this war, our financial support is not entirely altruistic.

The United States is not just investing in a Ukrainian victory. We are also putting our resources toward a Russian defeat. We are trying to snuff out the fire before it spreads even further west.

Ukrainian forces have shown tremendous courage and stamina in the face of Russian attacks, and they deserve our unequivocal support. And I am gratified, as the Presiding Officer knows, that that support has been bipartisan and overwhelming. For the last 10 months, the United States has supplied Ukraine with critical military assistance, and there is no question that our support has been vital to Ukraine's success so far. But the one thing we can't supply that Ukraine has supplied in abundance is a will to fight, and they have done so in a magnificent way.

But the unavoidable fact is that, when we provide weapons to Ukraine to defend their sovereignty, we take them out of our own defense stockpile. The transfer of weapons to Ukraine combined with the production challenges in the defense industrial base has made it challenging to quickly replenish our own stockpiles; but this legislation, when it is passed, will help that. It provides \$2.7 billion for new munitions, which will help backfill our stockpiles and expand production capacity. We need to be ready not just to deal with the current challenges in Europe; we need to be ready for any challenge, no matter where it arises, especially including in Asia.

It also provides \$1 billion to more than double the size of the national defense stockpile, which will help safeguard against future supply chain disruptions. This will ensure that our support for Ukraine does not come at the cost of our own military readiness.

Well, in all the last-minute political jockeying before this bill was released, we were at least able to keep unrelated matters out of the bill. There is no marijuana banking provision, for example—hardly something that has anything to do with providing support for our brave men and women in the military.

That is how it should be. We need to eliminate those extraneous matters. This isn't the place for political horse trading. A well-funded and modern defense is not a Republican priority; it is not a Democratic priority; it is a national priority. We shouldn't use our troops as a bargaining chip for woke priorities.

In order to protect the American people and our democracy, our service-

members and military commanders need a strong and on-time National Defense Authorization Act. We are too late for on-time, but this is ultimately a strong bill that will deliver certainty and stability to our Armed Forces.

There is no such thing as a perfect bill, of course, but this legislation will go a long way to support our troops and strengthen our national security, and I look forward to finally getting a chance to vote for it.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, this year, those of us at the Consumer Protection, Public Safety, and Data Security Subcommittee have spent hours working through how we deal with social media and hold them to account. And it has been a heartbreaking task of investigating thousands of pages of reporting testimony and other evidence that really has proven to us there is a devastating impact from social media on our Nation's children and teens.

This past February, Senator BLUMENTHAL and I introduced the Kids Online Safety Act after a series of hearings that exposed Big Tech's disregard for the safety of their underage users.

The bill provides kids and parents with the tools and transparency that they need to stay safe and requires social media companies to make those platforms safer in the default settings. It also requires independent audits to ensure that these companies are, indeed, addressing the risk to underage users.

I am appalled that this is necessary, but the committee has a mountain of proof to show it is time for Congress to do something to hold these platforms to account. And we can't wait. We really cannot afford to wait any longer because as bad as things are here in Washington, they are really worse for the kids and teens who have been pulled into these platforms.

Depression, self-harm, and suicide in teens increased at an alarming rate between 2010 and 2020. There are a limited number of plausible explanations for why this has happened, but I would remind my colleagues that the 2010s ushered in the golden age of social media. This is when social media transformed from a novelty into an almost mandatory activity, especially for teens. So it is no coincidence that it was a good decade for Silicon Valley but a very dark decade for our Nation's children.

Between 2011 and 2016, as social media became popular, sleep deprivation among U.S. teens increased by 17

percent. We also know that teens who are heavy users of social media sleep about an hour less per night than their friends who are not using social media. And as I am sure many of my colleagues know, sleep deprivation is a significant risk factor for depression among adolescents. Between 2011 and 2018, the rates of teen depression increased by more than 60 percent. Between 2011 and 2015, emergency room admissions for children and teens for depression, anxiety, and other psychiatric issues rose by 28 percent.

Before 2010, suicide by young people had stabilized and declined for decades; but, over the next decade, the teen suicide death rate increased by 62 percent. And now, suicide is the second leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 10 and 24, only behind unintentional injuries like auto accidents.

Think about that. This is what is happening to our children. It is not my stats. It is not your stats. These are stats that are coming from research, from surveys, from medical research on our children—anxiety, depression, suicide. All of this is coming, and, when you look at the growth rate, what does it parallel? The use of social media.

Many of these platforms are robbing our children of their childhood. They are ripping it from them. American teens are succumbing to despair, and we know that social media is a big part of this reason.

In 2018, Pew released a survey revealing that close to 60 percent of youth have experienced some form of abusive online behavior. I have spent years examining what that behavior looks like, and I can tell you that calling it "abusive" is a gross understatement.

And as the years have gone by, the stories have gotten worse. And over the past few weeks, I have worked with dozens of parents and friends of young people who died because of what and whom they encountered on social media.

Today, with permission of their parents, I am going to share a few of the stories of these children because it is imperative that we realize what children are being exposed to online.

I had one mom tell me this. She said: You know, when you see these things and you hear these things, you cannot unsee it; you cannot unhear it.

I had another mom tell me: You know, MARSHA, I once felt that, when I had my kids home and we had locked the doors, we were safe—that we were safe from the outside world. But the pandemic happened, and I realized we were not, that the enemy, the evil, the harm that was wrecking my child's life—the drug traffickers, the sex traffickers, the pedophiles—they were right in there with us.

This is what our children are being exposed to—and the extent of the damage, the severity of the harassment, the bad behavior that takes place. And parents call it out to Big Tech, and too often these platforms do nothing—nothing. They hardly even respond.



They take it down for a day, and the children are suffering from this.

Grace McComas: Now, Grace endured the torture of a man who had drugged and assaulted her. He used social media to make Grace feel isolated and afraid and worthless. From the summer of 2011, when she was subpoenaed to testify against him, until she died by suicide on Easter Sunday 2012, Grace's parents fought to save her, but there was nothing they could do to force those digital platforms to ban this evil monster who was her tormenter.

On June 23, 2020, 16-year-old Carson Bride quietly ended his life while his family slept. The night before, the whole family had celebrated Carson's first summer job. But what they didn't know is that he had been receiving hundreds of harassing, threatening, and sexually explicit messages from his classmates who were using anonymous apps to hide their identities. Carson asked his tormentors to identify themselves so that they could talk things out in person, but nobody ever did. Social media lets you be anonymous. The very last search on Carson's phone was for hacks to find out who was tormenting him.

David Molak: He was an Eagle Scout, a fantasy football aficionado, a hunter, a fisher, and, by all accounts, a truly great friend. But in the last few months of his life, he became overwhelmed with hopelessness over the barrage of threats, harassment, and abuse he experienced through text messages and on social media. On January 4, 2016, he took his own life. He was 16 years old.

There are hundreds more stories just like these, just like them. Senator BLUMENTHAL and I have talked with these parents and these kids.

Children are using social media platforms to torment other children to the point of death. But we also know that adults are leveraging the power these platforms have over underage users so that they can—do what?—make a profit. Overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids increased over 56 percent from 2019 to 2020, with prescription pill abuse highest among people ages 18 to 25. They are starting younger, and drug dealers are finding them—where?—on social media platforms.

When she was 15, Becca Schmill was assaulted by a boy she and her friends met on the social media party chat. The cyber bullying and harassment that followed destroyed Becca's sense of self, and, eventually, she started using drugs to cope. In a sane world, she never would have been able to get her hands on the pills that eventually killed her, but social media made it easy. On September 16, 2020, Becca died from fentanyl poisoning.

Olivia Green was 15 years old, a freshman in high school. She dreamed of becoming a marine biologist, but then she met an adult stranger on a social media platform. When she saw him in person, this man gave her a pill that he said was Percocet. It was actually

fentanyl. So when she took it, she laid down and died from an overdose.

Alexander Neville's mom describes him as someone who competed with himself to be successful with everything he did. He pushed himself to succeed in Boy Scouts, at fencing, skateboarding, and as a person and a dear, dear friend. At 14, Alexander bought pills online that he thought were pain relievers, but it actually was fentanyl, and that is how Alexander became another victim of fentanyl poisoning.

Big Tech executives would like us to write these deaths off as tragedies and just move on, which is exactly the attitude you would expect from people who have treated our congressional hearings like they are on some kind of PR tour.

I think that as they point to their glossy white papers laying out steps that parents and teens can take to protect themselves and they think they provide a little bit more information about the steps and they talk about what the company is going to do to try to get this under control, they think we are going to move on. But we are not. We are talking about our children and our grandchildren, and, no, we are not moving on.

The enduring refrain of my discussions with the parents and the teens who have seen this firsthand is that trying to address the problem with the platform is like talking to a brick wall. When they received a response at all, there was no concern for the danger.

Over the past 2 years, this body has passed several pieces of legislation to address "emergencies." But what about this emergency? What about the emergency that is taking the lives of our children? What about this emergency that is causing death by fentanyl?

Now, when we talk about Big Tech and we talk about social media, there is one point they have made clear time and time again, and it is that they are fully incapable and unwilling to regulate themselves because they are more interested in attracting eyeballs and keeping those eyeballs on their site longer and longer and mining that data because it is dollars in the bank to them. To me, it is absolutely sickening.

And their bad behavior—getting any change in that behavior—it is too late for Grace and Carson and the other young people I talked about today, but it is not too late to save the children and the teens who are suffering right now because these tech platforms refuse to protect them.

In July, the Commerce Committee passed the Kids Online Safety Act. Senator BLUMENTHAL and I have worked diligently on this, and it came out of committee on a 28-to-0 vote. That is pretty overwhelming bipartisan support for a piece of legislation. And right now, this bill is waiting for a vote on the Senate floor.

I would implore Leader SCHUMER and I would implore my colleagues from

each side of the aisle: Listen to these stories; talk to these parents and these young people who are activists for changing what is happening on social media. Listen to them. Listen to these stories. Recognize the danger that exists on social media, and let's get this bill passed and to the President's desk. I yield floor.

NOMINATION OF TAMIKA R. MONTGOMERY-REEVES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to a Delaware seat on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has significant experience as both a litigator and a judge.

She received degrees from the University of Mississippi and the University of Georgia School of Law before clerking on the Delaware Court of Chancery. Following this role, she worked as a litigator with two national law firms, where she focused on complex commercial matters.

In 2015, Justice Montgomery-Reeves was appointed to serve on Delaware's Chancery Court. There, she presided over cases involving corporate issues, trusts, estates, real property, and other contractual matters. In 2019, she was appointed to serve as a justice on the Delaware Supreme Court. She is both the youngest person ever to serve on that court and the first African-American supreme court justice in Delaware history.

During her time on the bench, Justice Montgomery-Reeves has demonstrated a fair judicial temperament and a deep commitment to evenhanded decisionmaking. In recognition of her exceptional legal acumen, the committee has received many letters of support from her colleagues in both private practice and on the bench.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has been rated unanimously "well qualified" by the American Bar Association, and she has strong support from her home State Senators, Mr. CARPER and Mr. COONS.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Today, it is my honor to rise in support of the Honorable Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to be confirmed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Just a few months ago, in September of this year, I had the privilege to introduce Justice Montgomery-Reeves at her Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing, where she was



joined in the audience by her large family and I think most of the State of Delaware.

As my colleague from Illinois, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, will attest, we needed a few extra chairs at that hearing in order to accommodate Tamika's family and her friends. Many Delawareans, including the entire Delaware Court of Chancery and the current chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, either made the trek down I-95 or on the Amtrak train that morning to cheer on Justice Montgomery-Reeves. Today, we bring her nomination one step closer to final confirmation.

My colleague from Delaware, Senator COONS, and I have often said that those of us in the Senate could learn a thing or two from the First State. When it comes to nominating judges, Delaware's Governor is tasked with filling vacancies on some of the Nation's most highly regarded State courts, including the Court of Chancery and the Delaware Supreme Court.

The Governor routinely seeks advice from a bipartisan judicial nominating commission but is also required to nominate judges from both political parties. We literally have an overall political balance across our judiciary. This rule, enshrined in our State's constitution, brings balance to our court system. I believe it has served our State and our Nation well for over a century. I think it is a pretty good model for the rest of the country, actually.

Twenty-five years ago, when I was privileged to serve as Governor of Delaware, I had the opportunity to nominate a new chancellor—or what some would call a chief justice—to the Delaware Court of Chancery. I could have nominated a Democrat. I ended up nominating Bill Chandler.

Bill Chandler was born in Sussex County in southern Delaware and previously worked for two Republican Governors—Pete du Pont and Mike Castle. I will tell you, I took some heat politically for that nomination, but I believed that he was the best qualified person for the job, and all these years later, I still believe that. It didn't matter what political party he was from; I knew he would be one heck of a chancellor, and, boy, was he.

As chancellor, Bill Chandler earned the respect of our Nation's business and legal communities as a fairminded judge with the utmost integrity, and along the way, he hired and mentored countless law students and law clerks. As it turns out, Bill Chandler hired a young law student, a native of Mississippi, who was a law student at the University of Georgia. He nominated her to be one of his clerks in 2006. Her name was and still is Tamika Montgomery-Reeves.

I am a proud Delawarean, but, as I think my colleague the Presiding Officer knows, I am a native son, actually, of West Virginia. Justice Montgomery-Reeves is also a proud Delawarean, but,

like me, she made her way to Delaware from another place—in her case, Mississippi—and fell in love with our State, just as I did many years ago.

After clerking for Chancellor Chandler, Tamika graduated and began a career in private practice. She became an expert in corporate law and complex business litigation. After a brief stint in private practice in New York, she was hired by another prominent law firm, Wilson Sonsini, which just happened to be looking to open up an office in—guess where—Delaware, the First State. She quickly made partner and could have continued on a path toward a lucrative legal career, but Tamika felt called to serve.

In 2015, a vacancy occurred on our Court of Chancery, and then-Governor Jack Markell nominated her to the bench to serve on that court. And she was confirmed unanimously by the Delaware State Senate.

Four years later, in 2019, Governor John Carney nominated her to serve on the Delaware State Supreme Court; and, once again, she was confirmed unanimously by the Delaware State Senate, by every single Democrat and, just as importantly, by every single Republican.

And by the way, Mr. President and colleagues here in our Chamber today, the Delaware State Senate leadership, both Democrats and Republicans, have sent a letter in support of Justice Montgomery-Reeves' confirmation to the Third Circuit.

It is part of the reason that she has earned bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee, and that nine of our friends on the other side of the aisle voted to invoke cloture on her nomination just last week.

On behalf of Senator COONS and myself—I want to take my hat off to him for helping to guide this nomination through the Judiciary Committee on to the floor and through last week's cloture vote—we want to thank all of our colleagues—all of our colleagues—Democrats and Republicans, who voted last week on moving forward Tamika's nomination.

Having said that, Justice Montgomery-Reeves is also a trailblazer, becoming the first African American to serve on both the Delaware Court of Chancery and on the Delaware Supreme Court.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has been nominated to these positions because her credentials and her intellect are top-notch, and I might add, just as importantly, so is her heart.

In addition to her incredible academic and legal career, Tamika and her husband, Jeffrey, are raising two wonderful boys—sons that any of us would be proud to call their own—and raising them back home in Delaware.

So I would just say to them—Jeffrey, Jackson, and Tyson—if you are watching at home, thank you for allowing your wife and your mom to continue her service to our country in this new role. I know you are proud of her, and we are proud of her as well.

Let me close by saying that I am certain that if Tamika Montgomery-Reeves is confirmed, that the Delaware Supreme Court's loss will be our Nation's gain. She will bring a spirit of collegiality and consensus to the Third Circuit, just as she has in the courts that she served on in Delaware.

She is not an ideologue; she is an ideal judge.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves is of the highest caliber judges in our State and our Nation and has my strongest possible endorsement.

I urge all of our colleagues to join Senator COONS and me—Democrats and Republicans—in support of her nomination. She will not disappoint.

I would like to yield the floor to my colleague, who has done a great job in helping to steer this nomination and, actually, to help make the nomination possible in the first place. It is my pleasure, Senator COONS.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I would like to thank my colleague and senior Senator.

As a member of the Delaware bar myself for 30 years and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I could not be prouder of the moment we are about to participate in here in the U.S. Senate confirming the next member of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

It was 30 years ago that I was a clerk on that same court for Judge Jane Roth of Wilmington, DE, a distinguished jurist, a remarkable mind, and a great leader in the Delaware bench and bar.

And I am thrilled that, as we left Thursday evening, we had, by a bipartisan vote of 57-to-39, the cloture vote that set up the confirmation vote that is about to happen here; and of those votes, nine were from our Republican colleagues.

Frankly, she should be confirmed here unanimously, as she was by the Delaware State Senate, but we are in a more divided, more partisan time, and I am thrilled that we had as strong and bipartisan a vote in the committee and here in the Senate as we have.

It reflects the fact that Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves is a highly qualified, well-rounded, skilled nominee to the Third Circuit.

The Third Circuit is one of those Federal circuit courts that provides a critical role. The most important cases in our country go to Federal courts, although Delaware jurists would disagree, and of the courts that hear those cases—overwhelmingly district courts—only a few of those cases are appealed and make it to a circuit court, and a tiny number of cases make it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

So for the States represented on the Third Circuit—Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—this is likely the last stop for almost every major appeal.

And in just a few moments, someone known for her skill, her intellect, her patience, her compassion will be confirmed by this Senate and sent on her

way to serve on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

She is very highly regarded in Delaware as a member of our supreme court. She is someone highly regarded by our bench and bar.

We have, in front of our committee, letters of endorsement from Governor John Carney as well as former Governor Jack Markell.

And as you heard from my colleague, the Delaware State Senate unanimously endorsed her.

She served on the Delaware Court of Chancery, the premier business court in our country, from 2015 to 2019.

And she is a trailblazer: the first Black woman to serve on the Delaware Court of Chancery and on the Delaware Supreme Court and soon on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Her confirmation today will add diversity to a court that represents three States and the Virgin Islands, which are demonstrably diverse. And in our country, this helps to further advance representation and justice.

I want to thank my chief counsel, Cassie Fields, for playing a central role in shepherding her nomination through the committee and through this floor.

And I want to close by saying that I want to express my deepest personal thanks to this native of Jackson, MS, this graduate of the University of Mississippi and University of Georgia School of Law, who, through the good offices of Chancellor Bill Chandler, found her way to practice in Delaware, to service on the Delaware Court of Chancery; through the help and leadership of our State Senate and our Governor to service on our State supreme court; and in just a few moments, to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

To Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves, to your husband Jeffrey, your sons Jackson and Tyson: Congratulations. Know that our President and our Senate is proud of you, has confidence in you, and looks forward to your years of service on this most important Federal Circuit Court.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that we start the 5:30 vote right now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON MONTGOMERY-REEVES NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Montgomery-Reeves nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) would have voted "Nay."

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 387 Ex.]

#### YEAS—53

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

#### NAYS—35

Blackburn	Hoeven	Sasse
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Daines	Lee	Tillis
Ernst	Lummis	Toomey
Fischer	Marshall	Tuberville
Grassley	McConnell	Wicker
Hagerty	Paul	Young
Hawley	Romney	

#### NOT VOTING—12

Barrasso	Cruz	Risch
Braun	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Cardin	Merkley	Shaheen
Cramer	Moran	Wyden

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The majority leader.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT LEBARON M. KING

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize CMSgt Lebaron M. King for his dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force and the Senate as a legislative defense fellow. Lebaron has served as a vital part of my team since January 2022. He has been a trusted adviser on issues relating to the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security.

Lebaron enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in May 2001. His continued service is a reminder of the dedication and sacrifice of every servicemember to protect our Nation and defend our freedoms.

His effort and passion distinguished him as a valuable member of my legislative team. His determination helped lead to passage of a resolution commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Air Force as an independent military branch. As the son of a retired USAF master sergeant, I am proud to have someone like Lebaron on my staff who understands the significance of maintaining America's air superiority.

He also spearheaded an initiative to better support military spouses through the introduction of the Military Spouse Hiring Act. This important legislation would address underemployment for military spouses by amending the Tax Code to incentivize businesses to hire military spouses.

When he was promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant in September of 2022, Lebaron's character and consistent display of the knowledge, leadership, and devotion were recognized and rewarded. I am confident he will continue to serve our country honorably.

I am especially grateful for his support of the people of Arkansas. Both in the Nation's Capital and while visiting the Natural State, he spoke with and listened to the concerns of Arkansas' veterans and their families, then worked tirelessly to ensure their concerns were heard and issues were resolved.

We have been very fortunate to have Lebaron join our office this past year. I also want to thank his mother, Mrs. Maxine King-Green, and his beloved family, Mrs. Rosemary, Gloria, Cynthia, and Davetta for their support of Lebaron's time in uniform. Having grown up in a military family, I understand service in the Armed Forces is a family affair and is impossible without their sacrifice and unconditional support.

Lebaron, thank you for your continued service to the U.S. Air Force and for all your heartfelt, committed work as a member of my staff. It was our privilege to have you as a part of our team, and our office will always welcome you. I know that you will remain an asset to our military and veterans

in addition to any other endeavors you pursue, and I wish you and your family the best.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13818 OF DECEMBER 20, 2017, WITH RESPECT TO SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE AND CORRUPTION—PM 39

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13818 of December 20, 2017, is to continue in effect beyond December 20, 2022.

The prevalence and severity of human rights abuse and corruption that have their source, in whole or in substantial part, outside the United States, continue to threaten the stability of international political and economic systems. Human rights abuse and corruption undermine the values that form an essential foundation of stable, secure, and functioning societies; have devastating impacts on individuals; weaken democratic institutions; degrade the rule of law; perpetuate violent conflicts; facilitate the activities of dangerous persons; undermine economic markets; and continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13818 with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 12, 2022.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14059 OF DECEMBER 15, 2021, WITH RESPECT TO GLOBAL ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING—PM 40

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to global illicit drug trafficking declared in Executive Order 14059 of December 15, 2021, is to continue in effect beyond December 15, 2022.

The trafficking into the United States of illicit drugs, including fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, is causing the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans annually, as well as countless more non-fatal overdoses with their own tragic human toll. Drug cartels, transnational criminal organizations, and their facilitators are the primary sources of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals that fuel the current opioid epidemic, as well as drug-related violence that harms our communities. International drug trafficking—including the illicit production, global sale, and widespread distribution of illegal drugs; the rise of extremely potent drugs such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids; as well as the growing role of Internet-based drug sales—continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 14059 with respect to global illicit drug trafficking.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 12, 2022.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5782. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2021 annual report of the Farm Credit Administration Regulator of

the Farm Credit System; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5783. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nitric Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 10247-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5784. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acetic Acid, 2-Ethylhexyl Ester; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 10295-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5785. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "1,3-Benzenedicarboxylic acid, 5-sulfo-, sodium salt (1:1), polymer with 1,3-benzenedicarboxylic acid, 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol and 2,2'-oxybis[ethanol]; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 10301-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5786. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pesticides; Addition of Chitosan (Including Chitosan Salts) to the List of Active Ingredients Permitted in Exempted Minimum Risk Pesticide Products" ((RIN2070-AK56) (FRL No. 7542-05-OCSPP)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5787. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyclaniliprole; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 10030-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5788. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sulfur Dioxide; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 10212-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5789. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "N,N-Dimethylnonanamide; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 10423-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5790. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylic Acid; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 10400-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5791. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order - Decrease in Assessment Rate and Importer Assessments" (Docket No. AMS-LP-22-0032) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5792. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cotton Board Rules and Regulations; Adjusting Supplemental Assessment on Imports (2022 Amendments)" (Docket No. AMS-CN-22-0003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5793. A communication from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances per October 2020 and April 2021 NOSB Recommendations (Handling, Crops)" (RIN0581-AE11) (Docket No. AMS-NOP-21-0060) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 1, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5794. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5795. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13338 with respect to Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5796. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13667 with respect to the Central African Republic; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5797. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13818 with respect to serious human rights abuse and corruption; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5798. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5799. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5800. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank,

transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5801. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Ethiopia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5802. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fair Credit Reporting Act Disclosures" (12 CFR Part 1022) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 2, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

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

S. 3531. A bill to require the Federal Government to produce a national climate adaptation and resilience strategy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-237).

S. 4528. A bill to establish a Government-wide approach to improving digital identity, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-238).

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

S. 4902. A bill to address the preference for United States industry with respect to patent rights in inventions made with Department of Homeland Security research assistance, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-239).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 4399, a bill to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government (Rept. No. 117-240).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1538. A bill to amend the Smith River National Recreation Area Act to include certain additions to the Smith River National Recreation Area, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain wild rivers in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-241).

S. 2708. A bill to provide for greater consultation between the Federal Government and the governing bodies and community users of land grant-mercedes in New Mexico, to provide for a process for recognition of the historic-traditional uses of land grant-mercedes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-242).

S. 3240. A bill to waive the application fee for applications for special use permits for veterans' special events at war memorials on land administered by the National Park Service in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-243).

S. 3667. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish within the National Park Service the United States African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-244).

S. 4080. A bill to modify the boundary of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include certain Federal land in

Lake County, California, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-245).

S. 4121. A bill to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial (Rept. No. 117-246).

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2510. A bill to reduce the health risks of heat by establishing the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Interagency Committee to improve extreme heat preparedness, planning, and response, requiring a study, and establishing financial assistance programs to address heat effects, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment:

S. 3262. A bill to improve the efficient movement of freight at ports in the United States, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 3296. A bill to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3434. A bill to commission a study relating to the manufacturing programs of the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 3664. A bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes.

S. 3817. A bill to improve the forecasting and understanding of tornadoes and other hazardous weather, and for other purposes.

S. 4109. A bill to authorize the development of a national strategy for the research and development of distributed ledger technologies and their applications, to authorize awards to support research on distributed ledger technologies and their applications, and to authorize an applied research project on distributed ledger technologies in commerce.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 5231. A bill to provide for a primary prevention research agenda and workforce; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 5232. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to the sale, supply, or transfer of gold to or from the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 5233. A bill to require the President to submit to Congress a report on United States

Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 5234. A bill to modify statutory definitions relating to narcotics and drug trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 5235. A bill to require the Federal Aviation Administration to establish evacuation standards for transport category airplanes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 5236. A bill to increase funding for aviation workforce development grant programs of the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 5237. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate regulations relating to the approval of foreign manufacturers of cylinders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 5238. A bill to require the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to provide guidance regarding coverage of prescription digital therapeutics under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5239. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign telecommunications companies engaged in economic or industrial espionage against United States persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 545

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to permanently exempt payments made from the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Account from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

S. 1079

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1544

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) 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. 2215

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2215, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2372, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 3508

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 3508, a bill to posthumously award a congressional gold medal to Constance Baker Motley.

S. 4587

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4587, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Berell Ferencz, in recognition of his service to the United States and international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and lifelong advocacy for international criminal justice and rule of law.

S. 4745

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4745, a bill to amend the Plant Protection Act to establish a fund for spotted wing drosophila research and mitigation.

S. 5135

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

(Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 5135, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring an issuer to disclose information relating to certain greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 47

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 47, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 80 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 5231. A bill to provide for a primary prevention research agenda and workforce; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill provides for a primary prevention research agenda and workforce.

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

S. 5231

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting our Servicemembers through Proven Methods Act of 2022."

#### SEC. 547. PRIMARY PREVENTION RESEARCH AGENDA AND WORKFORCE.

(a) ANNUAL PRIMARY PREVENTION RESEARCH AGENDA.—Section 549A(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81; 135 Stat. 1722) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

"(2) include a focus on whether and to what extent sub-populations of the military community may be targeted for interpersonal violence more than others;

"(3) seek to identify factors that influence the prevention, perpetration, and victimization of interpersonal and self-directed violence;

"(4) seek to improve the collection and dissemination of data on hazing and bullying related to interpersonal and self-directed violence;" and

(3) by amending paragraph (6), as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section, to read as follows:

"(6) incorporate collaboration with other Federal departments and agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State governments, academia,

industry, federally funded research and development centers, nonprofit organizations, and other organizations outside of the Department of Defense, including civilian institutions that conduct similar data-driven studies, collection, and analysis; and”.

(b) PRIMARY PREVENTION WORKFORCE.—Section 549B of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81; 135 Stat. 1722) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that—

“(A) compares the sexual harassment and prevention training of the Department of Defense with similar programs at other departments and agencies of the Federal Government; and

“(B) includes relevant data collected by colleges and universities and other relevant outside entities on hazing and bullying and interpersonal and self-directed violence.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) INCORPORATION OF RESEARCH AND FINDINGS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the findings and conclusions from the primary prevention research agenda established under section 549A are regularly incorporated, as appropriate, within the primary prevention workforce established under subsection (a).”.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 5232. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to the sale, supply, or transfer of gold to or from the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill requires the imposition of sanctions with respect to the sale, supply, or transfer of gold to or from the Russian Federation.

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

S. 5232

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Stop Russian Government and Oligarchs from Limiting Democracy Act of 2022” or the “Stop Russian GOLD Act of 2022”.

#### SEC. 2. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE SALE, SUPPLY, OR TRANSFER OF GOLD TO OR FROM RUSSIA.

(a) IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and periodically as necessary thereafter, the President—

(1) shall submit to Congress a report identifying foreign persons that knowingly participated in a significant transaction—

(A) for the sale, supply, or transfer (including transportation) of gold, directly or indirectly, to or from the Russian Federation or the Government of the Russian Federation,

including from reserves of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation held outside the Russian Federation; or

(B) that otherwise involved gold in which the Government of the Russian Federation had any interest; and

(2) shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (b)(1) with respect to each such person; and

(3) may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b)(2) with respect to any such person that is an alien.

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The exercise of all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a foreign person identified in the report required by subsection (a)(1) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien described in subsection (a)(1) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States; (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien described in subsection (a)(1).

(ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—The revocation under clause (i) of a visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien shall—

(I) take effect immediately; and (II) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien’s possession.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(d) NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER.—The President may waive the imposition of sanctions under this section with respect to a person if the President—

(1) determines that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States; and (2) submits to Congress a notification of the waiver and the reasons for the waiver.

(e) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the requirement to impose sanctions under this section, and any sanctions imposed under this section, shall terminate on the earlier of—

(A) the date that is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(B) the date that is 30 days after the date on which the President certifies to Congress that—

(i) the Government of the Russian Federation has ceased its destabilizing activities with respect to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine; and

(ii) such termination in the national interests of the United States.

(2) TRANSITION RULES.—

(A) CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES.—Any authorities exercised before the termination date under paragraph (1) to impose sanctions with respect to a foreign person under this section may continue to be exercised on and after that date if the President determines that the continuation of those authorities is in the national interests of the United States.

(B) APPLICATION TO ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS.—The termination date under paragraph (1) shall not apply to any investigation of a civil or criminal violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this section, or the imposition of a civil or criminal penalty for such a violation, if—

(i) the violation occurred before the termination date; or

(ii) the person involved in the violation continues to be subject to sanctions pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(f) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTIONS FOR AUTHORIZED INTELLIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACTIVITIES.—This section shall not apply with respect to activities subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or national security activities of the United States.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—Sanctions under subsection (b)(2) may not apply with respect to the admission of an alien to the United States if such admission is necessary to comply with the obligations of the United States under the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or other international obligations.

(3) HUMANITARIAN EXEMPTION.—The President shall not impose sanctions under this section with respect to any person for conducting or facilitating a transaction for the sale of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, or medical devices or for the provision of humanitarian assistance.

(4) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirement or authority to impose sanctions under this section shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) GOOD DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply, or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The terms “admission”, “admitted”, “alien”, and “lawfully admitted for permanent residence” have the meanings given those terms in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) The term “foreign person” means an individual or entity that is not a United States person.

(3) The term “knowingly”, with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means



that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(4) The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; or

(C) any person in the United States.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 5233. A bill to require the President to submit to Congress a report on United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the Congressional Record. The bill requires the President to submit to Congress a report on U.S. Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine.

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

S. 5233

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

# SECTION 1. UKRAINE INVASION WAR CRIMES DETERRENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Ukraine Invasion War Crimes Deterrence and Accountability Act”.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) in its premeditated, unprovoked, unjustified, and unlawful full-scale invasion of Ukraine that commenced on February 24, 2022, the military of the Government of the Russian Federation under the direction of President Vladimir Putin has committed war crimes that include but are not limited to—

(A) the deliberate targeting of civilians and injuring or killing of noncombatants;

(B) the deliberate targeting and attacking of hospitals, schools, and other non-military buildings dedicated to religion, art, science, or charitable purposes, such as the bombing of a theater in Mariupol that served as a shelter for noncombatants and had the word “children” written clearly in the Russian language outside;

(C) the indiscriminate bombardment of undefended dwellings and buildings;

(D) the wanton destruction of property not justified by military necessity;

(E) unlawful civilian deportations;

(F) the taking of hostages; and

(G) rape, or sexual assault or abuse;

(2) the use of chemical weapons by the Government of the Russian Federation in Ukraine would constitute a war crime, and engaging in any military preparations to use chemical weapons or to develop, produce, stockpile, or retain chemical weapons is prohibited by the Chemical Weapons Convention, to which the Russian Federation is a signatory;

(3) Vladimir Putin has a long record of committing acts of aggression, systematic abuses of human rights, and acts that constitute war crimes or other atrocities both at home and abroad, and the brutality and scale of these actions, including in the Russian Federation republic of Chechnya, Georgia, Syria, and Ukraine, demonstrate the extent to which his regime is willing to flout international norms and values in the pursuit of its objectives;

(4) Vladimir Putin has previously sanctioned the use of chemical weapons at home and abroad, including in the poisonings of Russian spy turned double agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia and leading Russian opposition figure Aleksey Navalny, and aided and abetted the use of chemical weapons by President Bashar al-Assad in Syria; and

(5) in 2014, the Government of the Russian Federation initiated its unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine which resulted in its illegal occupation of Crimea, the unrecognized declaration of independence by the so-called “Donetsk People’s Republic” and “Luhansk People’s Republic” by Russia-backed proxies, and numerous human rights violations and deaths of civilians in Ukraine.

(c) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022, for use in appropriate domestic, foreign, and international courts and tribunals prosecuting those responsible for such crimes consistent with applicable law, including with the American Service Members’ Protection Act of 2002 (22 U.S.C. 7421 et seq.);

(2) to help deter the commission of war crimes and other atrocities in Ukraine by publicizing to the maximum possible extent, including among Russian and other foreign military commanders and troops in Ukraine, efforts to identify and prosecute those responsible for the commission of war crimes during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022; and

(3) to continue efforts to identify, deter, and pursue accountability for war crimes and other atrocities committed around the world and by other perpetrators, and to leverage international cooperation and best practices in this regard with respect to the current situation in Ukraine.

(d) **REPORT ON UNITED STATES EFFORTS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, which may include a classified annex, describing in detail the following:

(1) United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, including a description of—

(A) the respective roles of various agencies, departments, and offices, and the inter-agency mechanism established for the coordination of such efforts;

(B) the types of information and evidence that are being collected, analyzed, and preserved to help identify those responsible for the commission of war crimes or other atrocities during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022; and

(C) steps taken to coordinate with, and support the work of, allies, partners, international institutions and organizations, and nongovernmental organizations in such efforts.

(2) Media, public diplomacy, and information operations to make Russian military commanders, troops, political leaders and the Russian people aware of efforts to identify and prosecute those responsible for the commission of war crimes or other atrocities during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and of the types of acts that may be prosecutable.

(3) The process for a domestic, foreign, or international court or tribunal to request and obtain from the United States Government information related to war crimes or other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(2) **ATROCITIES.**—The term “atrocities” has the meaning given that term in section 6(2) of the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–441; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note).

(3) **WAR CRIME.**—The term “war crime” has the meaning given that term in section 2441(c) of title 18, United States Code.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 5234. A bill to modify statutory definitions relating to narcotics and drug trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill modifies statutory definitions relating to narcotics and drug trafficking.

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

S. 5234

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

# SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting America from Narcotics and Illicit Chemicals Act of 2022” or the “PANIC Act of 2022”.

# SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF MAJOR ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCING COUNTRY.

Section 481(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) that is a significant direct source of covered synthetic drugs or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances, including precursor chemicals when those chemicals are used in the production of such drugs and substances, significantly affecting the United States;”;

(2) by amending paragraph (5) to read as follows:

“(5) the term ‘major drug-transit country’ means a country through which are transported covered synthetic drugs or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances significantly affecting the United States;”;



(3) in paragraph (7), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(4) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) the term ‘covered synthetic drug’ has the meaning given that term in section 5558 of the FENTANYL Results Act.”.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have one request for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

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

#### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Monday, December 12, 2022.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S.J. RES. 56

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, the Senate proceed to legislative session; that the time until 7 p.m. be for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees on the motion to discharge S.J. Res. 56 from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with 30 minutes under the control of Senator SANDERS and 10 minutes under the control of Senator MENENDEZ; and that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on the motion to discharge the joint resolution.

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

#### DON YOUNG RECOGNITION ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S. 5066 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 5066) to designate Mount Young in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 5066) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 5066

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Don Young Recognition Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) on June 9, 1933, Donald Edwin Young was born to James Young and Nora (Bucy) Young in Meridian, California;

(2) Don Young earned—

(A) an associate degree from Yuba Junior College; and

(B) a bachelor's degree in teaching from Chico State University;

(3) from 1955 to 1957, Don Young began decades of service to the United States when he served in the Army as part of the 41st Tank Battalion;

(4) in 1959, Don Young moved to Alaska and found his true home in the village of Fort Yukon, which is located 7 miles above the Arctic Circle;

(5) Don Young met and married the first love of his life, Lula “Lu” Young, in Fort Yukon;

(6) Don and Lu Young had—

(A) 2 wonderful daughters, Joni and Dawn (Sister); and

(B) 14 grandchildren;

(7) Don Young—

(A) taught fifth grade at a school run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the winter; and

(B) during the warmer months, worked—

(i) in construction, mining, fishing, and trapping; and

(ii) as a tugboat captain;

(8) Don Young—

(A) was elected mayor of Fort Yukon in 1964; and

(B) served as mayor of Fort Yukon until 1967;

(9) Don Young was elected to and served in—

(A) the Alaska House of Representatives from 1967 to 1970; and

(B) the Alaska State Senate from 1970 to 1973;

(10) Don Young—

(A) was elected to the House of Representatives in 1973 in a special election; and

(B) served 24 additional consecutive terms in the House of Representatives;

(11) Representative Don Young served as—

(A) the Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives from 1995 to 2001; and

(B) the Chair of Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives from 2001 to 2007;

(12) Representative Don Young was a champion for Alaska Natives, including as Chair of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives;

(13) Representative Don Young—

(A) fiercely defended Alaska and Alaskans as the sole Representative for the largest State in the United States; and

(B) devoted himself to fulfilling the immense promise of his home State;

(14) Representative Don Young was a leader in strengthening the role of Alaska in providing for the national defense of the United States through his—

(A) support for—

(i) the Coast Guard;

(ii) the Alaskan Command; and

(iii) the ballistic missile defense; and

(B) steadfast commitment to the leadership of the United States in the Arctic;

(15) Representative Don Young—

(A) sponsored not fewer than 85 bills that were enacted into Federal law; and

(B) sponsored and cosponsored many more measures that were part of broader legislation;

(16) legislative achievements by Representative Don Young span the policy spectrum, from authorizing the construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System to important amendments and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

(17) Representative Don Young authored and advocated for generational laws, including—

(A) the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) in 1975;

(B) the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) in 1976;

(C) the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-57; 111 Stat. 1252) in 1997;

(D) SAFETEA-LU (Public Law 109-59; 119 Stat. 1144) in 2005;

(E) the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Reauthorization Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-132; 121 Stat. 1360) in 2007; and

(F) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58; 135 Stat. 429) in 2021;

(18) Representative Don Young—

(A) formed strong relationships and friendships with Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle; and

(B) proudly worked with 10 different Presidents;

(19) in 2015, Representative Don Young married his second love, Anne Garland Walton, in the United States Capitol;

(20) on December 5, 2017, Representative Don Young became the 45th Dean of the House of Representatives, reflecting his status as the most senior Member of the House of Representatives;

(21) Representative Don Young was the longest-serving Republican in the history of Congress; and

(22) Representative Don Young ultimately served the 49th State with dedication and distinction for 49 years and 13 days, which is more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the period during which Alaska has been a State.

#### SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF MOUNT YOUNG, ALASKA.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board on Geographic Names shall designate the 2,598-foot volcanic peak known as “Mount Cerberus” located at 51.93569°N, 179.5848°E, on Semisopochnoi Island in the State of Alaska as “Mount Young”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the mountain peak described in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to “Mount Young”.

#### SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF DON YOUNG ALASKA JOB CORPS CENTER.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Job Corps center located at 800 East Lynn Martin Drive in Palmer, Alaska, shall be known and designated as the “Don Young Alaska Job Corps Center”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Job Corps center described in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Don Young Alaska Job Corps Center”.

#### SEC. 5. DESIGNATION OF DON YOUNG FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal office building located at 101 12th Avenue in Fairbanks,

Alaska, shall be known and designated as the "Don Young Federal Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal office building described in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Don Young Federal Office Building".

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 13, and that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Douglas nomination, with the time until 12 noon for debate on the nomination; further, that at 12 noon, the Senate vote on confirmation of the Douglas nomination and that the Senate recess following the confirmation vote until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Shambaugh nomination, with 2 minutes prior to the vote equally divided in the usual form; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 Senators SULLIVAN and MURKOWSKI.

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

The Senator from Alaska.

#### REMEMBERING DON YOUNG

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, it is nice to be here on the floor on a Monday evening and to hear final passage by unanimous consent of a bill to recognize and honor the life of our former Congressman Don Young. Don passed in March unexpectedly after 49 years in service, and it is always hard to figure out appropriate ways to recognize the life of a true public servant, as Congressman Young truly was. So the Alaska delegation—Senator SULLIVAN and myself at the time—really reached out to try to find those ways that might be appropriate means of recognition.

We can name buildings, as we are doing in this legislation, renaming a Federal courthouse in Fairbanks after Congressman Young. We can rename institutions, as we are doing in this bill and in recognizing the Alaska Job Corps Center now as the Don Young Alaska Job Corps Center.

And you can also do it through naming of monuments. And we have certainly a fair number of mountains, lakes, rivers in the State of Alaska that are pretty extraordinary, but it just didn't seem appropriate and fitting that a regular mountain should be renamed after the Congressman.

I had an opportunity to serve with him for many years. For, really, all of my life I think he has been my Congressman. I have known his softer side and certainly his rough and more explosive side.

And so as we were looking for something that might be fitting, we looked not only at mountains, but we looked at mountains that continue to blow their top to this very day and selected a volcano on the Aleutian Islands that is currently named—I believe it is pronounced Mount Cerberus, and we have, through this designation, designated this volcano in the Eastern Aleutians after our former Congressman—fitting tribute to a giant of a man and one that I think of every day. I know Alaskans think of the contributions that he has made.

So in this simple resolution recognizing and honoring the Congressman, whether it is institutions, buildings, or

volcanoes, Don Young's name will live for quite some period of time.

So I am pleased to actually be here on the floor with my friend and colleague Senator SULLIVAN to recognize this evening.

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

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I just want to follow on from what Senator MURKOWSKI just said.

Here is our resolution, S. 5066, introduced by Senator MURKOWSKI and myself, and we just want to thank our colleagues for agreeing to this tribute to Congressman Don Young. We miss him every day, and as Senator MURKOWSKI so eloquently stated, we are naming buildings and job centers—he did a great job on that—but it is great to be able to be naming a volcano, very appropriately a volcano, for Don Young.

So good to be here on the floor with my friend and fellow colleague from Alaska, and it is great to see the majority leader and my colleagues agree to this naming.

Hopefully, we will get this signed into law soon—a volcano, a Federal courthouse in Fairbanks, a job training center, all in the name of our greatest Congressman ever—50 years, half a century almost. Pretty remarkable and really an honor to be here on the Senate floor to watch it get passed.

I yield the floor.

#### 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 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 10 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate December 12, 2022:

##### THE JUDICIARY

TAMIKA R. MONTGOMERY-REEVES, OF DELAWARE, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT.